



Brussels, 8.12.2017
C(2017) 8146 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 8.12.2017

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2018 and the financing decision for
the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**

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THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006, (EC) No 791/2007, Regulation No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council¹, and in particular Article 23 thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC², and in particular Article 45 (3) thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1184/2006 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 104/2000³, and in particular Art. 42 thereof

Having regard to the Commission Decision 2005/629/EC establishing a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries⁴, in particular Article 9 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁵, and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union⁶ (RAP), and in particular Article 94 thereof,

¹ OJ L 149, 20.05.2014, p. 1.

² OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22.

³ OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 1.

⁴ OJ L 225, 31.8.2005, p. 18.

⁵ OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

⁶ OJ L 362, 31.12.2012, p. 1.

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund it is necessary to adopt a financing decision and the work programme for 2018. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) It is appropriate to authorise award of grants without a call for proposals to the bodies identified in the work programme and for the reasons provided therein.
- (3) Under Article 190(1)(d) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (RAP), grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies identified in a basic act, within the meaning of Article 54 of the Financial Regulation, as beneficiaries of a grant. The following bodies are identified in a basic act as beneficiaries of a grant: Advisory Councils established in accordance with Article 43 of Regulation (EC) No 1380/2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy.
- (4) Under Articles 190(1) (c) and (f) of the Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (RAP), grants may be awarded without a call for proposals to bodies with a de jure or de facto monopoly or that have a high degree of specialisation, or because of their administrative power. It is appropriate to authorise the award of grants without a call for proposals to bodies identified in the Annex, in accordance with the conditions set out therein.
- (5) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (RAP).
- (6) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU) No 1268/2012 (RAP).
- (7) The measures provided for in this Decision are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established by Article 127 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The work programme

The annual work programme for the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2018 as set out in Annex, is adopted.

The work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation for actions funded from appropriations of 2018.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the programme for the year 2018 is set at EUR 85,277,000 and shall be financed from the following lines of the general budget of the European Union for 2018:

- (a) 11 06 61 Integrated Maritime Policy: 47,830,000 EUR
- (b) 11 06 62 01 Scientific advice: 9,240,000 EUR
- (c) 11 06 62 02 Control and enforcement: 5,500,000 EUR
- (d) 11 06 62 03 Voluntary contributions to international organisations 12,292,000 EUR
- (e) 11 06 62 04 Governance and communication 5,600,000 EUR
- (f) 11 06 62 05 Market intelligence 4,815,000 EUR

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

The implementation of this Decision is subject to the availability of the appropriations provided for in the draft budget for 2018 after the adoption of the budget for 2018 by the budgetary authority or provided for in the provisional twelfths.

Article 3
Flexibility clause

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

The increase of the maximum contribution per budget line in Article 2 of this Decision shall not exceed 20%.

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

Article 4
Grants

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

Done at Brussels, 8.12.2017

For the Commission
Karmenu VELLA
Member of the Commission



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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

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ANNEX

Work programme 2018 EMFF

1.1. Introduction

On the basis of the objectives set out in the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2018 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2), amounting to €44,16 million
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.3), amounting to €34,33 million
- for other actions (implemented under direct management) (1.4), amounting to €6,78 million

1.2. GRANTS

1.2.1. Budget Heading 11 06 61

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

Legal basis:

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

1.2.1.1. European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The ECGFF is organised each year by a host country agreed by the Member States' participating Coast Guard authorities.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support the ECGFF annual high-level conference and related planning activities, such as secretariat meetings, in order to enhance sectorial and cross-sectorial cooperation between Coast Guard Functions, the exchange of best practices and to promote a dialogue at international, regional and national level.</p> <p>The support to the ECGFF has to be seen as complementary to the new European cooperation on Coast Guard Functions based on the revised EU legislation regulating the activities of the three EU maritime Agencies: European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA), European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) and the new European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex). This new context will enhance cooperation between authorities to manage safety, security, environmental and other coast guard functions.</p>

Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to one of the relevant public authorities represented in the secretariat of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum.</p> <p>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.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.2. Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>International cooperation is a key element to meet the challenges arising from the management of sea basins shared by Member States and third countries.</p> <p>In 2009, a forum was created to bring together the public authorities carrying out coast guard functions in Member States and in third countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. Since then, annual sessions of this forum have taken place. The co-chair for 2018-2019 will be France and Morocco and the host nation for 2018 will be France.</p> <p>The main objective of this grant 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.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Article 190 (1) f of the rules of application of the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the public body indicated by the MCGFF plenary assembly.</p> <p>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.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%

Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.
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1.2.1.3. European Coast Guard Academy Network (ECGFA NET) - phase III

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The ECGFA NET implemented by the Finnish Border Guard, provided recommendations and minimum requirements for the Coast Guard Functions Standard Qualification Framework (SQF), but not the final framework.</p> <p>This action is the final stage and consists in the further development and fine tuning of a Standard Qualification Framework related to the knowledge, skills and competences needed for Coast Guard Functions professionals. This task has been developed in the first two phases, according to guiding examples stemming from the EU agencies concerned.</p> <p>The final objective is to develop a fully defined Sectorial Qualification Framework for Coast Guard Functions as a set of common standards for education, to be applied on a voluntary basis in order to assure quality of training and teaching and to ensure consistency, complementarity and synergies in the future with EMSA, EFCA and Frontex in the framework of the recently established inter-Agency cooperation on Coast Guard functions.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to one of the relevant public authorities represented in the secretariat of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum.</p> <p>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.</p>
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.4. Promotion of interoperability between industry and competent authorities in the European Maritime Single Window (EMSW) environment under the CISE Process

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3.000.000
Priorities of the	Information exchange between maritime surveillance authorities at

<p>year, objectives pursued and expected results</p>	<p>EU and national level needs to be enhanced, in order to improve their overall maritime awareness, to increase co-operation between coastguard authorities and to ensure efficiency and cost-effectiveness of individual and/or joint operations in the maritime domain. This objective has been pursued by the Common Information Sharing Environment for the maritime domain (CISE) initiative, through a voluntary collaborative process directly supported by Member States.</p> <p>The present action aims at engaging EMSA in further developing interoperability solutions allowing for seamless information exchange between the EU and national authorities' systems.</p> <p>Its first objective is to assist Member States in improving their National Single Window (NSW) solutions and the interfaces with SafeSeaNet in accordance with the requirements of Directive 2010/65/EU, in order to achieve better data consistency, improve re-use of data and harmonise exchanges between Member States and EMSA systems. Secondly, the action will enhance the functionalities of the European Maritime Single Window (EMSW) demonstrator in order to enable interoperability with other EU systems (e.g. Mandatory Reporting Systems, VHF Data Exchange System (VDES) for the transmission of digital data between ship and shore, eCustoms, Eurostat).</p> <p>A 2012 project funded in full (100%) by the IMP transitional financial instrument, developed a National Single Window (NSW) prototype and promoted interoperability between the systems provided for by the Directive and between these systems and the national systems.</p> <p>The action will contribute, on the one hand, to establishing the EMSW environment and, on the other hand, to creating more robust information exchange channels between administrations in the maritime domain, which is one of the objectives of CISE.</p> <p>The grant seeks to produce concrete results that will allow for seamless information exchange between EU and national authorities. More specifically, it should allow Member States' authorities to automatically receive and integrate information services provided by EMSA within their own systems, and fuse this data with additional information only available at national level, in order to reduce ship reporting formalities.</p> <p>To achieve these results the main tasks of the project will imply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • enabling a more efficient data exchange regarding port documentation between the different authorities of Member States using SafeSeaNet, including exchange of cargo information; • enhancing connectivity between all relevant authorities and end-users in the different Member States; • developing an EMSW environment demonstrator, including harmonised NSW interfaces, and • improving information exchange ship-to-shore using VHF Data
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	Exchange-satellite (VDE-SAT) communications, by setting up a data processing capability.
Award criteria	Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the European Maritime Safety Agency. 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	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Max. 100% of direct eligible costs involved.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.5. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) projects

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.470.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The objective of these grants is to support the work of the Member States in implementing Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). This will be particularly important in view of the fact that Member States need to set up their MSP processes, if they are to meet the Directive's deadline of 2021 for the establishment and implementation of their maritime spatial plans.</p> <p>The projects will involve concrete actions in Member States helping to build capacity for the implementation of the Directive. They will provide support for the establishment of lasting mechanisms for cross-border cooperation. Finally, they will build on prior experience from existing and past MSP projects.</p> <p>The grants will support cross-border MSP cooperation initiatives between Member States, in principle, in the Atlantic and the Black Sea.</p> <p>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. Within the available budget, further projects will be proposed for funding by order of merit, according to their score on the basis of the evaluation of the award criteria.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must be public authorities or bodies in charge of maritime spatial planning of those coastal Member States which are responsible for maritime spatial planning in the selected area.</p>

	<p>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.</p> <p>Applicants from at least two Member States must be involved in each proposal.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have the financial and operational capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of innovation, synergies/complementarity with other relevant initiatives or EU policies, capacity to involve and promote dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, coverage of Member States bordering the selected area. • Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Adequate risk management. Cost-effectiveness of the project. • Expected outputs and impacts: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.6. Promoting Europe's coastal and maritime tourism destinations to an international market

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 800.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The Communication "Europe, the world's No1 tourist destination – a new political framework for tourism in Europe" called for a coastal and maritime tourism strategy. In February 2014, the Commission adopted a Communication on "A European Strategy for more Growth and Jobs in Coastal and Maritime Tourism" which highlighted the importance of the touristic promotion of our coastal regions as a means to increase the competitiveness of the coastal and maritime tourism sector in Europe.</p> <p>In order to attract increased international tourist arrivals from third countries to Europe, an ad hoc grant will be awarded to the European</p>

	<p>Travel Commission (ETC) for extensive actions to promote Europe towards these third countries as a destination for maritime and coastal tourism.</p> <p>Gathering together the National Tourism Organisations of 33 European countries, ETC represents the non-profit organisation empowered by the Member States to promote Europe in third countries, in particular for long-haul markets. ETC officially complements and adds value to the promotional and marketing efforts of Member States.</p> <p>This grant will be used to promote coastal regions of Europe and their maritime-themed tourism offers and travel packages to markets on other continents, as well as to monitor how awareness and uptake of them evolves on the international market.</p> <p>In 2018 the Chinese market will be a particular focus of the promotion actions.</p> <p>The activities covered by the grant include, among others, online and social media promotion, marketing campaigns focusing on the promotion of visiteurope.com, conversion tactics specific for each selected target market, participation in tourism and travel fairs, and the organisation of other relevant events. Together, these activities are expected to enhance the image of Destination Europe and the portal visiteurope.com in general, and the maritime and coastal sections thereof in particular.</p>
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	<p>Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190 (1) f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>The grant will be awarded to the European Travel Commission.</p> <p>The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the actions are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.</p>
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DG GROW.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.2.1.7. Blue Economy Call

Type	Action grant with strands following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 18.440.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>With a view to enhancing the development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy, this action will award grants to projects within the following three specific strands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strand 1 - Blue Labs: innovative solutions for maritime challenges;

- Strand 2 – Blue Careers in Europe;
- Strand 3 - Grants for the blue economy.

Within each strand, projects will be selected by order of merit within the indicative budget allocated to the strand concerned, according to their overall score based on the evaluation of the award criteria.

They will build on and complement work already executed under other programmes such as the EU programmes for research and innovation FP7 and Horizon 2020, including the SME instrument and they will also support, where relevant, initiatives such as the BLUEMED initiative and the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance.

Strand 1 - Blue Labs: innovative solutions for maritime challenges (indicative budget allocation € 5.000.000)

Integrated Maritime Policy is by nature cross-cutting and requires multi-disciplinary skills and competences. The declination and implementation of its objectives at sea basin level requires the development of solutions that have to be tailored to the specific needs/problems of a territory and led by the local stakeholders.

The "Blue Labs" are aimed at the design and implementation of innovative and viable solutions for maritime/marine challenges by leveraging young people's skills and creativity, local stakeholders' knowledge and by combining competences from businesses and scientific/research bodies/institutions. Thus, the Blue Lab teams will include post-graduate students and/or post-graduates collaborating with selected stakeholders (associations, NGOs, schools, municipalities, authorities, businesses and scientific/research institutions) and supported by experienced tutors from the research, business and public sectors.

A Blue Lab should result in a tangible outcome (e.g. new service or product or approach) aimed at developing innovative solutions for maritime and marine challenges relating to selected catalytic topics as follows:

- blue bio-remediations: exploiting metabolites, biomolecules, enzymes and genes from micro-organisms living in extreme marine environments in order to develop new technologies, products or services which can solve problems such as pollution, disposal of hazardous materials, etc.;
- unexploded ordnances at sea: development of innovative solutions and tools to detect, identify and deal with unexploded ordnances at sea;
- innovative marina and leisure boat design: development of technological solutions/products and services for marinas to adapt to changing demand from customers (e.g. access to marinas and boats for an ageing population; ICT-oriented requirements from young people) and/or address environmental challenges (e.g.

safely dismantling and recycling leisure boats);

- marine biomass: development of new technological solutions/products and approaches to add value to otherwise low-value marine biomass, including jellyfish, algae, mollusc shells, and fish (also fish products for non-direct human consumption).
- ecofriendly aquaculture and bioeconomy: establishment of new markets, product support, and adaptation of existing production towards the most eco-friendly and sustainable practices such as multi-species, multi-product production (e.g. Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture and aquaponics).

The Commission intends to fund at least one project per catalytic topic.

Strand 2 - Blue Careers (indicative budget allocation €6.000.000)

Projects will be based on a structured dialogue between industry and educational institutions (higher education and VET) with the objective of designing and implementing precise responses to the needs of the labour market in the blue economy.

Projects will provide enhanced cooperation between education and maritime business to implement the action/s identified (e.g. requalification programmes for unemployed but qualified people, designing of new curricula, programmes to upgrade skills).

Given the decreasing attractiveness of maritime careers, beneficiaries should also envisage "ocean literacy" actions. Educational institutes and companies would cooperate, in particular at local level, to organise initiatives with the aim of giving people an overview of ocean-related issues and a better understanding of job opportunities that would potentially raise interest.

Strand 3 –Grants for the blue economy (indicative budget allocation € 7.440.000)

This strand will support sea basin-focused operations aiming to promote job creation, innovation, sustainable business solutions and entrepreneurship in the blue economy through demonstration projects.

The aim of the action is to promote projects that are able to attract third-party co-funding but require support to do so. Grants will support innovative blue economy business projects that build on previous research and development and require some support to establish themselves in the market, taking into account the degree of innovation and related risk they have to assume. In order to promote the involvement of third-party investment, in particular by private financing bodies or NPBs, priority will be given to proposals that are at a sufficiently advanced stage in terms of securing funding. The call will set out detailed requirements as to the conditions and process for

	<p>third-party contribution to projects.</p> <p>To give a policy steer, the call may focus on specific actions envisaged by sea basin-based strategies/initiatives, where those are sufficiently developed to set out precise maritime innovation and economic development plans. The degree of regional outreach and involvement of EU partner countries may be another element that the projects may consider, taking into account the realities in each sea basin.</p> <p>Proposals may be required to contribute to the objectives and be consistent with the priorities of the strategies or initiative for the sea basins such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Action Plan; • EU strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) Action Plan; • Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean; • EU strategy towards the Outermost Regions. <p>The Commission intends to fund at least one project per targeted sea basin.</p>
<p>Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria</p>	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Project applicants must be private or public legal entities (profit or non-profit).</p> <p>The coordinating entity (lead partner) must be established in an EU Member State. If a project activity 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.</p> <p>For Strand 1 - Blue labs: innovative solutions for maritime challenges</p> <p>Specific eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of minimum two legal entities from two different countries.</p> <p>Partnership: this must include at minimum a scientific/research body/institution (such as university, research centre, technology institute) and a business entity (such as companies, business associations) from at least two countries. Other entities such as local authorities, NGOs, public and financial institutions, etc. can also be included based on the scope and expected results of the project proposal.</p> <p>For Strand 2 - Blue Careers</p> <p>Specific eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Proposals must be submitted by a consortium of minimum two legal entities from two different countries.</p>

	<p>Partnerships must comprise at least an education or training organisation such as higher education institution, secondary school, organisation providing vocational training; and a business entity, company or chambers of commerce or legally established maritime cluster. Other participants may be public authorities and other EU public or private stakeholders.</p> <p>For Strand 3 – Grants for the blue economy:</p> <p>Specific eligibility criteria:</p> <p>All project applicants may be required to be entities established as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) Action Plan: in a country participating in the EUSBSR. 2. EU strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian Region (EUSAIR) Action Plan: in a country participating to the EUSAIR. 3. Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy in the western Mediterranean: in a country participating in the 5+5 Dialogue; 4. Outermost Regions: in the territory of an Outermost Region, or in a neighbouring country participating in cross-border and/or trans-national cooperation programmes with an Outermost Region. <p>At least one business partner in the sense of a profit-making legal entity has to participate in the proposal.</p> <p>Selection criteria (valid for all strands):</p> <p>Applicants must have the operational and financial capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria (valid for all strands):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its expected results to achieving the objectives of the action and of the strand in question. Added value of the proposal in terms of synergies/complementarity with other relevant initiatives (notably established sea basin-based initiatives), projects or EU policies; and in terms of geographical coverage. • Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Complementarity of partners. Cost-effectiveness of the proposal. Adequate risk management. • Impact: Expected outputs and impact. Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results, potential multiplier effect.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 4 th quarter of 2018

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

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3.200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The action supports the second implementation cycle under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD).</p> <p>Member States must now implement Commission Decision 2017/848 of 17 May 2017, repealing Decision 2010/477/EU and laying down criteria and methodological standards for good environmental status of marine waters and specifications and standardised methods for monitoring and assessment and take it into account, to the extent possible, in their next reporting in 2018.</p> <p>The action will assist regional cooperation among Member States in the implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. It will provide a framework for cooperation in further defining the criteria for Good Environmental Status (i.a. elements and (sub)regional threshold values stemming from the revision).</p> <p>It will lead to the development of coordinated and integrated monitoring activities and will support the introduction of any new measure needed to achieve or maintain Good Environmental Status.</p> <p>The Commission estimates that up to 10 projects may be supported under this action.</p>
Award criteria	<p>Eligibility criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must be public or private authorities or bodies, registered in an EU Member State, or be an international organisation and their partners (potential co-beneficiaries of the grant) must either be registered in an EU Member State or be an international organisation or fulfil the following conditions:</p> <p>Partners from third countries which are contracting party to one of the four regional sea conventions can be associated to the action on a no-cost basis or at a maximum of 5% of the total cost for the action for each third country partner and maximum total of 10% for all third country partners together, if this is of value for the contents of the action.</p> <p>Selection criteria:</p> <p>Applicants must have the operational and financial capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project.</p> <p>Award criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Relevance and added value: Relevance of the proposal and its

	<p>expected results to achieving the objectives of the action. Added value of the proposal in terms of innovation, synergies, capacity to involve and promote dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project implementation: Effectiveness and coherence of the work plan. Feasibility in terms of activities and timetable. Appropriate and balanced allocation of tasks and human resources. Appropriate project management set-up. Adequate risk management. • Cost-effectiveness: Clearly presented and appropriate budget involving a cost-effective allocation of financial resources in relation to the expected results and the planned activities and outputs. • Impact: Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DG ENV.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 st quarter of 2018

1.2.2. Budget Heading 11 06 62 03

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85 (c) and 88.
- Article 190 (1) (c) of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation. (Regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) and international organisations have the monopoly for the implementation of the actions).

1.2.2.1. Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)

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

(a) Support to the implementation of the Performance Review recommendations

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 150.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Article 28 of the CFP establishes that the Union shall promote periodical independent performance reviews and appropriate remedial actions,;</p> <p>This action will support CCAMLR action in relation to the implementation of the 2017 Performance Review recommendations in a number of fields ranging from science to compliance.</p>

	It will support CCAMLR to increase the performance and effectiveness and achieve the objectives foreseen in the CAMLR Convention and the EU CFP.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

(b) Support to the fight against IUU fishing (CCAMLR)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Article 28.2 of Regulation 1380/2013 establishes as one of the objectives of the CFP external policy the promotion and support, in all international spheres, of action necessary to eradicate IUU-fishing established. This action will support CCAMLR action in relation to the activities of IUU vessels operating in its Convention Area in cooperation with Interpol. The project will support CCAMLR and its Member Countries in identifying, deterring and disrupting transnational fisheries crime. It will raise the awareness of illegal fishing and fishery crime, coordinate law enforcement operations and support intelligence gathering and investigation of crimes linked with illegal fishing.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the third quarter of 2018.

1.2.2.2. The Commission for the Conservation of Southern Bluefin Tuna (CCSBT)

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

(a) CCSBT Annual meetings - Plenary, Compliance Committee, Scientific Committee and operating model and management procedure.

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 170.000
Priorities of the	Well-functioning and efficient RFMOs are an EU priority.

year, objectives pursued and expected results	The CCSBT annual meetings - Plenary, Compliance Committee, Scientific Committee and operating model and management procedure – are organised on a rotatory basis by CCSBT Contracting parties and 2018 is the year that the EU will be the host member. The organisation of these meetings is expected to strengthen the EU's role in the organisation and to provide impetus for enhanced conservation, management and enforcement measures.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the first semester of 2018.

(b) Support the scientific knowledge of the Southern Bluefin Tuna stock dynamics and state (CCSBT)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Actively support and contribute to the development of scientific objectives pursued and expected results, knowledge and advice as per Article 28.2 of the CFP Regulation. The activity foreseen aims to increase the scientific knowledge of the Southern Bluefin Tuna (SBT), notably to enable the CCSBT Extended Scientific Committee to assess the stock and recommend conservation measures to the CCSBT in view of the recovering of this species.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.2.2.3. International Convention for Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

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

(a) Capacity development fund (ICCAT)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in meetings of RFMOs and their subsidiary bodies.

expected results	<p>The grant will contribute to the different ICCAT funds, in particular to support for developing ICCAT Contracting Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the meeting participation fund; - the scientific capacity building fund; - capacity building for port inspectors. <p>These activities are essential to allow for a meaningful participation of developing countries in ICCAT activities and to help them implement ICCAT rules.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter 2018.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.287.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>ICCAT is the sole organisation with the competence to undertake the actions required for the research programme and management of tunas and tuna-like fishes in the Atlantic. The sound management of these fishes requires best available science.</p> <p>In line with Article 28 (2) of the CFP "the Union shall actively support and contribute to the development of scientific knowledge and advice".</p> <p>The objective of this action is to improve the scientific basis for decision making in ICCAT by supporting different activities included.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	One of more grant agreements to be concluded in the 4 th quarter 2018.

(c) 2018 Annual Meeting (ICCAT)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 690.000

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The main objective is to support ICCAT in the organisation of its 2018 Annual Meeting.</p> <p>The EU has a leading and pivotal role in ICCAT, which is the most strategic RFMO for the EU as a whole and for several EU Member States that are active in ICCAT fisheries.</p> <p>In line with this role, the EU has the intention to table in 2018 several proposals for conservation, management and enforcement measures at this meeting with a view to improve the state of stocks under the provision of ICCAT.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter 2018.

(d) Evolution of the electronic Bluefin tuna Catch Document (eBCD) system.

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>eBCD was developed by ICCAT to provide increased traceability for the Bluefin Tuna caught in the ICCAT convention area. Its use is compulsory for every Bluefin tuna traded, and therefore of crucial importance for the EU operators involved in this fishery. The EU currently holds just under 60% of the quota for this stock and around 80% of the operations in eBCD involve an EU operator.</p> <p>The regulatory framework for Bluefin tuna is currently being reviewed and a proposal will be tabled in ICCAT and it is expected that this framework will be modified. This will require modification of the eBCD system so that the new management measures are correctly implemented within this traceability tool and that there is no disturbance of the trade for Bluefin tuna. Based on our previous experience with the eBCD, this will imply significant development costs.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter 2018.

1.2.2.4. Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

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

(a) Foster the implementation of the IOTC Performance Review - enhance sustainability and responsible fisheries, improve compliance, catch data reporting and science and reinforce the fight against IUU fishing.

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.000.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Foster the implementation of the IOTC Performance Review, notably by enhancing sustainability and responsible fisheries, improve compliance, catch data reporting and science and reinforce the fight against IUU fishing.</p> <p>This project should contribute to address the current IOTC management deficiencies, including the amendment of the IOTC Agreement, lead to enhanced compliance within the IOTC and reinforced administrative capacity in the beneficiary developing countries, also lead to better scientific knowledge of the ecosystems managed by the IOTC and increased scientific observation on fishing activities in accordance with the needs of the IOTC Scientific Committee.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 th quarter 2018.

1.2.2.5. The South Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (SPRFMO)

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

(a) Support to the establishment of a regional observer programme (SPRFMO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>In accordance with 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 will support the implementation of the regional observer programme to collect verified catch and effort data, other scientific data and additional information related to the fishing activity in the Convention Area, and its impacts on the marine environment.</p>

	The activities of the project could include, amongst others, support to the use of electronic observers through a pilot project or to the assessment and validation of the national observer programmes.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in 2 nd quarter of 2018.

(b) 2019 SPRFMO Annual Meeting (SPRFMO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 205.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	In accordance with Article 29 of the CFP establishes that the EU shall actively support and contribute to the activities of international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs. The EU and the Netherlands will host the 2019 SPRFMO annual meeting in a suitable venue the Netherlands. the project will support the holding by the EU and the Netherlands of the SPRFMO annual meeting in 2019 in accordance with the informal rotatory turn established by SPRFMO Members. The EU has not yet held any SPRFMO annual meeting since its first annual meeting in 2013.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.2.2.6. Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

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

(a) Support to SIOFA implementation activities: science, compliance, developing countries capacity bulding & implementation of SIOFA agreement (SIOFA).

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 60.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	The objective is to support the implementation of SIOFA initiation activities, notably priority scientific and compliance related measures and capacity building of developing contracting parties to the SIOFA

expected results	in key areas such as effective exercise of Flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research. This action should result in enhanced compliance and improved scientific knowledge within the SIOFA.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2018.

1.2.2.7. Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (NAFO)

Convention on Future Multilateral Cooperation in the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries (NAFO)

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

(a) 2018 Annual Meeting (NAFO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 70.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	NAFO is the RFMO with competence to regulate the fishing activities in the Northwest Atlantic. It comprises twelve Contracting Parties, with the EU as one of the main driving forces. The action will cover a part of the expenses related to the preparation and organisation of the 2018 NAFO Annual Meeting in Estonia, including some of the preparatory meetings.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter 2018.

(b) 2018 Scientific Council and its Standing Committees meeting (NAFO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	NAFO is the RFMO with competence to regulate the fishing activities in the Northwest Atlantic. It comprises twelve Contracting Parties, with the EU as one of the main driving forces. The action will cover a part of the expenses related to the preparation and

	organisation of the 2018 meeting of the Scientific Council and its Standing Committees, including some of the preparatory meetings.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter 2018.

(c) Potential vulnerable marine ecosystems – Impacts on deep-sea fisheries – NEREIDA year 4 project (NAFO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The protection of marine ecosystems is a priority for the EU. Marine vulnerable ecosystems (VMEs) such as cold-water corals and sponges, seamounts, sea pens and hydrothermal vents are vulnerable to the effects of bottom fishing. The grant will co-finance research activities on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding sources of error in determining the recovery potential of sea pens post fishing impact.; • Analysing VMS data integrated with daily catch, and haul by haul records from the historical series using high resolution data to provide a more accurate estimate of the cumulative VME biomass/VMS effort cut-off values used to determine VME sensitivity and resilience; • Determining which characteristics of habitats are important for fish in the NAFO Regulatory Area, identifying and mapping specific habitats which are important for commercial bottom fishing activities assessing what proportion of the fisheries habitat is fished at any one time; • Developing fishery specific VME risk and impact assessments helping to quantify the functional importance of VME in providing essential fish habitat for commercial stocks.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 th quarter 2018.

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

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

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 225.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The Global Record is one of the latest tools that are being developed to fight IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing, one of the EU priorities. It will make information available regarding the identification of fishing vessels and fishing activity associated with illegal activities.</p> <p>Following the presentation of an operational prototype at the 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 2016 in July, the EU gave its further support to the project.</p> <p>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.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st semester of 2018.

(b) COFI 32nd, related follow up actions (FAO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Based on the outcome of the 33rd meeting of the FAO Committee on Fisheries(3rd quarter of 2018 in Rome), a grant will be awarded to FAO to support relevant priorities agreed on at the biennial meeting.</p> <p>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.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.

Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

(c) Support for the global capacity development umbrella programme of FAO on the PSMA (FAO)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 500.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA) came into force on 5 June 2016 and 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>The Ocean Governance Joint Communication¹ 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.</p> <p>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.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2018.

¹ JOIN(2016) 49 final

(d) Support to the organisation of the twenty-first session of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 125.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The general objective of the action is to strengthen fisheries management regional processes in the CECAF region. The EU funding is requested to support the organisation and conduct of the 22nd session of CECAF, including the development of the background material on the key issues that will be discussed at the session. CECAF, amongst others, provides management advice for the uptake of member countries on main transboundary fish stocks, based on the scientific advice from its scientific sub-committee, and to make recommendations on future priority work of CECAF.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd semester 2018.

(e) Support to the improvement of data quality and assessments for the CECAF Working Groups

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The general aim of the action is to improve the data quality and reliability as they are submitted to the Working Groups and the Scientific Sub-Committee, and build capacity for assessments through training in models used by the Working Groups and through exploring alternative types of assessments or approaches for some species. The overall objective is to improve the quality of assessments produced by the Working Groups for consideration by the Scientific Sub-Committee, and subsequently lead to improved management of fish stocks and resource health in the CECAF region.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd semester 2018.

(f) Support to the implementation of the Regional Plan for the Management and Conservation of Queen conch in the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC) area (Recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 140.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Queen Conch is the second most valuable resource for small-scale fishers in the Caribbean, after spiny lobster, and its fisheries and the sustainability of the stocks is of key importance to the livelihoods of more than 140 000 fisherfolk households.</p> <p>In line with the recommendation WECAFC/16/2016/1, this Queen Conch project aims to assist WECAFC members and Working Group partners to build capacity for implementation of the Regional Queen Conch Management Plan, and particularly support three SIDS that are main producer countries of Queen Conch in the implementation of the regional plan at the national level.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd semester 2018.

(g) Support to implementation of the Regional Plan of Action to deter and eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing (IUU) in the Western Central Atlantic (WECAFC)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 160.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The reduction of IUU fishing is a priority for many countries in the Caribbean region. The project aims to support a Regional Working group on IUU Fishing, as decided by the member countries of the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission (WECAFC), Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and Organization for Fisheries and Aquaculture of Central America (OSPESCA) decided in 2014, and improve coordination and cooperation among national and regional organizations/institutions responsible for fisheries-related Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) in support of their common efforts to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing	Maximum 80%

involved	
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd semester 2018.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3 700 000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>Improving the situation of the Mediterranean and Black Sea capture fisheries and aquaculture is a priority. The GFCM therefore assists DG MARE in defining and implementing the multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM area of competence, reinforcing compliance with GFCM recommendations and decisions by Members and relevant non-Members and supporting the GFCM in fostering a sustainable aquaculture development in the region and implementing its Mid Term Strategy (2017-2020).</p> <p>The implementation of the GFCM activities and its strategy has been planned and agreed for the inter-sessional period according to the priorities identified and agreed during the 40th and the 41th sessions of the GFCM.</p> <p>These actions will allow Members to be adequately involved in the drafting of recommendations to be submitted to the 42th session of the GFCM (2018). Appropriate support will be provided for the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement(s) to be concluded in the 4 th quarter of 2018.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2 000 000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>This grant will co-finance the implementation of the FAO Regional projects, such as, EASTMED, ADRIAMED, COPEMED, MEDSUMED and other programmes, which are aimed at developing a common framework for cooperation between coastal states of the Mediterranean and Black Sea to enable the common management of fish stocks in these regions.</p> <p>These regional projects aim at improving the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries and contribute</p>

	to the enhancement of their capacity in participating actively in the relevant regional frameworks for sustainable fisheries management, with a view 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	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 4 th quarter of 2018.

(j) The Globefish project

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 30.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The Globefish project is required with a view to support gathering and providing of data, information and market analysis to interested stakeholders of the fishery and aquaculture trade related sectors. Through this project, the FAO analyses and disseminates information on a large number of world markets.
Award criteria	Grant awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of article 190(1)f of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the FAO. The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the actions are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.2.2.9. Other (one or two RFMOs to be appointed in 2018)

(a) Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs) – Joint working group on sharks management

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives	The EU very strongly supports a combined/joint approach to address problems relating to shark management and by-catch mitigation in

pursued and expected results	<p>different Oceans, in line with the outcomes of the so-called KOBE process (process to coordinate the work of the different t-RFMOs) that has created a by-catch working group.</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support one of the t-RFMOs in the organisation of the first joint t-RFMOs meeting on by-catch, which should take place in 2018, with a special focus on sharks.</p> <p>The action should allow for quality decisions to be taken with a view to improving conservation and management of sharks across Tuna RFMOs (ICCAT, IATTC, WCPFC, IOTC).</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the second quarter 2018.

(b) Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (t-RFMOs) second joint Working Group on FADs

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	<p>The EU very strongly supports a combined/joint approach to address problems relating to FADs (Fish Aggregating Devices) in different Oceans, in line with the outcomes of the so-called Kobe process (process to coordinate the work of the different t-RFMOs).</p> <p>The objective of the action is to support one of the t-RFMOs in the organisation of the second joint working group on FADs, which should take place in 2018.</p> <p>The action should allow for quality decisions to be taken with a view to improving the existing FAD management measures of Tuna RFMOs (ICCAT, IATTC, WCPFC, IOTC) and ultimately state of stocks under the purview of those RFMOs.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter 2018.

1.2.3. Budget Heading 11 06 62 04

GOVERNANCE AND COMMUNICATION

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, in particular articles 85(d) and 89 thereof.
- Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/242 of 9 October 2014 laying down detailed rules on the functioning of the Advisory Councils under the Common Fisheries Policy, in particular article 3 thereof.
- Articles 178 and 190(1)(d) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.

1.2.3.1. Advisory Councils (ACs)

Type	Specific operating grant agreements under multiannual Framework Partnership Agreements
Budget	€ 3.300.000
Description	<p>Advisory Councils (ACs) have the main function of advising the European Commission and the Member States on the management of fisheries and the socio-economic and conservation aspects of fisheries and aquaculture by submitting recommendations, suggestions or opinions.</p> <p>Public funding is needed to enable the ACs to function fully and provide the advice needed – failing this, there is a risk that the ACs would not be set up or at least would not be effective. The ACs which have acquired legal personality are given the possibility to apply for EU financial support as bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest within the meaning of Article 177(b) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.</p> <p>Operating grant agreements will be concluded with the following ACs: Baltic Sea AC; Mediterranean Sea AC; Long Distance Fleet AC; North Sea AC; North Western Waters AC; Pelagic AC; South Western Waters AC; Black Sea AC, Aquaculture AC, the Outermost regions AC and Markets AC.</p>
Objectives and expected results	<p>Improved management of the Common Fisheries Policy by involving stakeholders active/interested in the fisheries and aquaculture issues covered by the ACs in policy-making and implementation.</p> <p>Relevant advice to the Commission on management issues relating to the fisheries and aquaculture covered by the ACs. Improved dialogue between the various parties affected by the CFP.</p>
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	For each of the 11 ACs, the co-financing will be capped at € 300 000 (90% of the eligible costs).

Indicative timetable	Specific grant agreements to be concluded throughout 2018.
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1.3. PROCUREMENT

1.3.1. Budget heading 11 06 61

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

Legal basis:

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

1.3.1.1. Study on integrating an ecosystem-based approach into maritime spatial planning

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>It is expected that by 2021, EU Member States will have gradually implemented the Directive on Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). One of the requirements of the MSP Directive is the application of an ecosystem-based approach (EBA) and therefore Member States could benefit from additional evidence-based information on how MSP can help them deliver sustainable growth for their maritime economies.</p> <p>The aim of this study is twofold:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to document how the concept of ecosystem-based approach has been incorporated in maritime spatial planning processes in the EU and; • to explore how the implementation, monitoring and reporting of Good Environmental Status (GES) and the related objectives and measures of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) could be used in the context of MSP. <p>The study should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • an analysis of how an ecosystem services approach (ESA) can contribute to the planning and management of marine areas and more specifically, how the use of ESA could be used in the context of MSP to comply with the Directive's EBA requirement; • an assessment of existing tools / practices, notably, but not exclusively, used in the context of the MSFD, which may facilitate the actual 'practical application' of the ecosystem-based approach within MSP, including cumulative impact assessment tools and areas designated for environmental protection; • an analysis and recommendations on how to foster EBA in MSP in cross-border areas. <p>The study should be based on recognised methodologies, build on work already undertaken and involve coordination with any on-going initiatives and projects in that field.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000

Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The services to be provided by the assistance mechanism comprise three tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical studies supporting the implementation of Directive 2014/89/EU on Maritime Spatial Planning MSP. • Support to Member States by disseminating useful information on the implementation of MSP, providing guidance and training, bringing together operational summaries of best practices for each requirement of the Directive and publicising funding sources. The mechanism will stimulate networking and exchange of good practices. It will bring together potential project partners, including Member States, and advise them on the use of EU financial instruments for projects implementing MSP. The assistance mechanism will include a focal point service in the different sea basins to provide guidance and information on MSP to public and private organisations and their members, research institutes and universities, institutional and private investors, and industry. The assistance mechanism also will run a website providing a question and answer service. • Support to the European Commission for the organisation of workshops and conferences on MSP, as well as of the meetings of the Member State Expert Group for MSP. <p>The Assistance Mechanism will be taking into account any developments undertaken through the predecessor contracts and building upon their results.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract. Contract renewal
Indicative Budget	€ 1.120.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contract in the 4 th quarter of 2018 or call for tenders to be launched in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.3. Annual Arctic Stakeholder Dialogue

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>An annual Arctic stakeholder conference is a main deliverable of the Joint Communication on the Integrated European policy for the Arctic²</p> <p>Therefore, as a follow-up to the new integrated Arctic policy, an</p>
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² JOIN(2016) 21 final

	<p>important implementing action involves funding a consultation process with stakeholders leading to such a conference.</p> <p>The main objective of the contract is consequently to facilitate this process, through a structural dialogue, the provision and exchange of technical knowledge, cooperation, and coordination amongst relevant stakeholders. This will also include the organisation of a number of related thematic preparatory workshops, seminars and meetings prior to the annual Arctic Stakeholder Conference.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract under an existing framework contract or service contract following a call for tenders
Indicative Budget	€ 350.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Service request or call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.4. Stakeholder forum – international ocean governance

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>As indicated in the Joint Communication on international ocean governance, the Commission, in association with the High Representative, proposes to set up an EU stakeholder forum dedicated to oceans and seas worldwide. This forum will support the follow-up to the Communication and develop a regular dialogue on the EU's efforts to improve international ocean governance.</p> <p>The forum will provide a platform for a structural dialogue, exchange of technical knowledge, cooperation, and coordination amongst relevant businesses, civil society, academia and other stakeholders as well as the Commission and the EEAS, to better address the challenges and opportunities related to the implementation of the ocean governance Communication. Stakeholders are important relays of information and their expertise could contribute to a successful and effective implementation of the actions.</p> <p>The contractor shall provide secretarial functions for the international ocean governance stakeholder forum, a stakeholder mapping, organise regular meetings with stakeholders and establish a website for the day-to-day functioning of the forum.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract under an existing framework contract or service contract following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 750.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Service request or call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.5. Public tracker for voluntary commitments on ocean governance

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The objective of the Ocean Governance Joint Communication³ (JOIN(2016) 49 final) is to improve ocean governance in order to ensure safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed oceans.</p> <p>Voluntary commitments are increasingly used in relation to the strengthening of ocean conservation and sustainable use of marine resources. They are an integral part of the Our Ocean Conference (OOC) series, of which the 2017 edition is organized by the EU.</p> <p>Commitment tracking to date is limited to the annual OOC event website.</p> <p>The objective of this contract is to develop the existing OOC tracker further in order to establish a coordinated system. For example, the contractor may be expected to develop a website for recording and publishing commitments.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contract under an existing framework contract or service contract following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 250.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE or through a co-delegation to DG DIGIT or any other DG with a system that could be used.
Indicative timetable	Service request or call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.6. IT support for the maritime forum

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The Commission-wide web-rationalisation initiative managed by DG COMM, with the support of DGT and DIGIT, increases relevancy, coherence and cost-efficiency.</p> <p>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.</p>
Type of contract	Specific contracts based on existing framework contracts (STIS-III No DI/07057 and STIS-III No DI/07059 managed by DIGIT) or to future framework contract concluded by DIGIT for the provision of the concerned services.
Indicative Budget	€ 130.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DIGIT.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.

³ JOIN(2016) 49 final

1.3.1.7. Visibility of the IMP

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>In order to promote the Integrated Maritime Policy, notably towards its stakeholders, a number of events are planned, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the European Maritime Days 2018 and 2019; • an edition of the Business & Science Forum; • events for the calls for proposals concerning grant actions under EMFF direct management; • Pan - European dialogue between cruise operators, ports and coastal tourism stakeholders; • the 2018 edition of the Black Sea stakeholders' conference; • meetings of the Arctic stakeholders; • workshops and other events on the blue economy in the context of the Union for the Mediterranean and the Baltic Sea Blue Growth agenda; • a joint OECD-DG MARE workshop on indigenous economic development between Sami representatives, policy makers and experts; • Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) high-level event stimulating industry involvement; • a conference on licensing and administrative consenting (best practices) in the ocean energy field; • a forum meeting to bring together key players from European marinas; • the 2018 EMODNet general assembly; • a joint Germany-EC meeting of the platform on regional ocean governance; • workshops, platform meetings or high-level fora on various aspects of blue growth and the reduction of pressures, in particular from marine litter, on oceans. <p>This also includes activities necessary to the preparation and follow-up of these events.</p>
Type of contract	<p>1) Specific contracts based on an existing framework contract ("Organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars and other events on the CFP, the IMP and EMFF" - MARE/2014/15) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission;</p> <p>2) Service-level agreements with DG SCIC or any other Directorate-General or Executive Agency, including the financial management (co-delegation).</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 2.120.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE and through a co-delegation to SCIC.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts and service-level agreements to be launched and/or concluded throughout 2018 or in the 1 st quarter of 2019.

1.3.1.8. European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) aims to provide access to quality-checked marine metadata, data and data products through a common gateway. It is being constructed using the principles and standards of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2EC and supports the political goal, endorsed by the Council and the European Parliament, of completing a seamless multi-resolution digital seabed map of European waters by 2020.</p> <p>The work includes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Structuring national archives of data so that they all use same format, same standards, same nomenclature, same baseline and are accessible through internet; 2) Streamlining the process whereby marine data from whatever source (including national monitoring programmes, research projects and private companies) is delivered on a voluntary basis for safekeeping to data repositories, from where it can be freely disseminated; 3) Creating software that allows users to search for data and data products, view them and download them; 4) Cooperation with appropriate international organisations and partner countries. 5) Outreach to users in order to better understand their needs and develop the network accordingly. 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 Open Science Cloud and its thematic Pilot Blue Cloud.
Type of contract	Some 4 service contracts, as renewal of existing contracts or following a new call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 5.530.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contracts in the 2 nd quarter 2018 and/or call for tenders to be published in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.9. Workshops to develop international MSP guidelines and cooperation

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>In its Joint Communication with the EEAS on ‘International ocean governance: an agenda for the future of our oceans’⁴, the European Commission has committed itself to launching work towards proposals for international guidelines on maritime spatial planning (MSP).</p>
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⁴ JOIN(2016) 49 final

	<p>In March 2017 DG MARE and the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO) adopted a "Joint Roadmap to accelerate Maritime/Marine Spatial Planning processes worldwide". It identifies common challenges and proposals for actions to be implemented in the coming years, reaching out for collaboration with other UN bodies and Member States.</p> <p>In particular the Joint Roadmap plans the development of international guidance on trans boundary MSP. The two international workshops to be held in 2018 will support this work by building on existing initiatives and studies, including any lessons learnt and best practices, with the 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.</p>
Type of contract	Some 2 specific contracts will be concluded under any relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission or service contract.
Indicative budget	€ 300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018 or call for tenders to be launched in the 3 rd quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.10. Assistance mechanism for investment in the blue economy

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The Investment Plan for Europe, launched in 2014, focuses on removing obstacles to investment, providing visibility and technical assistance to investment projects and making smarter use of new and existing financial resources. To achieve these goals, the plan is active in three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> mobilising investments of at least €315 billion in three years; supporting investment in the real economy; creating an investment-friendly environment. <p>The European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) is helping to finance infrastructure and innovation projects as well as small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and mid-cap companies. Mobilisation of private capital is a key feature of the EFSI.</p> <p>The assistance mechanism will provide support to facilitate access to funding for investment in the blue economy, from financial institutions and other relevant sources, in line with the goals of the Investment Plan for Europe. In particular, it will provide support for maritime ventures to access investment in the blue economy and for</p>
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	regions, administrations and clusters to facilitate investment. The assistance mechanism may also include targeted studies or support activities to provide information and guidance with respect to possible project pipelines, market opportunities and funding sources, and other relevant services.
Type of contract	Specific contract(s) under an existing framework contract or service contracts following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 4.700.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published or specific contract(s) to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.

1.3.1.11.Design and implementation of a Blue Economy Development Framework

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The 'Ocean Governance' Joint Communication adopted by the European Commission in association with the High Representative⁵ sets out an agenda for improving ocean governance, to ensure that the oceans are safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed, for the benefit of current and future generations. It envisages engaging with EU Member States, international organisations and partners, regional organisations and stakeholders to advance the proposed actions and explore further ways and means of strengthening international ocean governance</p> <p>Under its Action 4 (capacity-building), the Joint Communication envisages that, the Commission and the High Representative will support the development of a robust, evidence-based Blue Economy Development Framework. This Blue Economy Development Framework will, amongst others, bring together international and national public and private financial institutions around a joint agenda and common principles for funding and investing in a sustainable blue economy.</p> <p>In order to design and implement this Framework, a number of activities have to be carried out. These activities inter alia may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the assessment of the implementation of the blue economy-related voluntary commitments made by financial institutions; • research to examine the funding and investment sources of those maritime activities which risk leading to unsustainable outcomes; • the establishment of a mechanism to implement a process toward such a Blue Economy Development Framework.
Type of contract	Specific contract(s) under a framework contract, and/or expert contracts with external experts selected from a relevant AMI list in force in the European Commission, and/or service contract(s)

⁵ JOIN(2016) 49 final

	following a call for tender.
Indicative Budget	€ 600.000
Implementation	This action will be partially implemented by DG MARE and partially by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call(s) for expression of interest for a list of external experts appropriate to the requirements of this action to be published, or request(s) for services, to be launched in the 1 st semester of 2018.

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)⁶ requires coherent approaches within and between marine regions. This is particularly important for Member States which share marine waters in different regions. Therefore coordination mechanisms, administrative and technical support for regional and inter-regional cooperation in relation to assessment, target setting, and progress towards good environmental status building on existing collaboration, will be necessary.</p> <p>This continued work will support the attainment of the good environmental status of marine waters under the MSFD as well as the coordination between the different marine regions.</p> <p>It will involve the following non-exhaustive tasks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysing and assessing pressures and human activities in the marine environment, identifying their 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, developing technical guidance for the Member States; • Providing scientific and technical input to a coordinated and integrated assessment of good environmental status; • Assessing approaches and results of Member States in the different stages of implementation of Directive 2008/56/EC with particular focus on coherence, notably at regional or sub regional levels, and based on this assessment, recommending specific activities, tools, and/or mechanisms to be put in place to improve coordination within or between marine regions; • Intensifying information exchange between EU and Regional Sea Conventions; • Providing scientific and technical support for the assessment of Marine Protected Areas; as well as for the 11 GES Descriptors ; • Providing data, information and other support for the
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⁶ Directive 2008/56/EC

	<p>Commission's marine modelling activities;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Organising events such as workshops, conferences and other meetings; <p>Actions in 2018 will continue and further develop past actions, supporting the preparation of the 2018 milestone in the MSFD.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Some 5 specific contract(s) will be concluded under an existing framework contract (“Framework contract for services to move towards good environmental status of the European marine waters by implementing the Marine Strategy Framework Directive” – ENV/2016/0017) or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission.</p> <p>One contract renewal.</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 1.200.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented through a co-delegation to DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018. Renewal of service contract in the 4 th quarter of 2018.

1.3.2. Budget Heading 11 06 62 01

SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE

Legal basis:

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

1.3.2.1. Framework contract for the Scientific Support to the High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	This action aims at establishing a new framework service contract for the provision of scientific actions in support of the sustainable management of fish resources in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO). This framework contract will help on the development and implementation of the Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to be defined by the Arctic High Seas Fisheries Meeting.
Type of contract	Framework contract to be established following a call for tenders
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018

1.3.2.2. Scientific Support to the High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean

Subject matter of the contract(s) envisaged	This action aims at providing scientific support covering service contracts for the provision of sustainable management of fish resources in the Central Arctic Ocean (CAO). This action will help on
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	<p>the development and implementation of the Joint Program of Scientific Research and Monitoring to be defined by the Arctic High Seas Fisheries Meeting.</p> <p>In May 2017, DG MARE set up a panel of experts on Arctic fisheries who identified the following scientific elements where the EU could play a leading role in the Joint Research and Monitoring Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Critical overview and synthesis of available knowledge on fish stocks; • Socio-economic drivers and linked potential fisheries description; • Green technology; • Supporting the participation of scientist in Arctic research campaigns and studies determining; • Supporting a data collection initiative; • The organization of Arctic fisheries related workshops and forthcoming meetings of Scientific Experts FiSCAO (ideally back to back with JRC); • Research areas to be studied in support of future research programmes. <p>As a consequence, scientific support is necessary to evaluate (inter alia) in the CAO: 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 data collection and availability needed, the maximum sustainable yield (MSY), the collaborative research on Arctic fisheries and monitoring, the identification of management frameworks, the socio-economic considerations, etc. in order to establish a management framework for commercial fishing.</p>
Type of contract(s)	Some 4 specific contracts to be concluded under a future framework contract "Scientific Support to the High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean" or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission or service contracts to be concluded following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018 or call for tenders to be published in the 4 th quarter 2018.

1.3.2.3. Framework contract for the Studies providing scientific advice in support of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters excluding the Mediterranean and Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract	This action aims at establishing a new framework service contract for studies providing scientific advice in support of the implementation
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envisaged	of the Common Fisheries Policy in the Baltic, North Sea and Atlantic Ocean as well as in EU outermost regions and fisheries at the international level.
Type of contract	Framework contract to be established following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.3.2.4. Studies providing scientific advice in support of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters excluding the Mediterranean and Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract(s) envisaged	<p>This action aims at ensuring specific service contracts for studies providing scientific advice in support of the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy in the Baltic, North Sea and Atlantic Ocean as well as in EU outermost regions and fisheries at the international level.</p> <p>In particular, regarding:</p> <p>Annual advice on development of fish stocks with respect to CFP objectives;</p> <p>Improved knowledge on fish stocks and ecosystems and fisheries management schemes in place in EU outermost regions;</p> <p>MSY Objective (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, Advice on how to protect the more vulnerable species in mixed fisheries so that all stocks are fished at Fmsy);</p> <p>Implementation of the Ecosystem Approach (Advice for reduction of the environmental impact of fishing gears and/or practices, Advice on the elimination of discards, Advice on essential fish habitats, where juveniles or spawning aggregations are abundant, 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, Impact of non-indigenous invasive marine species (NIS) to fisheries);</p> <p>Multiannual Management Plans (Improved use of the existing knowledge about ecological interactions and fisheries interactions);</p> <p>Transversal topics (Further progress in the identification of stock boundaries for certain species, Updated identification and description of fisheries and métiers, Characterisation of recreational and of artisanal fisheries, Further fine-tuning of bio-economic modelling for</p>
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	<p>mixed fisheries);</p> <p>Preparatory work for the 2022 assessment of the CFP outcome up to 2021.</p>
Number and type of contract(s)	Some 6 specific contracts to be concluded under a future framework contract " Studies providing scientific advice in support of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters excluding the Mediterranean and Black Sea" or any other relevant framework contract in force in the European Commission or service contracts to be concluded following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 2.900.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018 or call for tenders to be published in the 4 th quarter 2018.

1.3.2.5. Scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>The aim of this action is to provide the European Commission with specific and timely scientific advice for fisheries management or other services needed for the provision of the advice, within the context of the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.</p> <p>The advice and services are sought to support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy by applying the precautionary and the ecosystem approach, while ensuring coherence with the Union environmental legislation (e.g. Marine Strategy Framework Directive) and with the Integrated Maritime Policy.</p>
Type of contract	Some 5 specific contract(s) to be concluded under an existing framework contract or service contract(s) following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.

1.3.2.6. Studies providing scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>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).</p> <p>In particular, regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The evaluation of technical elements linked to the national and multi-annual management plans or to the different provision of the Mediterranean Regulation and the CFP; • Stock assessments in the Mediterranean and Black Seas; • The GFCM's mid-term strategy (2017-2020) towards the
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	sustainability of Mediterranean and Black Sea fisheries; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scoping studies, aiming at synthesising and analysing scientific material to provide greater clarity about specific research topics.
Type of contract	Some 3 specific contract(s) to be concluded under an existing FWC or service contract(s) following a call for tenders.
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.

1.3.3. Budget heading 11 06 62 02

CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

Legal basis:

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

1.3.3.1. Provision of IT services and supplies

Subject matter of contract envisaged	Development, maintenance and support of IT applications and hardware (infrastructure) supply, supporting the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy. Access to databases
Type of contract	Specific service and supply contracts based on existing framework contracts provided by DG DIGIT Some 40 contracts to be awarded in accordance with the framework agreement with DG DIGIT A specific contract under ESTAT framework contract 11151.2015.005-2015.737 – access to a database Four direct contracts for access to databases.
Indicative Budget	€ 4.300.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE. Part of the appropriations will be subject to co-delegation/cross sub-delegations granted to DIGIT and other DGs.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2018

1.3.3.2. Equipment for European Commission officials/agents

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Protection and safety equipment and materials required for verification, inspection, audit and control related tasks.
Type of contract	Some 8 supply and service contracts.
Indicative Budget	€ 20.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE

Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.
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1.3.3.3. Organisation of the meetings of the expert groups on fisheries control and on compliance with the obligations under the European Union fisheries control system

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Covering the expenses for the organisation of meetings of the expert groups on 1) Fisheries control and 2) on Compliance with the obligations under the European Union fisheries control system (logistical and administrative costs).
Type of contract	Specific contracts based on existing framework contract of OIB for catering (OIB.DR.2/PC/2012/117/55/CO L2 (Lot B) and L.3 (Lot C) – some 40 specific contracts. Procurement procedures for some six low value contracts (negotiated procedure) .
Indicative Budget	€ 50.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.

1.3.4. Budget heading 11 06 62 04

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

Legal basis:

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

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

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	<p>Provision and coordination of information, communication and public relations actions including, inter alia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • publications, producing information packs, maps and other materials, including audiovisuals (including on 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 for example the Seafood exhibition, conferences on maritime policy issues such as regional maritime strategies, coastguard cooperation, maritime spatial planning, marine knowledge and surveillance, seminars on the CFP Reform, including aquaculture policy and on the implementation of the Common Organisation
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	<p>of the Markets in fishery and aquaculture products, science, conference on community-led local development in fisheries areas for Fisheries Local Action Groups, Our Ocean Conference, a forum for policy dialogue on fisheries and maritime affairs between the Commission, the Outermost Regions and the national authorities);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information about fisheries legislation or IMP topics in Member States as well as in third countries; • purchasing of advertising space; • use of the of the Next EUROPA internet presence (called NE-CMS) service by DG MARE for the "Websites Fisheries and Maritime Affairs. <p>Procurement of evaluation and impact assessment related services connected to information and communication activities for the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy.</p>
Type of contract	<p>Service contracts</p> <p>Specific contracts</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 2.200.000
Implementation	<p>Some 25 specific contracts/order forms will be based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – current framework contract (MARE/2012/12) of DG MARE for “Information and communication activities relating to the European Union's integrated maritime policy (IMP) and to the common fisheries policy (CFP)”; – framework contract for the organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars and other events on the Common Fisheries Policy, the Integrated Maritime Policy and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (MARE/2014/15); – or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission, and notably framework contracts of DG COMM. <p>For publications and related services, some of the actions could be implemented through the service level agreement with Office of Publication signed on 22/01/2013 under the regime of budget co-delegation.</p> <p>For the conferences, some of the actions could be implemented through a service level agreement with DG SCIC including the financial management (co-delegation).</p> <p>Translations for information and communication activities can also be provided by DGT through the service level agreement signed with DG MARE.</p> <p>The MoU for the use of NE-CMS service by DG MARE will be implemented through a co-delegation to DIGIT.</p>

	Some 5 service contracts may also be concluded through procurement procedures. Finally, this envelope includes DG MARE's contribution to the "Corporate communication action in 2017-2018 under the Multiannual Financial Framework 2014-2020" C(2016)6838 final 25.10.2016. These appropriations will be managed through a co-delegation to DG COMM.
Indicative timetable	Service contracts and specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2018.

1.3.5. Budget heading 11 06 62 05

MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Legal basis:

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

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Provision of services for the running and maintenance of the European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA). EUMOFA is the market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector, aiming at increasing market transparency and efficiency, analysing the EU market dynamics, supporting business decisions and policy-making. To do so, one of the core activities of EUMOFA is to collect and make market data available to the public on a regular basis. EUMOFA has been developed since 2010 and a dedicated website and database are online since April 2013.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 4.100.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.3.5.2. Eurobarometer: EU consumer habits regarding fishery and aquaculture products

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The study aims at looking at EU consumer behaviours with regard to fishery and aquaculture products. The study is a recurrent action: it was first undertaken in 2016 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.
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Type of contract	One specific contract will be concluded under a future framework contract on “Eurobarometer standard/special surveys”
Indicative Budget	€ 400.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2nd quarter of 2018

1.3.5.3. Information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Service contract for the running, maintenance and improvements of the information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products. It is an ongoing action (renewable contract).
Type of contract	Contract renewal
Indicative Budget	€ 115.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contract in the 3rd quarter of 2018.

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The 2016 Pilot Project on the assessment of voluntary claims relating to fishery and aquaculture products in Europe aims at drawing up an inventory and at analysing voluntary claims that accompany these products when sold to the EU consumer.</p> <p>The set-up an observatory of voluntary claims on a permanent basis, or establishment of another instrument, is a possible outcome of the project.</p> <p>Based on the outcome of the pilot project, which will be finalised in 2017, DG MARE will propose the most suitable instrument to follow up on the findings.</p>
Type of contract	Service contract or contract renewal
Indicative Budget	€ 200.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2018 or renewal of service contract in the 4 th quarter of 2018.

1.4. OTHER ACTIONS

1.4.1. Budget heading 11 06 61

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

Legal basis:

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

1.4.1.1. JRC support services to CISE

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Description and objective of the action	<p>The objective of this AA is to support DG MARE, in the aftermath of the EUCISE2020, with the necessary technical expertise enabling the implementation of CISE. The activities will be carried out in close collaboration with the work of the EU agencies and as a follow-up of the tasks performed in the current AA which include among others:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Common Data Model and services: Refining and enlarging the scope of the common data model and services defined in the CISE Cooperation Project (these have been defined by Member States reusing existing data models); • Protocols, gateway specifications and reference implementation: This task includes the contribution to the specification of the EN 38 EN gateway (including protocols), based upon the CISE requirements, and the follow up of the implementation of solution for information exchange and connectivity. JRC will test and validate the solution. This task will be in line with the effort of rationalisation of trans-European systems between administrations (ISA 2.14); • Data dictionary: testing and populate the Data Dictionary solution (provided by DIGIT) during the elaboration of the common data model an services; • Testing: preparatory work for setting up a test that will involve Member States authorities or EU agencies. During the test, the JRC will provide technical assistance to the participants; • Common registry of authorities: contribution to the definition of detailed requirements for the software serving as registry of authorities that will be procured/ developed by DIGIT. <p>The extension will cover inter alia:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • technical support to DG MARE on the ex-post evaluation of the EUCISE 2020 project; • technical support to EASME and DG MARE on monitoring the ongoing national projects for IT interoperability improvements and on preparation of the following calls for proposals in the same area; support to DG MARE on the CISE process review.
Indicative budget	€ 1.410.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by DG MARE

Indicative timetable	Extension of the Administrative Arrangement to be signed in the 1st quarter of 2018. A new Administrative Arrangement should be signed end of 2018.
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1.4.1.2. Evaluation of EMFF grant applications by independent external experts

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	<p>The objective is to support the evaluation of grant applications under EMFF (direct management) calls for proposals by acquiring the help of independent external experts.</p> <p>On the basis of call(s) for expression of interest, a list of external experts appropriate to the requirements of the EMFF programme shall be drawn up. For given evaluations, experts will then be selected from this list on the basis of their ability to perform the tasks assigned to them, taking into account the thematic specificities of each call for proposals.</p> <p>The contracts with these external experts will cover the participation in briefing meetings, the evaluation of assigned proposals, the participation in panel meetings and preparation of consolidated evaluation reports as well as other necessary tasks where appropriate. Payments will include fees for the work provided and reimbursement of costs for travel, accommodation and subsistence in accordance with applicable Commission rules for external experts.</p>
Type of contract	Expert contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Direct payments to experts to be made in 2018 for the evaluations of proposals performed in that year. If required by circumstances, some payments may be made as late as first quarter of 2019.

1.4.2. Budget heading 11 06 62 01

SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85(a) and 86 thereof.
- Commission Decision of 4 February 2010 amending Commission Decision 2005/629/EC establishing a Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries and in particular Article 9 thereof.
- Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy – 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”.

- Agreement in the form of an Administrative Arrangement (AA) between the European Commission and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea.

1.4.2.1. Administrative Arrangement between the European Community and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Description and objective of the action	Provision of advice and other services by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) to support the implementation of the CFP and in relation to data and marine research needs.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.700.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement to be concluded during the 1 st quarter of 2018.

1.4.2.2. Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF)

Type	Compensations for STECF members and invited experts.
Description and objective of the action	<p>The implementation of the EU policy for fisheries and aquaculture requires the assistance of highly qualified scientific experts, particularly in the application of the marine and fisheries biology, fishing technology, fisheries economics or similar disciplines, or in connection with the requirements of research and data collection in the fields of fishing and aquaculture.</p> <p>This assistance will be provided by a permanent Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) set up by Commission Decision.</p> <p>This decision foresees the payment of a compensation to the members of the STECF and/or the experts invited by the STECF.</p>
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE and PMO.
Indicative timetable	20 to 30 STECF meetings spread throughout 2018.

1.4.2.3. Administrative Arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) in the area of fisheries data and scientific advice

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Description and objective of the action	Provision of scientific, technical and administrative support facilitating the efficient functioning of the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), as well as support for the data collection framework in the fisheries sector and the scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).
Indicative Budget	€ 1.140.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.

Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement 2018-2019 to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2018.
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1.4.3. Budget heading 11 06 62 02

CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

Legal basis:

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

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

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

Amount: € 800.000

1.4.3.2. Meetings of the expert group on Fisheries control and of the expert group on Compliance with the obligations under the European Union fisheries control system

Subject: Expert group meetings on fisheries control examining the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and meetings of the expert group on the compliance with the obligations under the European Union fisheries control system (Art. 37 of the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of European Parliament and of the Council).

Amount: € 300.000

1.4.3.3. Training of European Commission officials/agents involved in verification, autonomous inspections and audits

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

Amount: € 30.000

1.4.4. Budget heading 11 06 62 04

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

Legal basis:

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

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

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

Amount: € 100.000