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ANNEX

**Work programme for 2022 for the implementation of the pilot project “Transatlantic cooperation scheme delivering the Green Deal locally”**

**1. Introduction**

On the basis of the objectives given in the budget remarks this work programme contains the actions to be financed and the budget breakdown for year 2022 as follows:

- a) for grants (implemented under direct management): point 2,
- b) for prizes (implemented under direct management): point 3: not applicable,
- c) for procurement (implemented under direct management): point 4: not applicable,
- d) for actions implemented under indirect management: point 5: not applicable,
- e) for contributions to trust funds: point 6: not applicable,
- f) for financial instruments: point 7: not applicable,
- g) for contributions to blending facilities: point 8: not applicable,
- h) for other actions or expenditure: point 9: not applicable.

Legal basis

Under Article 58(2)(a) of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046, appropriations for pilot projects of an experimental nature designed to test the feasibility of an action and its usefulness, may be implemented without a basic act.

Budget line

PP 05 22 01

Objectives pursued

The general objective of this pilot project is to encourage the green and blue recovery in the Atlantic by creating a precursor of a cooperation scheme at transatlantic level to foster exchanges of best practices and joint projects on the green recovery of maritime sectors important to Atlantic coastal regions, including outermost regions and non-EU regions. The scope of the programme will be transatlantic, including non-EU regions such as Québec, which already expressed its interest for such initiative. For this reason, it will be different from the Interreg Atlantic Area programme which only concerns EU Atlantic continental regions, plus Azores, Madeira and Canarias.

The programme will be complementary to the Interreg Atlantic Area programme, and will support Blue SMEs of the Atlantic area in their internationalisation process (outside the EU). A strong focus will be put on Offshore Renewable and Climate adaptation. It will also be useful for the appropriation of the Green Deal and Atlantic Strategy principles by non-EU Regional and Local Authorities. It will be critical to explore the international dimension of the Atlantic Strategy (FR, IE, PT, ES).

Atlantic States and regions have been deeply affected by some crises, first the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by an economic crisis and now the high energy prices and the inflation. A stronger transatlantic cooperation would strengthen innovation and regional cohesion for a sustainable development of the area.

#### Expected results

The results expected from this project are:

- Enhancing the territorial cohesion of the Atlantic Area and the application of the European Green Deal and Atlantic Strategy principles by EU and non-EU regional and local authorities;
- Improving policy making at regional level;
- Internationalisation of SMEs of the Atlantic area;
- Upskilling and reskilling stakeholders active in the key Atlantic sectors.

## 2. Grants

The global budgetary envelope reserved for grants under this work programme is EUR 790 500 to be financed from budget line PP 05 22 01.

### 2.1. To encourage the green and blue recovery in the Atlantic

Type of applicants targeted by the direct award

The Conference of Peripheral Maritime Regions (CPMR) is an independent network of over 150 European regions from both within and outside the European Union representing peripheral maritime regions. This network, based in Brussels, operates to bring all these regions together for discussion and debate on many subjects, around the three aims/interests of the organisation: (1) to minimise the disadvantages encountered by Europe's peripheral locations, (2) to promote Europe's maritime dimension, and (3) to exploit the benefits of being close to European citizens at regional level. The CPRM ensures, as well, that these interests are acknowledged at a European level.

For these reasons, the CPRM is the best-placed organisation to develop and reach the objectives of the pilot project, mainly due to its broad representation and its prestige among the regions and the European institutions.

Therefore, the grant will be awarded without a call for proposals on the basis of point (f) of Article 195 of the Financial Regulation, i.e. awarded for activities with specific characteristics that require a particular type of body on account of its technical competence, its high degree of specialisation or its administrative powers, on condition that the activities concerned do not fall within the scope of a call for proposals.

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

The main activities to be funded by the grant will be:

- To organise three trans-sectorial and transatlantic workshops online with the aim to generate knowledge and exchange practices on how to enhance the environmentally and socially sustainable development of the maritime sector across the Atlantic. It will foster cross-fertilisation of existing projects, will enhance a dialogue between the four pillars of the Atlantic Strategy and will reflect on transversal topics such as SMEs development and youth entrepreneurs.

- To organise two study visits and three capacity-building trainings directed towards regional administrations, wishing to develop their skills and strengthen their cooperation at a transatlantic level. The capacity-building exercise will derive from the challenges identified in the workshops and will be a privileged tool for administration to enhance their transatlantic cooperation.
- To develop a database of contacts at a transatlantic level to foster dialogue and best practice exchanges.

Key activities will be the development of a catalogue of best practices identified in the workshops and study visits, the development of a roadmap on the transatlantic cooperation to foster sustainable development of Atlantic coastal territories, and other actions helping the transfer of best practices outside the consortium and encouraging cooperation with current projects.

#### Implementation

The action will be implemented directly by DG REGIO

#### **3. Prizes**

Not applicable

#### **4. Procurement**

Not applicable

#### **5. Actions implemented in indirect management**

Not applicable

#### **6. Trust funds**

Not applicable

#### **7. Financial instruments implemented in direct or indirect management**

Not applicable

#### **8. Contribution to blending facilities**

Not applicable

#### **9. Other actions or expenditure**

Not applicable