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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

**on the financing of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and the adoption of the
work programme for 2020**

1 Introduction

On the basis of the objectives laid down in 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 2020 as follows:

- a) for grants (implemented under direct management),
- b) for procurement (implemented under direct management),
- c) for other actions or expenditure.

2 Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR [52,900,000](#).

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.

2.1.1 European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

National Authority chairing the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF)
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Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation

<p>The ECGFF is organised each year by a host country agreed by the Member States' participating coast guard authorities.</p>

<p>Cooperation between national authorities performing Coast Guard Functions is critical for ensuring safe, secure and clean seas. Such cooperation is an important element of the European Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan.</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 national authorities performing coast guard functions, exchange of best practices and to promote a dialogue at international, regional and national level.</p>

<p>The support to the ECGFF is complementary to the European cooperation on coast guard functions based on the revised EU legislation regulating the activities of the three EU maritime agencies: EMSA, EFCA and Frontex. This action will enhance cooperation between authorities to manage safety, security, environmental and other coast guard functions and will allow a bottom up approach within the inter agency cooperation.</p>
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Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 80,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.1.2 Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

National Authority chairing the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation

Cooperation between national authorities in charge of coast guard functions is critical to enhance the safety, security and environmental protection of the Mediterranean sea basin. Such cooperation is an important element of the European Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan and in the implementation of sea basin/macro-regional strategies.

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, and this action will support the 2020 edition of the MCGFF high-level conference, promoting a dialogue at regional and sub regional level.

The main objective is to support the MCGFF framework of cooperation, in order 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. The expected results are to improve regional cooperation in the Mediterranean Sea basin on issues related to coast guard functions, to enhance the safety, security and the environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea basin and to promote projects to be developed in the western Mediterranean and the Adriatic and Ionian sub-sea

basins.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 80,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.1.3 Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) transition

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

EMSA

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation

The CISE initiative aims at better interconnecting authorities active in maritime surveillance. In order to improve those authorities' capacities for their missions at sea, there is a need to develop an increased interoperability between existing national surveillance systems and networks and to support an enhanced exchange of relevant information and data across sectors and borders.

The present action aims at supporting EMSA in further developing the maritime CISE and to provide the necessary support to the Member States. CISE is an integral part of the EU Maritime Security Strategy.

The tasks to be carried out are a continuation of the 2019 actions and relate to (1) the operational validation of the surveillance network, (2) the operational support to Member States to set up their own connections to CISE and (3) the assistance to EMSA in providing the necessary management and structures for these processes.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that:

- the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of

the tasks are sufficient to achieve the required quality and a timely transition to a sustainable CISE;

- the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective;
- the assistance provided to Member States and Member State authorities is strictly necessary to transfer the interoperability solutions developed under the EU funded CISE 2020 project into sustainable operational activities

The Commission may require that assistance to Member States authorities is verified to be complementary to previous and on-going EU funding.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 3,400,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 100%

2.1.4 Maritime Spatial Planning Projects

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Public authorities

Description of the activities to be funded by the call for proposals

The objective is to support the implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning, including through the Directive 2014/89 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.

The grants will support cross-border MSP cooperation initiatives between Member States, in principle in the North Sea, the Baltic Sea and Outermost Regions.

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. Support to third countries may be included where cross-border MSP cooperation requires third country involvement in the given sea basin.

Eligibility criteria

- 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. 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.

- Applicants from at least two Member States must be involved in each proposal, except for proposals concerning the EU Outermost Regions.

- If a project activity, which is to be carried out in the waters of the EU or an EU Outermost Region, also extends into neighbouring waters outside the territory of the Union, applicants established in the non-EU countries in whose jurisdiction these waters fall, are eligible, providing that the involvement of those applicants is necessary in view of the nature of the action and in order to achieve its objectives.

Selection criteria

Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.

Award criteria

- the relevance of the project and the contribution of its expected results to the objectives of the call;

- the effectiveness and coherence of the proposed methodology and organisation (including the timetable and monitoring);

- the cost effectiveness of the proposed action, and in particular the relevance and quality of the means of implementation and the resources deployed in relation to the objectives envisaged;

- the extent of the geographical coverage and relevance of partnership (number of Member States involved, relevance of non-Member State participants, etc...);

- the long-term impact of the project, its expected multiplying effect, the impact and dissemination of the expected results and their transferability and sustainability.

The action aims at supporting at least one project in each of the targeted sea basins covered by the action, provided that for each (sub) sea basin at least one proposal reaches a sufficient quality score following the evaluation of the award criteria.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 4,000,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.1.5 Hosting the Blue Economy Finance Principles

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), International organisation

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation

14 Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Principles were unveiled by the Commission in March 2018. The finance community welcomed them but stressed that there was a need for governance arrangements. UNEP FI was identified as the most suitable host institution, and as of the 2019 EMFF Work Programme, took up the task of hosting, monitoring and reporting on the Principles.

The present action continues that work, with as specific objectives:

- to build, implement and promote the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, which will encompass the Principles so that they are guiding sustainable investment in the blue economy;
- to develop concrete actions and outputs for insurers, lenders and investors to align their activities with the goal of sustainable oceans;
- to ensure that the Principles and the Initiative are promoted and recognised globally across the investment, insurance and banking communities, and implemented across lines of business, asset classes, industries and geographies.

The main tasks to be carried out are:

- develop and prioritise an annual work programme including key projects, activities and events;
- ensure governance of bodies and resourcing;
- establish and promote a Community of Practice on Sustainable Oceans;
- expand the membership of the Sustainable Blue Economy Finance Initiative, and promote the Initiative;
- monitor the application and impact of the Blue Economy Finance Initiative / Principles;
- mainstream the Principles and the Initiative in relevant platforms and complementary initiatives.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 90%

2.1.6 Grants to support the next implementation cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Non-profit organisations (private or public), public authorities (national, regional, local), international organisations, universities, educational institutions, research centres, profit-making entities.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The action supports the second implementation cycle under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) through the marine strategies. As a follow-up to the Commission Decision (EU) 2017/848 on good environmental status (GES), further efforts at (sub)regional level are needed, in particular to establish lists of relevant criteria elements to be used, threshold values for different criteria and methodological standards, to enable an assessment of the extent to which good environmental status is being achieved.

The activities to be co-financed will therefore assist regional or subregional cooperation among Member States in the implementation of the MSFD.

Because 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 and the development of coordinated and integrated monitoring activities, including sharing information and deployment of new techniques, can improve the efficiency of monitoring, the action will provide a framework for cooperation in further defining, assessing and monitoring the criteria for GES (i.a. elements and (sub)regional threshold values stemming from the revised GES Decision).

The action should support regional coordination and cooperation concerning the implementation of existing and new measures to be introduced, notably in the development of joint measures that address transboundary pressures on the marine environment within a marine region or subregion as identified by the MSFD. It will lead to a coordinated and integrated design of programmes of measures to lessen the adverse impacts of human activities on the marine environment, while promoting sustainable uses of the sea. It will support the introduction of joint and effective measures which are needed to achieve or maintain GES. It will also promote the coordination across policies and sectors dealing with

or affecting the marine environment at national and international level.

Eligibility criteria

The coordinators must be public or private authorities or bodies registered in an EU Member State, or international organisations.

The potential co-beneficiaries or partners of the grant must either be registered in an EU Member State or be an international organisation or fulfil the following condition: partners from non-EU countries which are a contracting party to one of the four European Regional Sea Conventions can be associated to the action on a non-cost basis, or at a maximum of 10% of the total cost for the action for each non-EU country partner and a maximum of 20% of the total cost for the action for all non-EU country partners together, if this participation is of value for the aims of the action.

Selection criteria

Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.

Award criteria

The award criteria will be defined in the call and may relate, inter-alia, to:

- the relevance of the project and the contribution of its expected results to the objectives of the call;
- the effectiveness and rationale of the proposed methodology and organisation (including the timetable and monitoring);
- the cost effectiveness of the proposed action;
- the relevance and quality of the means of implementation and the resources deployed in relation to the objectives envisaged;
- the geographical coverage;
- the expected multiplying effect;
- the impact and dissemination of the expected results;
- the transferability and sustainability of the expected results;
- the added value for MSFD.

Implementation

Co-delegation to DG ENV

Indicative amount

EUR 3,000,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.1.7 Cross-sectoral development of innovative port clusters in the Atlantic

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Profit and non-profit organisations (private or public), public authorities (national, regional, local), universities, educational institutions and research centres.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

About 50 incubators are active in the blue economy sectors in the Atlantic EU Member States. Many of them are located in port areas and closely working with research centres, clusters, port and local authorities and training institutes.

This action will complement the objectives of the revised Atlantic Action Plan, and aims to boost SME development and job creation by building on ports as hubs for blue economy development in the Atlantic region.

The objectives of the action are to boost entrepreneurship and sustainable investment in the blue economy of the Atlantic and to increase the competitiveness and resilience of Atlantic ports.

The main tasks to be carried out include:

- helping start-ups to grow and/or to scale up innovative businesses through blue accelerators based on a network of Atlantic ports, business innovator centres and incubators;
- providing selected services (e.g. finance, new markets, internationalisation and innovation) to companies through business innovator centres, incubators and accelerators and their existing networks operating in blue economy sectors;
- facilitating access to finance through complementary sources of funding at national/regional and transnational/EU levels;
- establishing a network amongst ports and public authorities in the region for coordination, exchange of practices and policy development in line with the revised Atlantic Action Plan (e.g. on offshore investments and operations, supply chain services, decarbonisation, clean shipping, marine litter and coastal and infrastructure resilience).

The expected results are the creation of new businesses and jobs and the increase of sustainable investment in the blue economy.

Eligibility criteria

Project applicants must be private and public legal entities (profit or non-profit).

Proposals must be submitted by a consortium, including one network association of incubators/business innovation centres/accelerators. The partners of the consortium shall belong to at least four different countries participating in the Atlantic Strategy.

The coordinating entity (lead partner) must be established in an EU Member State participating in the Atlantic Strategy.

Selection criteria

Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.

Award criteria

- 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 synergies/complementarity with the Atlantic Strategy, projects or EU policies; and in terms of geographical coverage.
- Project methodology and 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, including involvement of relevant Managing Authorities at regional and/or national levels.. Adequate risk management. Baseline and monitoring tool towards expected results.
 - Clearly presented and appropriate budget representing value for money in comparison to expected results, involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the planned activities and outputs, including potential leverage of funding at regional/national level.
- Impact and communication: expected outputs and impact. Dissemination and visibility, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 900,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.1.8 Blue economy window

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

For-profit SMEs¹ legally established in an EU Member State.

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

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The aim is to bring to market new products, services and business models in blue economy value chains and develop sustainable and innovative blue growth in Europe's sea basins.

The Commission's first economic report on the blue economy in 2018 and 2019 shows that innovative and emerging maritime sectors such as the maritime bio-economy and other sustainably managed sectors have a growth potential that can out-perform traditional sectors and create new opportunities and maritime jobs.

However, a market study conducted by the Commission shows that there is a lack of investment in blue growth SMEs. The study concludes that both more EU investment support is needed in this area and that private investors need to be encouraged to give more attention to such emerging maritime businesses. In particular, the market study shows that businesses in innovative, sustainable and circular blue economy sectors, while receiving good financial support including from Horizon 2020 at the research stage, lack support on the path towards market entry and scaling up.

The objective therefore is to develop and bring to market new products, services and business models that could develop pre-commercial innovations into ultimately revenue-generating activity. This will involve in particular the sustainable use of marine resources for innovative and/or circular economic activities, improved livelihoods and jobs, whilst contributing to EU goals.

EU goals include in particular a sustainable blue economy, especially in Europe's sea basins, energy and food security, circular economy, reduced carbon and environmental footprint and competitiveness on a global scale.

The grants shall aim to develop business concepts further into a market-ready product, service or process aligned with the applicant's blue economy growth strategy. Activities could, for example, include trials, prototyping, validation, demonstration and testing in real-world conditions, and market replication. The aim is to bring to market new products, services and business models in the blue economy value chains and sustainable blue innovation in Europe's sea basins.

Eligibility criteria

Applicants must be for-profit SMEs legally established in an EU Member State. They can apply as single applicant or in a consortium.

By way of derogation, applicants established in non-EU countries are eligible only if their involvement is necessary in view of the nature of the action and in order to reach its objectives. The coordinating entity must be established in an EU Member State.

Applicants must provide a letter of intent for investment support from a financial intermediary eligible for equity or guarantees from the European Fund for Strategic Investment (EFSI)²³ or equivalent institution, or significant firm commitment from a customer.

² EFSI Equity: https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/efsi/equity-deals.pdf
Guarantees under EFSI https://www.eif.org/what_we_do/efsi/guarantee-deals.pdf

³ Templates and guidance will be provided in the call for proposals

Applicants must present a business plan and a first commercialisation plan.

Applicants may not be in a situation of concurrent implementation with another EU funding instrument in respect of the same action.

Selection criteria

Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.

Award criteria

Impact: customer segments, market size, competitors, business and commercialisation plan, IPR, contribution to EU policies, environmental impact;

Innovation: for instance in terms of technology, area of application or business plan;

In order to ensure a variety of high-level skills, knowledge and experience in different domain and sectors, proposals will be evaluated by independent expert evaluators selected and monitored by EASME.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 20,000,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 70%

2.1.9 Standards for fishing and aquaculture gear

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

European Committee for Standardisation, an association that brings together the National Standardisation Bodies of 34 European countries.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (f) of the Financial Regulation

The aim is to develop standards for fishing and aquaculture gear as defined in the Single Use plastics Directive.

During 2018 the Commission adopted a number of proposals to reduce the amount of lost, abandoned or otherwise discarded fishing gear in the sea. Measures include a tightening up of marking for identification purposes, extended obligations for reporting and retrieving lost gear and extended producer responsibility that obliges the producer of the gear to undertake

the collection of disposed waste gear, including when it was abandoned or lost, from adequate port reception facilities and ensure their appropriate transport and treatment.. The fees charged to the producer could be modulated to take into account factors such as ease of identification, ease of retrieval and ease of recycling.

Work includes engaging with industry and consumers and managing the process up to the development of harmonised standards by the European Committee for Standardisation relating to the circular design of the fishing and aquaculture gear. This is the only body that has the experience and expertise to organise a process leading to setting up standards recognised throughout the EU.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 900,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the third quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 90%

2.2 Budget Heading 11 06 62 01 – Scientific advice and knowledge

Legal basis:

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

Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) – Article 3, Principles of good governance: “The CFP shall be guided by the following principles of good governance [...] the establishment of measures in accordance with the best available scientific advice”.

2.2.1 Advisory deliverables provided by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Type of applicant targeted by the direct award.

ICES, Intergovernmental organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the specific grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation.

Article 26 of the CFP sets out the consultation with scientific bodies. The advisory deliverables provided by ICES are science-based products to support the implementation of policies adopted by the EU and its Member States with respect to the management of activities that affect marine ecosystems.

The advisory deliverables are pertinent to relevant policy developments, such as the Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY), the implementation of the CFP, EU multiannual plans, the Eel regulation and the related national eel management plans, the Water Framework Directive, the Habitat Directive, the Birds Directive, the MSFD, the Integrated Maritime Policy, objective and related ranges, regionalisation, multi-annual plans, or a fleet-based approach to mixed-fisheries or multi-species management, and in relation to data and marine research needs to support these policies. ICES should aim at providing more extensive information on the other factors impacting fish stocks and their health and quantify, to the extent possible, how much of the decline/recovery of the stock is due to factors other than fishing pressure.

ICES is the only organisation which can provide independent and highly specialised scientific advice with best international quality procedures for research-based advisory deliverables on human activities affecting, and affected by, marine ecosystems in the North Atlantic including adjacent seas such as the Baltic Sea and North Sea.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 2,000,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 85%

2.2.2 Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection

Type of applicants targeted by the call for proposals

Non-profit organisations (private or public), public authorities (national, regional, local), international organisations, universities, educational institutions, research and science centres

and institutions.

Description of the activities to be funded under the call for proposals

The combination of the recent creation of the Regional Coordination Groups (RCGs), the obligation to create Regional Data Bases, the availability of results and outcomes of a series of studies and grant deliverables, call for support to the further development of the regional cooperation in data collection. EMFF shared funding for data collection is based on national envelopes (per Member State) and does not foresee regional or EU-wide funding mechanisms.

The call will involve some 6-8 grants aimed at further strengthening regional or EU-wide cooperation between Member States, in particular:

- to further develop regionally/EU-widely tools and processes applicable for the data collection framework, data collection, management, storage and transmission;
- to support the implementation of results (from earlier grants) on the establishment and coordination of regional sampling plans, including transfer and preparation of staff in Member States and RCGs;
- to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and experience between MS in the different sea basins on fisheries data collection, including observer on board programmes, statistically sound sampling schemes, execution of scientific surveys and data storage systems;
- to conduct work between the annual meetings of RCGs and the Planning Group on Economic Issues (PEGCON) on the implementation of their work programmes;
- to facilitate the implementation and regional/EU-wide coordination of MS pilot studies (2017-2019) that detail data collection requirements in specific fields;
- to support the development and establishment of Regional Data Bases as provided for in the DCF Regulation.

Selection criteria

Applicants must have the economic, financial, technical and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.

Award criteria

The relevance of the project and the contribution of its expected results to the objectives of the call, the effectiveness and rationale of the proposed methodology and organisation (including the timetable and monitoring), the cost effectiveness of the proposed action, the relevance and quality of the means of implementation and the resources deployed in relation to the objectives envisaged, the participation of as many Member States as possible and resulting geographical coverage, the European dimension of the project, the innovative nature of the action or project, the expected multiplying effect and the impact and dissemination of the expected results as well as their transferability and sustainability.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 1,300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020
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Cofinancing rate

Maximum 85%

2.3 Budget Heading 11 06 62 03 – Voluntary financial 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 thereof.

Regulation 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC.

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

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).

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

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).

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).

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).

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).

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

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).

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

2.3.1 Support to the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR),
Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO).

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

Article 28(2) of Regulation 1380/2013 sets out, as one of the objectives of the CFP external policy, the promotion and support, in all international spheres, of actions necessary to eradicate IUU-fishing. This action will support the CCAMLR activities against IUU vessels operating in its Convention Area, in cooperation with Interpol.

CCAMLR is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the reradication of IUU-fishing in the area of CCAMLR.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 50,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the third quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.2 Strengthening the scientific basis for decision making in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

IATTC, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

In line with Article 28 (2) of the CFP “the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice”, the objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in IATTC by supporting different activities aimed at better stock assessment and management of species under its purview.

IATTC is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the research programme and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Eastern Pacific Ocean. The sound management of these species requires best available science.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 1,300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.3 Capacity development fund for the International Convention for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

ICCAT, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The EU supports, as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in meetings of RFMOs and their subsidiary bodies.

The grant will contribute to the different ICCAT funds, in particular to support:

- the meeting participation fund for developing ICCAT contracting parties;
- the scientific capacity building fund for developing ICCAT contracting parties;
- capacity building for port inspectors for developing ICCAT contracting parties.

These activities are essential to allow for a meaningful participation of developing countries in ICCAT activities and to help them implement ICCAT rules.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 200,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.4 Strengthening the scientific basis for decision making in ICCAT

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

ICCAT, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

In line with Article 28(2) of the CFP ‘the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice’, the objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in ICCAT by supporting different activities included.

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.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 2,000,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the third quarter of 2020 (no info in fiche)

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.5 ICCAT's inter-sessional meetings

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

ICCAT, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The main objective is to support ICCAT in the organisation of its 2020 intersessional meetings.

The EU has a leading and pivotal role in ICCAT, which is the one of the key RFMOs for the EU and for several EU Member States that are active in ICCAT fisheries.

In line with this role, the EU has the intention to table in 2020 several proposals for conservation, management and enforcement measures which will be prepared during these inter-sessional meetings with a view to improve the state of stocks under the provision of ICCAT.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 100,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.6 Integrated Online Management system in ICCAT

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

ICCAT, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The objective is to facilitate the reporting process in ICCAT and subsequently the compliance process. This will contribute to improving the organisation performance, while reducing the administrative burden on the contracting parties and cooperating non-contracting parties, entities or fishing entities (CPCs) and on the ICCAT Secretariat.

Support the development of an online management system for reporting obligations in ICCAT.

Contribute to the finalisation of this task in ICCAT, building on the work of the specific working group created for this purpose.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 100,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.7 Strengthening the scientific basis for decision-making, compliance and monitoring in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

IOTC, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

In line with Article 28 (2) of the CFP ‘the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice’, the objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in IOTC by supporting different activities aimed at better stock assessment and management of tuna and tuna-like and associated species under its purview, taking into account the recommendations of the IOTC Scientific Committee.

The IOTC is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the research programme and management of tunas and tuna-like species in the Indian Ocean. The sound management of these species requires the best available science.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 800,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.8 NEREIDA data analysis in support of assessing Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems habitat functions

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

NEREIDA is an important on-going project for the EU. It is a multidisciplinary project aiming at better understanding Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs) and the impacts of bottom trawling in the NAFO Regulatory area. NEREIDA’s current ongoing actions will be over by the end of 2019, and further studies are needed, as the full assessment of the closed

areas will take place in 2020, and the full assessment of bottom fishing activities in 2021. NEREIDA project is therefore crucial in order to support the decisions that need to be adopted in the context of both assessments.

Specific objectives include:

- to assess the analysis of VMS data integrated with daily catch and haul-by-haul data, to determine which characteristics of habitats are important for fish in the NAFO Regulatory area;
- to further develop research related to the potential impact of activities other than fishing and the ability to measure the cumulative impacts of these activities;
- to support the analysis and identification of potential conflict areas between different users of the marine space or between users and natural ecosystem components;
- to update the Special Distribution Models habitat models and the Kernel Density Estimation analysis to support the reassessment of the VMS fishery closures.

NAFO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for gaining better understanding of VMEs in the area of NAFO.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 100,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.9 Revision of the NAFO Precautionary Approach (PA) Framework

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The revision of the NAFO PA Framework constitutes one of the highest priorities of the

NAFO work plan. The current PA dates back from 2004 and a revision is highly recommended considering the major international commitments and scientific developments occurred since then. This revision was also identified in the recommendations of the last Performance Review carried out by NAFO in 2018.

The main objective of the action is to revise the NAFO framework used for improved protection of resources and to determine appropriate resource management measures in the absence of sufficient scientific data. This revision should develop a framework to deal with data poor stocks and to promote the determination of management reference points for each stock when these are missing.

The objective of this action is therefore aligned with the Union's CFP and with its principles of good governance, specifically article 3(j), which calls for coherence between the internal and external dimension of the CFP.

This action should be carried out in the framework of the NAFO Scientific Council in collaboration with national scientists from the NAFO Contracting Parties. It should also be discussed and assessed in a workshop, and then presented to the NAFO Scientific Council Annual Meeting for final endorsement.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 100,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.10 Strengthening the scientific base for decision-making in the North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organisation (NASCO)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

NASCO, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

In line with Article 28(2) of the CFP ‘the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice’, the objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in NASCO by supporting different activities included

NASCO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the research programme and management of Atlantic salmon in the North Atlantic. The sound management of these populations of Atlantic salmon requires best available science.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.11 Strengthening the scientific base for decision-making in the Southern indian ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

SIOFA, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

In line with the external dimension of the CFP this grant will contribute to support the scientific work that is needed for providing a robust science basis for underpinning the decision-making process in this organisation. In particular, the funding will support the assessment of the conservation status of key stocks, the definition and implementation of robust methodologies for the mapping and protection of vulnerable marine ecosystems, the mitigation of possible impacts of associated and dependent species and other scientific challenges faced by the organisation.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources

in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 200,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.12 Support to the scientific process and data management in the South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

SPRFMO, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

Article 28 of the CFP establishes that the EU shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice in RFMOs.

The project is expected to support scientific analysis and data management in SPRFMO by (1) improving scientific assessment of the management strategy evaluation of jack mackerel, (2) upgrading the SPRFMO IT system to provide an effective tool to, inter alia, integrate geographical data with catches and other scientific data and (3) providing training on data collection.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 125,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.13 Strengthening the scientific basis for decision-making in the Central and Western Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

WCPFC, RFMO.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

This grant will fund the scientific work of the WCPFC by supporting its decision making process. In particular, it will contribute to support the scientific work regarding the testing, optimisation and operationalisation of non-entangling and biodegradable Fish Aggregate Devices (FADs). The grant will also fund the scientific work for the development of an innovative and robust methodology to assess the conservation status of data poor species and, in particular, WCPFC key shark species.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 450,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.14 Global Record of fishing vessels, Refrigerated Transport Vessels and Supply Vessels

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

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.

Following the presentation of an operational prototype at the 32nd 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 33 in July 2018, the EU gave its further support to the project.

The grant will 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.

FAO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for launching the development of the prototype of the Global Record.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 225,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first half of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.15 COFI 33rd, related follow up actions

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

Based on the outcome of the 33rd meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries (July 2018 in Rome), a grant will be awarded 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.

FAO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the implementation of relevant priorities agreed on at the biennial meeting.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.16 Support for the global capacity development umbrella programme of FAO on the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The PSMA came into force on 5 June 2016. It aims to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing by establishing port state measures around the globe. The EU has been a strong supporter of the Agreement, urging other countries to ratify the agreement as well and in this way helping to have the agreement into force.

In the FAO Committee on Fisheries of July 2016, members welcomed its entry into force, but noted that both Parties and non-Parties to the PSMA required capacity development assistance. In this regard, the Committee called for support to the global capacity development umbrella programme of FAO on the PSMA and related international

instruments to combat IUU fishing.

The Ocean Governance Joint Communication (JOIN (2016) 49 final) states that in association with the High Representative, the Commission will cooperate with third countries, inter alia on capacity-building and partnership with the European Fisheries Control Agency, including for the implementation of the Port State Measures Agreement.

With this contribution the EU will support this FAO umbrella programme and would target specifically (a) states that have a Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement or states with which the EU is in the process of negotiating such an Agreement, (b) states that are in dialogue with the European Commission under the EU's IUU Regulation or (c) states with important port activity.

FAO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the support of the implementation of the PSMA.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 500,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.17 Contribution to the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) to support specific activities of the GFCM and to scientific and institutional cooperation to support responsible fisheries in the Eastern Mediterranean

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

Improving the governance and the poor state of the stocks in the context of the Mediterranean and Black Sea capture fisheries and fostering aquaculture is a priority. The General Fisheries

Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) is the main conduit, notably *via* the implementation of its Mid Term Strategy (2017-2020), for DG MARE to define multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM areas of competence, reinforcing compliance with GFCM recommendations and decisions by Members and relevant non-Members and supporting the fostering of a sustainable aquaculture in the region.

The main priorities are to support activities on country-level and regional implementation in the framework of the Malta MedFish4Ever Declaration (signed in 2017), the Sofia Ministerial Declaration (signed in 2018) and the Regional plan of action for Small Scale Fisheries (declaration signed in 2018). The implementation of the activities and strategy of the GFCM have been planned and decided according to the priorities identified and agreed during the 42nd and 43rd sessions of the GFCM.

These actions will support the preparation of the recommendations to be submitted to the 44th session of the GFCM (2020) for which appropriate support will be provided for the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars, as well as the implementation of existing ones.

The actions will also support the implementation of regional activities in the Eastern Mediterranean aimed at developing a common framework for cooperation between coastal states of the Mediterranean and Black Seas to enable the common management of fish stocks in these regions. This will be done through the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries, a contribution to the enhancement of their capacity in participating actively in the relevant regional frameworks for sustainable fisheries management and to establish a sound socio-economic and scientific basis to improve fishing resources in these regions and achieve sustainable management of these resources using an ecosystem approach.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 4,300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 85%

2.3.18 Regional projects: contributions to the MEDSUDMED, ADRIAMED, COPEMED and other projects

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

These grants will co-finance the implementation of the FAO Regional projects, such as Adriamed, Copemed, Medsudmed and other programmes.

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.

They also contribute to the establishment of a sound socio-economic and scientific basis to improve fishing resources in these regions and achieve sustainable management of these resources using an ecosystem approach.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 1,500,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 85%

2.3.19 Supporting the reform and the scientific basis of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The EU has committed to support the reform of the WECAFC to become a binding international instrument for the conservation and management of marine biological resources in the area. This grant will contribute to the implementation of activities aiming at moving forward this collective process. In addition, in line with the CFP, this grant might also contribute in supporting scientific work necessary for the achievement of key objectives of the organisation.

FAO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for reforming of the WECAFC.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 200,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

2.3.20 Supporting the strengthening and the scientific basis of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

FAO, International Organisation.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

The EU has committed to support the reform of the CECAF to become a binding international instrument for the conservation and management of marine biological resources in the area. This grant will contribute in the implementation of activities aiming at moving forward this collective process. In addition, in line with the CFP, this grant might also contribute in supporting scientific work necessary for the achievement of key objectives of the organisation.

FAO is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for reforming of the CECAF.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 190,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 80%

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, and in particular Articles 85(d), 85(f), 89 and 91 thereof.

Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy and in particular Articles 43 to 45 and Annex III 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, amended by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2017/1575 of 23 June 2017.

2.4.1 The Advisory Councils (ACs)

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The Advisory Councils established in accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (d) of the Financial Regulation

The main function of the ACs is to advise 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.

They also inform the Commission and the Member States of problems in a specific area and propose solutions to solve those problems. Finally, they contribute to the collection and analysis of data in close cooperation with scientists.

The expected results are as follows:

- Improved management of the CFP by involving active and interested stakeholders in the fisheries and aquaculture issues covered by the ACs in policy-making and implementation.
- Relevant advice to the Commission on management issues relating to the fisheries and aquaculture covered by the ACs.
- Improved dialogue between the various parties affected by the CFP.

Public funding is needed to enable those ACs to fully function 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 which have an objective forming part of, an supporting, a Union policy within the meaning of Article 180.2(b) of the Financial Regulation.

Operating grant agreements will be concluded with the following ACs: the Mediterranean Sea AC, the South Western Waters AC, the North Western Waters AC, the North Sea AC, the Baltic Sea AC, the Pelagic AC, the Long Distance Fleet AC, the Aquaculture AC, the Market AC, the Black Sea AC and the Outermost regions AC.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 3,300,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreements to be concluded throughout 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 90%

2.4.2 Raising awareness on the maritime and fisheries policies

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

Euronews, the sole paneuropean tv channel broadcasting news with a European perspective.

Description of the activities to be funded by the grants awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of Article 195 (c) of the Financial Regulation

Euronews is the sole large-scale broadcaster to hold a Framework Partnership Agreement (FPA) with the Commission. The agreement offers access to a unique platform for raising awareness among general audiences regarding the objectives and results of the EU's maritime and fisheries policies. The services provided under the FPA are a very strong fit for DG MARE's general communication strategy.

The action will underpin notably three overall political priorities pursued under the Commission's maritime and fisheries policies, namely sustainable use of natural resources, the creation of jobs and growth, and reinforcing the role of the EU as a global actor.

Launched in early-2019, the "Ocean" series has already been a success and demonstrated its potential in terms of quality and reach. A continuation of the series in 2020 will contribute to further raising the profile of ocean-related topics, and the related EU policies, through showcasing concrete examples of EU-funded actions, interviews with key players and powerful visuals from maritime settings.

A televised series of magazines - in combination with multiplatform digital dissemination - enables the Commission to reach large and new audiences across the Union and beyond. The action also contributes to increasing the Commission's outreach in a broader sense by helping to organically grow existing social media followership.

Award criteria

The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 600,000

Indicative timetable

Grant agreement to be concluded in the fourth quarter of 2020

Cofinancing rate

Maximum 95%

3 Procurement

The global budgetary envelope reserved for procurement contracts in 2020 is EUR [33,586,586.50](#).

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.

3.1.1 Feasibility study on establishing an EU-Africa Task Force for policy cooperation and dialogue on international ocean governance

General description of the contracts envisaged

The implementation of SDG 14 ('Life below water') is a priority for the EU and African Union. But many governance challenges undermine Africa's ambitions, with in many countries, a lack of cross-sectoral approach based on improved knowledge and sustainability considerations.

At global level, the need to sustainably manage and protect the oceans is enshrined in UNCLOS that also provides that all States have the duty to cooperate with other States in conserving and managing marine resources as well as developing rules for the protection and conservation of the marine environment.

The 2018 Communication on a renewed impetus of the EU-Africa partnership called for a stronger political relationship and suggested to achieve this by increasing cooperation on common interests and based on frequent political interaction, not just on foreign policy issues, but also on thematic policy initiatives.

Based on the experience gained with the negotiations of SFPAs with non-EU countries, the interactions with African countries in some RFMOs and extensive dialogues about IUU, DG MARE intends to promote a strengthened and holistic policy dialogue between the EU and Africa in ocean-related matters.

At a starting point, and inspired by the success of Africa-Europe Task Forces set up by other Commission's departments, DG MARE is considering the creation of a similar task force that will bring together African and European expertise with the aim to exchange information, transfer knowledge, share good practices and define subjects of common interest like oceans and climate nexus or the implementation of SDG14.

The contractor will be asked to analyse the feasibility of setting up such a EU-Africa Task Force (SWOT analysis), reflect on its thematic and geographical scope, propose work streams of common interest, submit proposals for its membership and working modalities (including a roadmap for the next two years) as well as a communication strategy.

This study will be carried out in the context of the implementation of the Africa-Europe Alliance and the International Ocean Governance Agenda.

Implementation

EASME

Amount

EUR 100,000

Indicative timetable

Contract to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

3.1.2 Black Sea Assistance Mechanism

General description of the contracts envisaged

The aim of this action is to set up an assistance mechanism for the Black Sea. This technical assistance contract is a follow-up of the “Facility for blue economy development in the Black Sea” action in the 2017 EMFF Work Programme.

The assistance mechanism should provide technical assistance to implement the priorities of the Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea (CMA), both at national level in the seven CMA countries and at regional level. This includes providing specific expertise on the blue economy, capacity-building and administrative support to relevant public authorities and the stakeholder community (e.g. NGOs, research institutes, universities, businesses and their associations, institutional and private investors), knowledge dissemination, partnership and match-making.

The CMA is a sea-basin initiative, which promotes a sustainable blue economy in the Black Sea. It was endorsed on May 21 2019 by Bulgaria, Georgia, republic of Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 900,000

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.1.3 Events and other actions for the promotion and visibility of the Integrated Maritime Policy

General description of the contracts envisaged

In order to promote the Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP), notably towards its stakeholders, a number of events will be organised to cover any of the wide range of topics included in the IMP, such as marine knowledge, maritime security and safety, maritime spatial planning, sea-basin strategies and action plans, ocean governance, marine environmental issues and the blue economy including fisheries and aquaculture.

The events themselves come in many shapes. For example, large-scale conferences, policy-related meetings targeting decision-makers and civil society representatives, technical workshops, fora and platforms bringing together representatives of specific sectors, "hackathons" and similar interactive gatherings, participation with side-events or stands at events or fairs organized by third parties, information days to stakeholders to present a new

policy or a new call, match-making events to stimulate investment in the blue economy and meetings with non-EU States to forge ocean partnerships.

The action may also include activities necessary for its preparation and follow-up of the event in question.

The events and activities may, depending on the subject matter, include any mix of participants from across the EU, from neighbouring non-EU countries and from the wider world, including international organisations. An event or activity may be held on EU territory, or any suitable location outside it if this is necessary for the pursuit of its objectives.

Implementation

DG MARE and co-delegation to different Commission Directorates for the services pertaining to the activities within their competence.

Indicative amount

EUR 1,596,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts and service-level agreements to be concluded throughout 2020

3.1.4 Methodological and technical support to the Integrated Maritime Policy units managing IT initiatives

General description of the contracts envisaged

Contracting external expertise in the domains of software/enterprise architecture and IT project/operation management.

The objective is to support the coordination of the Integrated Maritime Policy initiatives with IT components, ensure continuous compliance with IT management standards and best practices and their alignment with the local (DG) and corporate (EC) IT governance.

The final aim is to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation of all IT-related actions under service contracts funded by the Integrated Maritime Policy section of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, putting them on an equal footing and applying the same governance, methodological and technical processes and standards.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 70,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.1.5 Study on Underwater Munitions

General description of the contracts envisaged

The study on underwater munitions follows up the EU Maritime Security Action Plan adopted by the General Affairs Council in December 2014 and revised in June 2018. According to the Council conclusions on the revision of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) Action Plan of 26 June 2018 (actions B.4.2 and B.5.2), there is a need to improve emergency procedures in the case of accidental recovery of chemical munitions and unexploded ordnances dumped at sea, including by means of promoting a manual of procedures, a common contingency plan and unified response models for such incidents. This study will address these needs while also providing a follow-up to the conclusions of the Colloquium on the Challenges of Unexploded Munitions, organised by MARE in cooperation with the EEAS, which took place in February 2019.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 200,000

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published or specific contract to be concluded throughout 2020

3.1.6 WestMED and Atlantic Assistance Mechanisms

General description of the contracts envisaged

This action aims at supporting the implementation and monitoring of the Initiative for the Sustainable Development of the Blue Economy in the Western Mediterranean and the Atlantic Action Plan.

The support will be provided in the form of technical assistance. This action is a follow up of the action of the 2017 EMFF Work Programme and is shaped into two different lots, one for the WestMED and the other for the Atlantic.

The two assistance mechanisms will raise awareness, support project initiatives and disseminate information about the Initiative for the Western Mediterranean and the Atlantic Action Plan, their priorities and possible funding sources. This will ensure the maximum consistency, coordination and synergies among the countries involved in both sea basins and avoid duplication. More specifically, they will continue to collect data from funded maritime projects (maritime data hub) and to support the functioning of the respective governance structures.

The two assistance mechanisms will bring potential project partners together and advise them on the use of EU financing instruments and other funding sources, including IFI

(International Financing Institutions) assistance, as well as any other public or private funding sources.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 2,225,000

Indicative timetable

Contract renewals to be concluded or calls for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.1.7 Assistance Mechanism for the Implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)

General description of the contracts envisaged

This contract aims at providing administrative and technical support to the Commission and to Member States, in relation to the implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning, and in particular of Directive 2014/89/EU.

To achieve this aim the contractor will carry out tasks in the following areas:

- Collect and share knowledge about MSP: The contractor will update a repository of knowledge and practices about MSP and set up and maintain a “pool” of experts in MSP and MSP implementation. Drawing from this repository and pool of expertise, the contractor will be asked to prepare technical documents, training and communication materials, on specific issues related to MSP. These documents are intended to support the implementation of Directive 2014/89/EU and to clarify links with relevant EU policies.
- Support to Member States: the contractor will perform a number of tasks aimed at supporting Member States in their work to implement MSP and in particular the Directive 2014/89/EU. These tasks can range from the practical organisation of meetings, workshops and events, to the organisation of training or the dissemination of useful information on the implementation of MSP, including on available funding.
- Support to the European Commission: the contractor will support the organisation of workshops and conferences, as well as meetings of the Member State Expert Group on MSP. It will also assist the Commission with technical expertise on matters related to the implementation of the MSP Directive or to MSP in general.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 880,000

Indicative timetable

Renewal of service contract in the third quarter of 2020

3.1.8 Developing international MSP guidelines and cooperation

General description of the contracts envisaged

To help develop international guidance on transboundary maritime spatial planning (MSP), two international workshops are to be held in 2020 (they are scheduled for spring 2020 and autumn 2020).

These workshops will build on the four international workshops organised in 2018 and 2019, and on existing initiatives and studies, including any lessons learnt and best practices. They have a double aim: to enhance cross-border cooperation where it already exists and to help initiate it where it is yet to be put in place.

The output of the two international MSP workshops will be used in the development of international guidelines on cross-border MSP.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contract (s) to be concluded in the first and the third quarter of 2020

3.1.9 Blue economy indicators

General description of the contracts envisaged

The aim of this action is to obtain the most accurate and up-to-date picture of the blue economy, using existing data from Eurostat and other sources. The action will therefore provide support for the continuation of the on-line system, using as input data from Structural Business Statistics input-output tables, labour force surveys, the Data Collection Framework and tourism statistics.

The input is to provide quantitative measurement of the indicators which have been set for the status and trends of the blue economy, for the EU as a whole and at Member State level.

The data will be made available to the public, under certain conditions, as an interactive tool where it will be possible to download charts and files. It will also allow the input of new raw data as they become available. The tool will update data, on an annual basis, and allow for a thorough quality check of the datasets.

Implementation

DG MARE and co-delegation to DIGIT

Indicative amount

EUR 115,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contract(s) to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

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

General description of the contracts envisaged

The activities under this action in 2020 will continue and further develop past actions, and support the ongoing implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. This continued work can involve the following non-exhaustive list of tasks:

- Analysing and assessing pressures and human activities in or affecting the marine environment, identifying the possible cost-effective measures and analysing their socio-economic impacts and benefits;
- 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, development of technical guidance for the Member States;
- Supporting the development and improvement of reporting systems to facilitate and harmonise Member State reporting obligations, and their assessment and dissemination, such as through WISE-marine;
- Providing scientific and technical input to a coordinated and integrated assessment of good environmental status;
- Assessing approaches and results of Member States' reporting in the different stages of implementation of Directive 2008/56/EC with particular focus on coherence, notably at regional or sub-regional levels, and, based on this assessment, recommending specific activities, tools, and/or mechanisms to be put in place to improve coordination within or amongst marine regions;
- Compiling and analysing information to support the review of the Directive due by 2023;
- Intensifying information exchange between the EU, its Member States and Regional Sea Conventions;
- Providing scientific and technical support for the assessment of Marine Protected Areas; as well as for any required aspects of marine litter, underwater noise and seabed integrity;
- Providing data, information and other support for the Commission's marine modelling activities;
- Providing input, as required, to assessing the implementation by Member States of the Directive;
- Organising events such as workshops, conferences and other meetings;

- Producing communication materials.

Implementation

Co-delegation to DG ENV

Indicative amount

EUR 1,397,000

Indicative timetable

1 to 4 specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2020. Renewal of service contract in the fourth quarter of 2020

3.1.11 European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)

General description of the contracts envisaged

The work on EMODnet planned for 2020 includes:

- structuring national archives of data so that they all use the same format, standards, nomenclature, baseline; and are accessible through internet;
- creating software that allows users to search for data and data products, view them and download them;
- cooperation with appropriate international organisations and partner countries on the above objectives or issues relevant to EMODnet, Marine Knowledge 2020 or INSPIRE;
- outreach to users in order to better understand their needs and develop the network accordingly, including business and industry. Where relevant, projects will build on or complement already funded actions such as those funded by Horizon 2020, and contribute to relevant activities such as the European Ocean Science Cloud;
- targeting to become more effective in supporting the implementation of key environmental (e.g. Marine Strategy Framework Directive) and maritime legislation, the realisation of the international environmental sustainability agenda (SDG14, International Ocean Governance agenda, Clean Planet strategy) and in providing greater transparency of data to support the growth of the blue economy.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 6,590,000

Indicative timetable

Renewal/extension of service contracts to be issued, and/or calls for tenders to be published,

in the last quarter of 2020

3.1.12 Synergies and clustering between maritime projects

General description of the contracts envisaged

Since 2016, the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund has supported transnational projects to improve uptake of new approaches (e.g. maritime spatial planning, touristic nautical routes, "blue careers" and "blue labs" projects, clusters in the Mediterranean), new technologies and innovation ("blue technology" projects, demonstration projects) in the blue economy across all EU sea-basins. Further projects resulting from ongoing and future calls for proposal are in the pipeline or planned.

Given the variety in content, sectors covered and sea-basin focus between these projects, it is crucial to better integrate and capitalise on their results with a view to assist them in reaching a wider audience (businesses, local stakeholders, education bodies, public authorities) in order to increase their impact, reach a higher multiplier effect and play a greater role in informing policy decisions.

The expenditure may also cover dissemination of results and support for transferring project results to the market and/or other applications.

Therefore, the aim of the action is to provide a platform for exchange of information, best practices and synergies between these projects in a structured way. To facilitate and maximise cooperation and exchange between projects, activities may include the use of internet tools, social media, workshops and seminars.

Through this "clustering of projects", teams can learn from each other, network and draw common conclusions that would be useful to improve their processes and inform policy-making. Projects to be targeted may also include relevant projects from other financing mechanisms such as INTERREG and LIFE. In this context, sea-basin and thematic assistance mechanisms funded by EMFF (Atlantic, West Med, Maritime Spatial Planning, Blue Investmen) could be associated to this clustering for the identification of projects in their relevant area.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.1.13 Toolbox and Supporting Actions for an Algae Initiative

General description of the contracts envisaged

The overall purpose of this action is to promote the development of the EU algae biomass

sector and help establish micro- and macro-algae as a new crop for food, feed and other high value uses, such as cosmetics, personal care, pigments, etc.

It has the following priority sub-actions:

- Developing a toolbox to facilitate the application process for micro- and macro-algae under the Novel Food Regulation (EU) 2015/2283, the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2017/2469 laying down administrative and scientific requirements for novel food applications, and the EFSA guidance on the preparation and presentation of novel food applications including the compilation of the analytical and safety data;
- A study to fill knowledge gaps on the wild harvesting of seaweeds in environmentally sustainable ways;
- A low-value contract to identify the most promising algae species that are currently not approved for human and animal consumption in the EU. Besides economic profitability, the contractor is to look into other criteria to select the species (including environmental benefits and environmentally sustainable harvesting).

Further sub-actions targeting the uptake of algae as feed in the aquaculture sector or to follow up on the Blue Bioeconomy Forum's recommendations for the algae sector, may be added, depending on available budget and the content of Blue Bioeconomy Forum's roadmap once it is adopted.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 650,000

Indicative timetable

Contract procedures (call/specific request) to be launched throughout 2020

3.1.14 Assessing the costs of non-implementation of ocean governance

General description of the contracts envisaged

The Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development was endorsed in 2015 by the United Nations General Assembly and included a dedicated goal for "life below water" (Sustainable Development Goal SDG14). It contains a number of targets to be achieved by 2030 for the conservation and sustainable use of the oceans, seas and marine resources. Agenda 2030 is to be implemented in a holistic way, with SDG14 having strong links to other SDGs, notably goals 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, 12, 13, 15, 16 and 17.

The actions set out in the Joint Communication on International Ocean Governance (JOIN 2016 49) are an integral part of the EU's response to Agenda 2030. While increasing pressures on the oceans, such as pollution, acidification, sea level rise and overfishing, may jeopardize the development of the blue economy, international progress on the implementation of SDG14 and related targets has been slow.

The scope of the study is global and its objectives are:

- to provide the economic analysis to achieve the ocean-related SDGs, including the costs and benefits of filling legal and financial gaps towards the elimination of pressures on the oceans in a medium- to long-term perspective, drawing implications for the timescale for action, and the choice of policies and institutions;
- to estimate the economic, social and environmental consequences in case of a no-change scenario for the oceans, i.e. pressures remain and/or increase while ocean-related Agenda 2030 targets remain unfulfilled;
- to develop scenarios so that the ocean-related SDGs are met by 2030;
- to draw up specific lessons for the EU, in the context of the ocean governance policy.

Early results from this study will be used to make a contribution to the forthcoming SDG-14 UN Conference that will take place in June 2020.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 660,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contract to be concluded or call to be launched in the first quarter of 2020

3.1.15 IT Support for the Maritime Forum

General description of the contracts envisaged

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.

Implementation

Co- delegation to DIGIT

Indicative amount

EUR 150,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contract(s) to be concluded throughout 2020.

3.1.16 Cross-sectoral small support studies

General description of the contracts envisaged

Studies and IT to support the preparation and implementation of policy measures through literature reviews or by surveying activities in EU Member States for issues such as:

- marine litter: fishing for litter, lost gear, reporting;
- decarbonisation: life-cycle analysis, space and finance requirements;
- multi-use platforms: regulatory barriers;
- vessel traffic monitoring – comparison of active and passive methods;
- ocean observation– current practice, needs, future options.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 750,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

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.

3.2.1 Scientific Support to the High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean

General description of the contracts envisaged

This action aims at providing scientific support covering service contracts for the provision of consistent management of fish resources in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO). This action will support the development and implementation of the Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to be defined by the Arctic High Seas Fisheries Meeting.

In May 2017, DG MARE set a panel of experts on Arctic fisheries who identified scientific elements where the EU could play a leading role in the Joint Research and Monitoring Plan. Those elements include a critical overview and synthesis of available knowledge on fish stocks, a description of the socio-economic drivers for fisheries, green technology, the participation of scientist in Arctic research campaigns and studies, data collection, Arctic fisheries related workshops, scientific experts' meetings on fish stocks in the Central Arctic Ocean (FiSCAO) and support to future research programmes. In addition, one of the elements could potentially include local and indigenous knowledge in the Joint Research and

Monitoring Plan and provide for the participation of Arctic indigenous people in the work of scientific expert groups.

Scientific support to the CAO is necessary to evaluate, inter alia, the essential fish habitats, the ecological relationships, the migration of fish stocks, the precautionary ecosystem-based approach to fisheries, the identification of target species and ecosystem component species, the need for data collection and data availability, the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), the collaborative research on Arctic fisheries and monitoring, the identification of management frameworks and the related socio-economic considerations.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 1,000,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.2.2 Framework contract for scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

General description of the contracts envisaged

A new service framework contract for the provision of 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 (CFP).

The advice and services are sought to support the implementation of the CFP 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.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.2.3 Scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

General description of the contracts envisaged

The aim of this action is the provision of 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 (CFP).

The advice and services are sought to support the implementation of the CFP 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.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 1,100,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.2.4 Framework contract for scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

General description of the contracts envisaged

A new service framework contract for the provision of specific and timely scientific advice in support of the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas, including at international level within the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).

Implementation

EASME

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.2.5 Scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

General description of the contracts envisaged

This action aims at 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:

- the evaluation of technical elements linked to the national and multi-annual management plans or to the different provisions of the Mediterranean Regulation and the CFP;
- stock assessments in the Mediterranean and Black Seas;
- the GFCM's mid-term strategy (2017-2020) towards the sustainability of Mediterranean and

Black Sea fisheries;

- scoping studies, aiming at synthesising and analysing scientific material to provide greater clarity about specific research topics.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 1,000,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.2.6 Studies providing scientific advice in support of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters (excluding the Mediterranean and Black Seas)

General description of the contracts envisaged

Studies providing scientific advice in support of the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) in the Baltic, North Sea and Atlantic Ocean as well as in the EU's outermost regions.

In particular, regarding:

- annual advice on the development of fish stocks with respect to the CFP's objectives;
- improved knowledge on fish stocks and ecosystems and fisheries management schemes in place in the EU's outermost regions;
- the MSY objective, including forecasts of catches corresponding to Fmsy, estimation of stock levels including the historical evolution with respect to Bmsy, advice on appropriate capacity to fish at Fmsy, and advice on how to protect the more vulnerable species in mixed fisheries so that all stocks are fished at Fmsy;
- implementation of the Ecosystem Approach via advice for reduction of the environmental impact of fishing gears and/or practices, advice on the elimination of discards, advice on essential fish habitats (necessary to fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity), reduction of unwanted catches, impacts of certain pollutants on the productivity and reproduction fitness of certain exploited species, effects of environmental and anthropogenic factors on the dynamics of marine biological resources and the impact of marine non-indigenous invasive marine species (NIS) to fisheries;
- Multiannual Management Plans, including the improved use of the existing knowledge about ecological interactions and fisheries interactions;
- transversal topics, including further progress in the identification of stock boundaries for certain species, updated identification and description of fisheries and metiers, characterisation of recreational and of artisanal fisheries, and the further fine-tuning of bio-economic modelling for mixed fisheries.

- Preparatory work for the 2022 assessment of the CFP outcome up to 2021.

Implementation

EASME

Indicative amount

EUR 2,300,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

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 85(b) and 87 thereof.

3.3.1 Assessment of the application by the Member States of the Control Regulation for the period 2015-2019

General description of the contracts envisaged

Study for the assessment of the application of the Control Regulation (Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009) by the Member States for the period from 2015 to 2019. The results of the study will serve as a basis for the establishment, by the Commission, of the second report on the application of the Control Regulation by Member States which will be addressed to the European Parliament and Council (Article 118 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009).

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 150,000

Indicative timetable

Service contract(s) to be concluded first semester of 2020

3.3.2 Provision of IT services and supplies

General description of the contracts envisaged

Development, maintenance and support of IT applications and hardware (infrastructure) supply, supporting the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy as well as access to

databases.

Implementation

DG MARE and co-delegation to different Commission Directorates for the services pertaining to the activities within their competence.

Indicative amount

EUR 4,430,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.3.3 Organisation of meetings related to fisheries control

General description of the contracts envisaged

Logistical and administrative costs related to the organisation of meetings on fisheries control including the meetings of the Expert Groups on Fisheries Control and on Compliance with the obligations under the Union fisheries Control System.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 40,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.3.4 Equipment for fisheries control related tasks

General description of the contracts envisaged

Protection and safety equipment and material required for the verification and audit of fisheries control related tasks.
Provision of supplies and appliances that are necessary for the management of activities linked to the field of control.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 10,000

Indicative timetable

Contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

3.4 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, and in particular Articles 85(f) and 91 thereof.

3.4.1 Public Relations, Information and Communication Measures Relating to the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy

General description of the contracts envisaged

Provision and coordination of information, communication and public relations actions including, inter alia:

- publications, information packs, social media activities, maps and other materials, audiovisuals (comprising the EMFF);
- hiring of stands, publicity for the participation in fairs and exhibitions, publications on a range of topics;
- web development and updating of web-pages, revamping of existing websites;
- translations;
- organisation of conferences, events and seminars or workshops on maritime policy and fisheries and on the EMFF, such as the Seafood exhibition, conferences on regional maritime strategies, coastguard cooperation, maritime spatial planning, marine knowledge and surveillance, seminars on the CFP Reform, conferences on community-led local development in fisheries areas for Fisheries Local Action Groups, Our Ocean Conference, a forum for policy dialogue on fisheries and maritime affairs between the Commission, the Outermost Regions and the national authorities;
- information about fisheries legislation or Integrated Maritime Policy topics in Member States as well as in third countries;
- purchasing of advertising space;

use of the Next EUROPA internet presence (called NE-CMS) service by DG MARE for the "Websites Fisheries and Maritime Affairs".

Finally, this envelope includes DG MARE's contribution to the "Corporate communication action in 2019-2020 under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020" C(2018)4063 of 4.7.2018.

Implementation

DG MARE and co-delegation to different Commission Directorates for the services pertaining to the activities within their competence.

Indicative amount

EUR 1,970,000

Indicative timetable

Service contracts and specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

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 on the Common Organisation of the Markets (CMO) in fishery and aquaculture products, and in particular Article 42 thereof.

3.5.1 Eurobarometer: EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products

General description of the contracts envisaged

The study aims at looking at EU consumer behaviours with regard to fishery and aquaculture products. This study was first undertaken in 2016 and 2018 and has been deemed useful both by Member States and the sector. It has been decided to carry out this public opinion poll every other year.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 400,000

Indicative timetable

Contract(s) to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

3.5.2 Impact assessment and technical work for the revision of marketing standards for fishery and aquaculture products

General description of the contracts envisaged

The aim of this study is to assess the possible impacts of new marketing standards on fishery and aquaculture products and to support the definition of their content and presentation to consumers, in view of a possible revision of the existing legislation in this area. It may include technical work for the definition of standards and communication to consumers.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 500,000

Indicative timetable

Contract(s) to be concluded throughout 2020

3.5.3 Project on transnational producer organisations

General description of the contracts envisaged

The aim of this project is to see the development of initiatives to enable cross-border exchanges in the fishery and aquaculture sector, with a view to boosting its transnational dimension.

This action follows up the work of the Pilot Project “EU platform for fishery and aquaculture producer organisations” (Commission Decision C(2018) 4033 final).

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 300,000

Indicative timetable

Contract(s) to be concluded throughout 2020

3.5.4 Information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products

General description of the contracts envisaged

Running, maintenance and improvements of the information system for commercial designations for fishery and aquaculture products. It is the only website site on which all the lists of commercial designations drawn up by the EU Member States can be accessed and compared. National lists being hardly comparable due to their huge heterogeneity (lengths, pace of update, languages, formats), this system is a valuable source of information for stakeholders as it provides an integrated and cross-cutting view on the species put on the EU market.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 200,000

Indicative timetable

Call for tenders to be published in the first quarter of 2020

3.5.5 European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA)

General description of the contracts envisaged

EUMOFA aims to increase market transparency and efficiency, analyse EU markets dynamics and support business decisions and policy-making. It also aims at providing practical support to market actors to better coordinate information between operators and processors. This contract will run and maintain the EUMOFA market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector. The services that will be provided by this contract include data collection, reports, studies and market analysis, dissemination and communication activities and full IT Services, including hosting.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 3,260,586.50

Indicative timetable

Renewal of service contract in the fourth quarter of 2020

3.5.6 Methodological and technical support to the policy units managing IT initiatives

General description of the contracts envisaged

Contracting external expertise in the domains of software/enterprise architecture and IT project/operation management.

The objective is to support the coordination of the Market Intelligence Policy initiatives with IT components, ensure continuous compliance with IT management standards and best practices and their alignment with the local (DG) and corporate (EC) IT governance.

The final aim is to contribute to the efficiency and effectiveness of implementation of all IT-related actions under service contracts funded by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, putting them on an equal footing and applying the same governance, methodological and technical processes and standards.

Implementation

DG MARE

Indicative amount

EUR 43,000

Indicative timetable

Specific contracts to be concluded in the second quarter of 2020

4 Other actions or expenditure

4.1 Budget Heading 11 06 61 - Fostering the development and implementation of the Union's Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)

Legal basis:

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

4.1.1 External expertise for the evaluation of directly managed grant applications and monitoring of projects

General description of the contracts envisaged

The objective is to support the evaluation of grant applications under the directly managed EMFF calls for proposals and, where appropriate, the monitoring of running or completed projects, by acquiring the assistance of independent external experts.

Experts will be selected from the "My Expert Area" database (<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/myarea/expertarea>) or via a standard call for expression of interest.

The contracts with these external experts will cover, inter alia, the reading and analysis of background information, participation in briefing meetings and hearings, the evaluation of assigned proposals, the review of project deliverables and reports and the preparation of consolidated evaluation reports or other deliverables.

Implementation

EASME

Amount

EUR 447,000

Indicative timetable

Direct payments to experts to be made in 2020 or 2021 for the evaluations of proposals performed in 2020

4.1.2 Economic monitoring support

General description of the contracts envisaged

The objective of this administrative arrangement with the JRC, is to support DG MARE with the necessary scientific and technical expertise for the economic analysis of the EU blue economy.

The activities, will include among others:

- the support to produce the annual EU Blue Economy Report, including the tasks related to data management, trends analysis by the EU, Member States and subsectors and economic analysis;
- an overview of the socio-economic dimension of the main sectors of the blue economy where a deeper analysis of some sectors such as renewable energy, desalination or the economic impacts of climate change will also be performed;
- an analysis of the regional smart specialisation in the blue economy aimed at reinforcing the potential of the blue economy's contribution to jobs, growth and investment.

Implementation

DG MARE

Amount

EUR 450,000

Indicative timetable

Extension of the Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the second semester of 2020.

4.2 Budget Heading 11 06 62 01 – Scientific advice and knowledge

Legal basis:

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

4.2.1 Fisheries data and scientific advice

General description of the contracts envisaged

The objective of this administrative arrangement with the JRC is the provision of scientific, technical and administrative support facilitating the efficient functioning of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), support for the data collection framework in the fisheries sector and scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

Implementation

DG MARE

Amount

EUR 1,250,000

Indicative timetable

Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020

4.2.2 Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)

General description of the contracts envisaged

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.

This assistance will be provided by a STECF set up by Commission Decision.

This decision foresees the payment of compensation to the members of the STECF and/or the experts invited by the STECF.

Implementation

DG MARE

Amount

EUR 867,000

Indicative timetable

Twenty to thirty STECF meetings spread throughout 2020

4.3 Budget Heading 11 06 62 02 – Control and enforcement

Legal basis:

Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(b) and 87 thereof.

4.3.1 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

General description of the contracts envisaged

Covering the costs of missions which purpose is to ensure the implementation of the rules of the CFP, to control and to 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 the participation at subsequent meetings.

Implementation

Co-delegation to PMO

Amount

EUR 700,000

Indicative timetable

Payments throughout 2020 and 2021

4.3.2 Meetings of the experts groups on (1) Fisheries Control and on (2) Compliance with the obligations under the Union fisheries control system

General description of the contracts envisaged

Financing the reimbursement of experts' expenses incurred in the framework of the meetings of the Expert Group on Fisheries Control and the Expert Group on Compliance with the obligations under the Union fisheries control system.

Implementation

Co-delegation to PMO

Amount

EUR 150,000

Indicative timetable

Payments throughout 2020 and 2021

4.3.3 Training of European Commission officials/agents involved in fisheries control

General description of the contracts envisaged

Financing the reimbursement of experts' expenses incurred in the framework of the meetings of the Expert Group on Fisheries Control and the Expert Group on Compliance with the obligations under the Union fisheries control system.

Implementation

DG MARE

Amount

EUR 20,000

Indicative timetable

Low value service contracts or specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2020

4.4 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, and in particular Articles 85(f) and 91 thereof.

4.4.1 Storage, distribution and production services

General description of the contracts envisaged

Storage, distribution and production services provided by the Publications Office.

Implementation

Co-delegation to the Publications Office

Amount

EUR 30,000

Indicative timetable

Legal commitment to be concluded in the first quarter of 2020.