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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2016 and the financing decision for
the implementation of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund**

ANNEX

Work programme 2016 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 2016 as follows:

- for grants (implemented under direct management) (1.2)
- for procurement (implemented under direct management) (1.3)
- for other actions (implemented under direct management) (1.4)

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. Promoting the Blue Economy in the Mediterranean Sea basin

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 360.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Mediterranean Sea countries have not yet taken full advantage of the potential of the blue economy and job creation. Uneven economic development, lack of clear vision at sea basin level for the sustainable development of some strategic maritime economic activities, limited clustering and networking of education and training organisations, disparities in research and innovation capacity, mismatched supply/demand of skilled people, limited access to finance, environmental and climate-related threats, as well as pressing sea management problems are all common challenges that need to be tackled in a coordinated manner. With the adoption of the dedicated declaration for the further development of the blue economy, the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) will continue with the identification and promotion of projects in the Mediterranean Sea basin. The grant will support the following tasks to be carried out by the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat: to assist the regional dialogue on integrated maritime policy, to take over the implementation of specific actions/projects/initiatives (such as the further development of the Virtual Knowledge Centre on marine and maritime affairs, the networks of marine and maritime education and training organisations), as well as to continue identifying and

	promoting projects in line with the relevant regional priorities in the field of the blue economy.
Award criteria	Article 190 (1) c of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the Union for the Mediterranean Secretariat if the proposal demonstrates that the organisation and management structure proposed for the implementation of the action/s are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.2. Blue Careers in Europe

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 3.452.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The maritime economy holds a vast potential for new, qualified jobs that will require an appropriately skilled workforce. There is evidence showing that there is often a mismatch between the skills and qualifications of individuals and those required for the jobs in the maritime sector. Industry suffers from a scarcity of skilled personnel and this is a restriction on blue growth. Both maritime industry and educational institutions share that analysis; that consensus was for instance expressed at the European Maritime Day 2015. The skills gap and the shortage of qualified individuals are due to several factors, such as: mismatch between skills of individuals and those required by the maritime labour market; lack of attractiveness of maritime careers; difficult working conditions; no continuous professional development; lack of ocean/sea literacy (especially for young students who have to choose their academic and professional future); untapped mobility potential due to difficulties in training content and in qualification recognition (except for seafarers, whose education and qualifications recognition are regulated by Directive 2008/106/EC and by Directive 2005/45/EC). Traditional as well as emerging sectors in the blue economy require an increasingly skilled workforce able to apply new technologies in the marine environment, respect environmental standards, pursue a multidisciplinary approach and work in international teams with a multidisciplinary approach. 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 maritime labour market.

	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, skills upgrading programmes, etc.). The choice of the action/s should be made according to the specific needs of the labour market in the particular geographical area. Exploring ways of disseminating results to similar situations should be part of the projects. Given the decreasing attractiveness of maritime careers, beneficiaries should also envisage "ocean literacy" actions. Educational institutes and companies at local level would cooperate to organise initiatives with the aim of giving students an overview of ocean-related issues and a better understanding of job opportunities that would potentially raise their interest. Projects will be complementary to, but not overlapping with, other EU funding programmes in related policy areas (education, employment). The Commission estimates that up to 7 projects may be supported under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Partnerships must comprise at least an educational organisation (University, secondary school, organisation providing vocational training) and a company or chamber of commerce. Other participants may be public authorities and other EU Member State public or private stakeholders. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and professional capacity required to implement and complete the proposed project. Award criteria: • Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the action. • Involvement of an appropriate mix of complementary participating organisations with the necessary profile, experience and expertise to successfully deliver all aspects of the project. • Added value with regard to providing concrete and effective answers to established needs in terms of education/training and in view of increasing the attractiveness of maritime professions. • Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources. • Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.

Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.3. Blue technology – innovative solutions for transfer to sea basin economies

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.520.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Technological innovation in maritime regions is essential to boost blue growth and the maritime economy. The transfer of research results into business ventures must become easier and new technologies need to be brought to the market. Maritime clusters throughout the Union have been calling on the Commission at recent events such as the European Maritime Day, to support action to bring research results to the commercial and industrial sectors faster. The potential for innovation and industrial development is different in each EU sea basin. In each sea basin, specific sectors will benefit from technological innovation. Grants under the Blue Technology initiative will finance the elaboration of sea basin-specific master plans which identify the maritime sectors with the best high tech development potential (energy, aquaculture are examples) and the technologies which are best suited to serve that potential and thus stimulate economic growth (wave energy, biotech applications etc). These plans should be based on a smart specialisation approach playing to the strengths of each sea basin or region. They will propose innovative, replicable and viable solutions to translate research results into practical applications which add value to existing industrial processes. The master plans will vary in terms of geographical coverage (up to a complete sea basin), partnerships and technological complexity, in function of their specific context, but will all be centred around cooperation: master plans are stakeholder driven, may cut across different industrial sectors and service providers, with partners from local and/or regional authorities, Member States and/or third countries. This action will build on the experience of the Baltic Sea basin, where currently preliminary work with stakeholders of the region on the development of a first technology master plan is being pursued. The innovation master plans which this grant will help to establish are subsequently to be put in place by the local maritime stakeholders, through a collaboration effort between businesses and providers of high-tech tools and procedures from the private sector or from academic bodies. The Commission estimates that up to 6 projects may be supported

	under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Regional and national authorities, maritime business associations, networks and maritime clusters linked to the maritime economy, agencies and research institutes. In case of a consortium the lead partner must be established in an EU Member State. Other partners may be established in third countries. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and the professional competencies and qualifications required to implement and complete the proposed project. Award criteria: • Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the action. • Adequate composition, competence and multi-disciplinarity of the project team, including in terms of geographic coverage and experience in regional cooperation. • Added value of the project for the sea basin or region considering the socio-economic situation of that basin/region, in particular the extent to which the project can increase the competitiveness and the strength of the region and creates synergies with existing institutions, bodies and players. • Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources. • Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.4. Blue Labs: innovative solutions for maritime challenges

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.700.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	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 peoples' skills and creativity by building on local stakeholders' knowledge (associations, schools, municipalities, authorities in coastal areas) and by combining multidisciplinary competences from businesses and scientific/research bodies/institutions. 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 (indicative list): – blue bio-remediations (development of new technologies exploiting micro-organisms living in extreme marine environments); – marine litter (development of new technologies and tools to address specific typologies of litter, such as explosive litter); – underwater cultural heritage (development of new services or products to value underwater cultural heritage); – ecosystem adaptation (development of new approaches and tools to address jellyfish and alien species proliferation in the Mediterranean). New solutions developed by the Blue Labs should be tested by the end of 2017. The Commission estimates that up to 5 projects may be supported under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: • Partnership: this must include at minimum a scientific/research body/institution (such as university, research centre, technology institute) and a private and/or public entity/institution (such as companies, associations, local authorities, NGOs, financial institutions, etc.) both from an EU country. Additional partners from third countries are allowed; • Lead partner established in an EU Member State; • Blue Lab Team: the project has to be developed by a team of post-graduate students (with a university diploma of at least 3 years) and recent post-graduates (completed within last 4 years) in consultation/cooperation with local communities (civil society and public authorities) and steered by researchers and experienced tutors from academic, business and public sector. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and the professional competencies and qualifications required to implement and complete the proposed project.

	Award criteria: • Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the action. • Relevance of the partnership, composition, competences and multi-disciplinarity of the team and in terms of geographic extension (e.g. involvement of EU and third countries). • Relevance of the proposed action for specific needs of the targeted sea basin. • Added value of the proposal in terms of originality of the Blue Lab's project and its innovativeness in terms of proposed solutions. • Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources. • Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.5. Supporting the next Implementation Cycle of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.719.664
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The action supports the development and demonstration of best practices of regional cooperation for setting up the next implementation cycle under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. In February 2014, the Commission published a report (COM (2014) 97 and SWP (2014) 49) on the basis of Article 12 of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) which identifies a number of shortcomings in the implementation. Following the preparation of the monitoring programmes and the finalisation of the programme of measures, Member States will now have to implement these actions and prepare for the next cycle in the implementation which aims at reviewing the assessments, objectives and targets by 2018. In particular for some descriptors further efforts at regional level are needed to ensure an adequate and coherent implementation. Furthermore, there are increasing examples for good practice of regional cooperation where joined up actions are more cost effective than countries acting on their own. Moreover, the monitoring and assessment of ecosystems and their services will become increasingly

	important also in the implementation of the MSFD and the achievement of good environmental status. The action to be cofinanced will assist regional cooperation among Member States' in the implementation of the Directive and will provide good practice examples for the preparation of the next implementation deadlines
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Applicants must be public authorities or bodies and their partners (potential co-beneficiaries of the grant) must be registered in an EU Member State or be an international organisation; Partners from Third Countries being 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% for each third country partner and maximum total of 10% for all third country partners of the total cost for the action, if this is valuable for the contents of the action. Selection criteria: Operational capacity of the applicant and partners: professional competencies, qualifications and requirements needed to implement the project; Financial capacity: stable and sufficient sources of funding to maintain its activity throughout the period during which the proposal is being carried out and to participate in its funding. Award criteria: • Technical coherence: proposal should be clear, detailed, coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. • Financial coherence and quality of the proposed budget: consistency with the technical proposal and cost-efficiency. • Contribution to the general objectives of the action: scope of the project, involvement of different stakeholders, including the regional sea conventions, expected results, methodology and proposed assessment mechanisms. • EU added value in terms of stimulation of best-practice, innovation, demonstration, potential for transferability to other sub regions and sustainability/continuation after the end of the preparatory action. • Geographical scope and potential outreach to Third Countries in particular those being contracting parties of one of the four regional sea conventions.
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%

Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 1 st quarter of 2016.
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1.2.1.6. Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 5.960.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The objective of these grants (four grants are expected to be awarded) is to support the work of the Member States in implementing the Directive establishing a framework for MSP. They will support the launch and development of cross-border MSP cooperation initiatives between Member States in the Baltic Sea, North Sea, Black Sea and Outermost Regions and Overseas Territories. The Commission reserves the right to modify the geographical scope of the projects. The projects will involve concrete actions in Member States helping to build capacity for the implementation of the Directive, and will provide support for the establishment of lasting mechanisms for cross-border cooperation. They will build on prior experience from past MSP projects. The Commission estimates that up to 4 projects may be supported under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Applicants must be public authorities or bodies in charge of maritime spatial planning of those coastal Member States which are responsible for MSP in the selected area. Applicants from at least two Member States must be involved in each proposal. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and the professional competencies and qualifications required to implement and complete the proposed project. Award criteria: • Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the action, notably in terms of connection to national MSP processes and added value compared to these existing processes. • Quality of the partnership, in terms of composition and capacity to involve and promote dialogue and cooperation with relevant stakeholders, and in terms of number of participating Member States bordering the selected area.. • Added value of the project in terms of implementing Directive 2014/89 and degree to which other EU instruments (CFP, MSFD, INSPIRE, Natura 2000) or results of EU programmes (ETC, LIFE, RTD framework programmes, EMODNet) are taken into account.

	• Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources. • Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the expected results.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.7. 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	The 2016 annual European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF) will be organised by the UK Coast Guards authorities, the host country having been agreed by consensus by the participating Member States. This high level conference enhances sectoral and cross-sectoral cooperation, exchange of best practices, and promotes dialogue at international, national and regional level, resulting in enhanced cooperation between authorities managing safety, security and environmental threats.
Award criteria	Article 190 (1) c of the rules of application of the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the ECGFF 2016 host country's relevant public authority (UK Maritime Coast Guard Agency (UKMCA)). The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.8. Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum(MCGFF)

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives	International cooperation is a key element to meet the challenges arising from the management of sea basins shared by Member States

pursued and expected results	and third countries. The annual Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions forum, established in 2009, by the relevant public authorities of the MS and third countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea, supports the framework of cooperation between the public authorities carrying out surveillance tasks and other Coast Guard functions. The expected results are the improvement of regional cooperation in the Mediterranean Sea basin on issues related to Coast Guard Functions, and to enhance the safety, security and the environmental protection of the Mediterranean Sea basin. The significant challenges on migration issues that Coastguard authorities are facing in the Mediterranean basin as well as the number of national delegates involved in the forum, in particular from third countries, motivates funding of this Coastguard forum.
Award criteria	Article 190 (1) c of the rules of application of the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the public body indicated for the organisation of the MCGFF host country's relevant authorities. The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.9. Implementation of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE): Ensuring interoperability of National IT Systems within and across borders

Type	Action grant following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.790.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Maritime surveillance efficiency and cost-effectiveness can be improved, through better maritime awareness. The Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain is a voluntary collaborative process aiming to provide authorities, interested or active in maritime surveillance, with improved means to enhance the exchange of information and data. It facilitates the interoperability between existing surveillance systems and networks in order to give all concerned authorities access to the information they justifiably need for their missions at sea. This action seeks to implement action 3 of section 4 of the Commission Communication (2014)451 final which states that <i>"Member States should in parallel be encouraged to continue to work on modernising their maritime surveillance IT set up, where there is</i>

	<i>a need, and further enhance information sharing between authorities involved in maritime surveillance".</i> The main objective of this action is to support efforts in the Member States and EEA countries to inter-connect national maritime IT systems with the aim of enhancing cross-sectorial automatic information sharing, both nationally and across borders. The concerned sectors are: maritime safety and security, fisheries control, marine environment protection, customs, border control, general law enforcement and defence. Furthermore, the grant will support the setting up and testing of CISE interoperability solutions at national level. Such actions can include or can be limited to preparatory work (e.g. studies). Projects must take due account of the existing and forthcoming cross-sectorial information systems and especially systems laid down by EU law such as those referred to in the said Communication, inter alia the INSPIRE directive 2007/2/EC and its implementing rules. The use of semantic and technical specifications of CISE to ensure an effective interoperability is encouraged. Applicants will also be encouraged to make use of other interoperability solutions developed in the CISE process. The Commission estimates that up to 6 projects may be supported under this action.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Applicants must be public authorities of EU Member States or EEA countries. Private, non-governmental, international, regional, research or other organisations can participate as well as partners. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and the professional competencies and qualifications required to implement and complete the proposed project. Award criteria: • Relevance to the objectives of the call. • Coherence at EU level: the proposed action must take due account of existing interoperability solutions in EU law.. • Added value and innovation regarding the expected increase of efficiency and effectiveness in maritime surveillance duties. • Appropriate and clear methodology ensuring that the project implementation is coherent, realistic and feasible in terms of actions and timetable. Effectiveness of the proposed project organisation and management of resources. • Dissemination, sustainability and transferability of the

	expected results.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.10. Work plan for developing Coast Guard Functions in the European Union

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 400.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Strengthening the cross-sectoral approach in maritime security as set out in the 2014 EU Maritime Security Action Plan (EUMSS AP) is a key element for enhancing Europe's Coast Guard Capacities. The aim of establishing a work plan is to support and enhance Europe's Coast Guard Capacities by further developing European Coast Guard Functions related strategies and plans through the cooperation between authorities performing CG functions. The development of this work plan has been recommended in a recent study on Coastguard functions published by the Commission. The action will require assessment of functional capabilities across CG Functions on a regional, national and EU level and aims at defining how Coast Guard Functions should develop in order to achieve effective and efficient cooperation and collaboration, and overcome identified shortcomings. Projects should also be developed in consistency with any other relevant projects funded by the EU on Coast Guards functions.
Award criteria	Article 190 (1) c of the rules of application of the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the secretariat of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (the beneficiary will be one of the public authorities represented in the secretariat). The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.2.1.11. Development of a Sectorial Qualification Framework for Coast Guard Functions

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The European Coast Guard Functions Academy Network (ECGFA NET) EMFF project 2014 implemented by the Finnish Border Guard, will provide basic recommendations and minimum requirements for the Coast Guard Functions SQF, but not the final framework. This action is a sequel to that project and consists in the development of defined concepts of knowledge, skills and competences needed for Coast Guard Functions professionals, with guiding examples stemming from Frontex and EU Agencies (e.g.CEPOL) being a central aspect. The objective is to develop a fully defined Sectoral 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. These standards will co-exist with National Qualification Frameworks and therefore will not dictate national training and not aim at reforming national education. Agreement among European Border Guard Academies and training centres on common quality standards will lead to improved European co-operation in education and training.
Award criteria	Article 190 (1) c of the rules of application for the Financial Regulation. The grant will be awarded to the secretariat of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (the beneficiary will be one of the public authorities represented in the secretariat). The applicant should demonstrate that the organisation and management structure proposed for the project are sufficient to achieve the required quality and the deployment of resources in relation to the objectives is cost effective.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016

1.2.2. **Budget Heading 11 06 62 01**

SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, and in particular Articles 85 (a), and 86.2 (f).

1.2.2.1. Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection

Type	Action grant with a call for proposals
Budget	€ 2.000.000

Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The call will involve up to 6 grants aiming at strengthening regional or EU cooperation between Member States to: (a) Conduct inter-sessional work between the annual Regional Coordination Meetings or meetings of the Planning Group for Economic Issues; (b) Further develop regional and/or EU-wide tools, including databases, and processes for Data Collection Framework (DCF) data collection, management, storage and transmission; (c) Further develop and test an operational framework for establishing and coordinating statistically-sound sampling programmes at a regional or EU scale; (d) Trial the collection of new variables that may be required under reformed Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: Proposals must be submitted and implemented by partners who are public authorities or private bodies of at least three coastal Member States. Proposals should involve relevant authorities at the appropriate level (international, national and/or regional) engaged in fisheries activities that involve DCF data collection planning, implementing, managing, processing, analysing or transmitting, in the selected sea area(s). Proposals should include coordination with the implementation of the INSPIRE directive 2007/2/EC at national and cross-border level. Proposals should demonstrate the cross-border nature of the proposed project, inter alia through the proposed partnership composition and the selected geographic area(s) which must be characterised by multiple and cross-border activities (existing or potential). Selection criteria: Applicants must have the financial capacity and the professional competencies and qualifications required to implement and complete the proposed projects. Award criteria: • Relevance of the proposal to the objectives of the call. Added value and innovation. • Proposed working methodology to achieve a timely and successful implementation of the projects. • Adequacy of the resources (personnel, equipment, vessels where relevant, financial etc.). Adequacy of the organisation and management structure proposed for the projects. Adequacy of the dissemination plan.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 90%
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.3. **Budget Heading 11 06 62 03**

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

Legal basis:

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

1.2.3.1. Convention on 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) **Second performance review**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Regular performance reviews of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) are a Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) priority to increase the performance and transparency of these bodies. The grant will support the CCAMLR's Second Performance Review, including the preparation, compilation and analysis of the inputs from CCAMLR CPCs (Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties), civil society and stakeholders.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(b) **Toothfish market**

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 40.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The fight against IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing is an EU priority. Trade flows give background information on potential IUU activities. The grant will support the completion of the assessment regarding toothfish trade and market undertaken in 2014.

Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.2. International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT)

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

(a) Tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs)- joint Working Group on FADs

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 80.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	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 Tuna RFMOs). The objective of the action is to support ICCAT in the organisation of the first joint working group on FADs, which should take place in 2016. 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.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016

(b) Capacity development funds

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 70.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU supports, as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in meetings of RFMOs and their subsidiary bodies. The grant will contribute to the different ICCAT funds, in particular to support: – the meeting participation fund for developing ICCAT

	Contracting Parties; – the scientific capacity building fund for developing ICCAT contracting parties; – Capacity building for port inspectors for developing ICCAT contracting parties. These activities are essential to allow for a meaningful participation of developing countries in ICCAT activities and to help them implement ICCAT rules.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(c) Second performance review

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 160.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU is promoting better performance of RFMOs and hence pushes for regular performance reviews of RFMOs which includes the evaluation of measures. The aim of this second performance review is to evaluate how ICCAT has responded to the outcome of the first ICCAT performance review of 2008. Furthermore the aim is to compare, to the extent possible, the performance of ICCAT with the performance of other tuna RFMOs and identify areas where improvement is needed. ICCAT will co-ordinate this assessment.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(d) Atlantic-wide Research Programme for Bluefin Tuna

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.950.000
Priorities of the year, objectives	The recovery of Bluefin Tuna in the Atlantic and Mediterranean is an important EU priority. Its sound management requires best available

pursued and expected results	science. 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 objective of this action is to improve the coordination of the programme, data mining and aerial surveys, and to further improve research in order to facilitate the Bluefin Tuna stock assessments. Overall, this research programme should enable the ICCAT Scientific Committee to improve knowledge of Bluefin tuna, biology and migrations and undertake accurate evaluation of this key species.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(e) Development of software necessary for the treatment of Ghana Statistics as regards tropical tunas

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 40.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU is promoting better data collection and data treatment in ICCAT for data poor stocks. The ICCAT Scientific Committee advised in 2014 that the development of software for the treatment of the Ghanaian statistics on tropical tuna, is a fundamental element to improve the stock assessment for bigeye, yellowfin and skipjack tuna. The project will allow the the treatment of Ghanaian tuna fisheries statistics collected since 2013.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%.
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.3. Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

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

(a) Assistance to foster compliance

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
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Budget	€ 180.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings. The objective of the action is to improve implementation of IOTC's rules and enhance participation in the activities of this RFMO by developing countries, through: – co-financing of the attendance of developing countries representatives to scientific and other meetings to enable them to participate in the activities of the IOTC; – support for the organization of a workshop to assess compliance of IOTC CPCs (Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties) with IOTC Data Requirements and possible implementation of a Catch Documentation Scheme; – co-financing of Data Requirements missions to IOTC CPCs, in particular India and other developing coastal states in the Indian Ocean; – support to set-up web based procedures in the IOTC Web Site for the reporting of Fisheries Statistics by IOTC CPCs; – support to the working group on FADs (Fish Aggregating Devices). This assistance should lead to enhanced compliance within the IOTC and reinforced administrative capacity in the beneficiary developing countries.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(b) Scientific advice

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 600.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Better science as a basis for sound fisheries management is an EU priority. The objective of the grant is to support the actions in place on stock structure, among populations within the Indian Ocean (and potentially with adjacent populations in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans). The action will include: – tagging and work on post-release mortality; – support to an Observer Scheme training program; – support to Catch per unit effort standardisation and capacity

	building; – management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) process and Harvest Control Rules; – dialogue between scientists and managers; – data compilation in coastal countries; – setting-up of web based procedures for the reporting of Observer Trip Reports; – training of coastal states technicians/samplers to improve data gathering and build capacity in fisheries science. As a result, the action should lead to better scientific knowledge of the ecosystems managed by the IOTC, in particular of those related to shark species.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

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

Conclusion by the European Community of the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Fishery Resources in the South-East Atlantic Ocean (OJ L 234, 31.8.2002, p. 39)

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 20.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU supports, as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings. The objective of the action is to support the implementation of priority scientific and compliance related measures in SEAFO, notably by increasing capacity of developing contracting parties to the SEAFO in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research. This action should result in enhanced compliance and improved scientific knowledge within the SEAFO.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.

Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.5. Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement (SIOFA)

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

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 30.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU supports as one of its priorities, capacity building and wider participation of developing countries in RFMO meetings. The objective is to support the implementation of SIOFA's first activities and scientific and compliance related measures. This will be done notably by increasing capacity of developing contracting parties to the SIOFA in key areas such as effective exercise of flag State responsibilities, monitoring, control and surveillance, data collection and relevant scientific research. 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	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

(b) Annual Meeting

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 70.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Well-functioning and efficient RFMOs are an EU priority. The grant will support the financing of the SIOFA annual meeting. This will be an opportunity to highlight that the EU is a coastal Contracting Party by organising the meeting on one of its islands in the region. The action is expected to strengthen the EU's role in the organisation and to provide impetus for enhanced conservation, management and enforcement measures for species covered by the SIOFA Agreement.

Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.6. Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (WCPFC)

Accession of the Community to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean (OJ L 32, 4.2.2005, p.1)

(a) Simulation testing of reference points

Type	Grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The use of target and limit reference points is a priority for the EU in the implementation of precautionary management strategies. Target reference points have been proposed and established for some of the main species but further work is required to assess their effectiveness and performance. This simulation testing should allow building the scientific basis for the establishment, adoption and implementation of a modern and reliable management system in the WCPFC.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(b) Estimation of post-release shark and rays survival on Long Line and Purse Seine fisheries

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 400.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Conservation measures to prohibit the retention of vulnerable species are a key priority for the EU. In the Western Central Pacific Ocean some sharks and rays species are protected by dedicated WCPFC conservation and management measures or other international agreements prohibiting their retention. However, the post release survival rate of individuals of these species that are caught accidentally by different gears as by-catch and released alive is unclear. This research project will focus on quantifying the survival of protected

	sharks and rays species released from purse seiners and long liners and/or on developing/improving techniques and technologies that will significantly increase the post release survival of the species concerned (e.g., gear design, selectivity and deployment, artificial baits etc).
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented directly by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(c) Mitigating by-catch of Big Eye Tuna and Yellow Fin Tuna juveniles by Purse Seine fisheries

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 400.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	In line with the EU priority in all RFMOs to reduce by-catch, juveniles by-catch (Big Eye Tuna and Yellow Fin Tuna in particular) is one of the issues of concern in Purse Seine fisheries in the WCPFC. The project will explore new innovative mitigation methods and approaches with the aim to propose techniques, technology and practices that could contribute to reduce the fishing pressure on some of the most sensitive age classes of the species concerned.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

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

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

(a) Support for intersessional work by NAFO bodies and working groups

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 70.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	Well-functioning and efficient RFMOs are an EU priority. The grant will support the organisation of intersessional meetings in the EU to facilitate EU participation and also to confirm EU leadership in this organisation.

expected results	
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(b) Support to NAFO Annual Meeting

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 50.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The EU has a leading and pivotal role in RFMOs. NAFO is among the most strategic RFMOs for the EU as a whole and for several EU Member States that are active in NAFO fisheries. The grant will support the preparation and organisation of the 2016 Annual Meeting of NAFO. The Annual Meeting will lead to decisions that will provide enhanced conservation, management and enforcement for the species covered by the NAFO Convention.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 75.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The protection of marine ecosystems is a priority for the EU. Marine vulnerable ecosystems (VMEs) such as cold-water corals and sponges, seamounts and hydrothermal vents are vulnerable to the effects of bottom fishing. The grant will co-finance research activities on VMEs, in order to identify where VMEs are known to occur or are likely to occur, and to close such areas to bottom fishing and ensure that such activities do not proceed unless conservation and management measures have been established to prevent serious adverse impacts on VMEs.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-

	effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(d) Development of a single approach for catch estimates based on current NAFO compliance and scientific observers methodologies

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 100.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Improvement of fisheries data, resulting in improved fisheries management decisions, is a key priority for the EU. NAFO created an ad-hoc working group on catch reporting. Currently, observers on-board of fishing vessels use different methodologies to estimate catch and the grant will support the identification of methodologies currently used by Contracting Parties. As a result, a common methodology should be defined for the use of NAFO Contracting parties which in turn would lead more accurate catch data.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 15.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Improvement of fisheries control in international waters is a key priority for the EU. NAFO has gradually developed its Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) website. Currently it offers a platform for vessel registry information and on vessel inspection activities. The grant will support further development of the MCS website towards a secure central hub for sharing and storage of inspection/observer reports together with information submitted by Contracting Parties. The tool will become more user friendly and the exchange of information will be enhanced. The objective is to facilitate risk assessment and to reduce filing and administrative burden on users.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.

Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.8. NASCO – North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization

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

(a) Atlantic salmon mortality at sea

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Sustainable management of fish stocks is an EU priority. Over the last decades, wild Atlantic salmon stocks have been displaying a continuous decline throughout their migratory range despite the drastic management measures put in place at international level. Taking into consideration on-going initiatives, the project will focus on the development/improvement of appropriate methodologies and technologies for the assessment of, and quantification of, salmon mortality at sea. In addition, the project will select appropriate case studies with the aim to provide new information on causes of salmon mortality at sea. Ultimately, the project will provide insights in potential mitigation measures that could improve the fate of salmon during its sea migration phase.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(b) Sea lice model for the sustainable development of Atlantic salmon fisheries and aquaculture

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Protection and sustainable management of fisheries resources are an EU priority. Sea lice are considered among the major threats that face both wild and farmed salmon. The project will support the development of a sea lice integrative model that will take into account relevant parameters, including biological, environmental, oceanographic, anthropogenic etc, with the

	aim of predicting the potential for the sea lice to occur at different locations at different times of the year and under different environmental conditions. The project will contribute to developing best management practice for sea lice control. It should also allow, in collaboration with the farming sector to define a range of production strategies aiming at reducing the presence of sea lice and their negative impacts, both on farmed and wild Atlantic salmon.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.9. 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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 225.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	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. As a first step, an operational prototype as a proof of concept of the rules and requirements was presented at the 31st Session of the FAO Committee on Fisheries in June 2014. This grant will support the launching of the development and of the implementation of a fully-fledged system, based on the prototype and the feedback received.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 800.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Improving the situation of the Mediterranean and Black Sea capture fisheries and aquaculture is a priority. The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) therefore assists DG MARE in defining and implementing the multiannual fisheries management plans in the GFCM area of competence, reinforcing compliance with GFCM decisions by Members and relevant non-Members and supporting the GFCM in fostering a sustainable aquaculture development in the region. The implementation of the GFCM activities has been planned and agreed for the inter-sessional period according to the priorities identified and agreed during the 39th Session of the GFCM. These preparatory actions will allow Members to adequately prepare for recommendations to be submitted to the 40th session of the GFCM for which appropriate support will be provided for the organisation of specific meetings, workshops and seminars.
Aaward criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

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

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 1.200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	This grant will co-finance the implementation of the FAO Regional projects, such as, EASTMED, ADRIAMED, COPEMED, MEDSUMED and other programmes, which are aimed at developing a common framework for cooperation between coastal states of the Mediterranean and Black Sea to enable the common management of fish stocks in these regions. These regional projects aim at improving the provision and sharing of scientific work and data with non-EU partner countries and contribute to the enhancement of their capacity in participating actively in the relevant regional frameworks for sustainable fisheries management. Expected results: contribution to establish a sound scientific basis for better organised fishing in these regions and sustainable management of resources using an ecosystem approach.

Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 85%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(d) Strengthening the demersal Working group of the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF) established two demersal working groups (North and South) contributing to the improved management of demersal resources on the Atlantic coast of Africa, ensuring a sustainable use of these resources to the benefit of coastal countries. The grant will support the organisation of meetings of these working groups, whose objectives are in line with the EU priority of sound management of the fisheries resource.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(e) Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission - Improving the governance of fisheries in the Western Central Atlantic

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 120.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Well-functioning and efficient regional fisheries bodies are an EU priority. The grant will support the organisation of the 16th session of WECAFC. This session will not only review and adopt a range of fisheries management recommendations, but will also determine the route towards strategic re-orientation of WECAFC (transition process into an RFMO). The session will also build capacity for the governance of fisheries in the Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (ABNJ) in the WECAFC mandate area. This ABNJ area is about 50 percent of the mandate area and is currently not managed by any organization in terms of its fisheries resources. Moreover, activities are being undertaken in other sectors, such as environment, transport, telecom and seabed

	exploitation (deep sea mining) that affect fisheries and are governed by other institutions. A regional training workshop on governance of the ABNJ area will be held back-to-back with the 16th session of WECAFC and will also be supported by the grant.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

(f) Workshop on IUU fishing in the Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission

Type	Action grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 90.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The fight against IUU (illegal, unreported, and unregulated) fishing is an EU priority. The grant will support the organisation of a regional training workshop that will contribute to the global efforts against IUU fishing. It will train fisheries officers for implementing the FAO Standard Specifications for the Marking and Identification of Fishing Vessels (small vessels) and Unique Vessel Identifier (UVI) (for larger vessels) as well as make the initial steps towards the establishment of a Regional Fishing Vessel Register.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.2.3.10. Convention on the Conservation and Management of High Seas Fishery Resources in the South Pacific Ocean (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) SPRFMO - Scientific Committee

Type	Action Grant without a call for proposals
Budget	€ 40.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and	Improvement of fisheries data collection and development of scientific advice is an EU priority. The objective of the action is to co-finance the meeting of the SPRFMO Scientific Committee in 2016. The

expected results	meeting will take place in the Netherlands around October 2016.
Award criteria	Relevance of the application with the pre-defined objectives and cost-effectiveness of the action.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Cofinancing involved	Maximum 80%
Indicative timetable	Grant agreement to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.2.4. Budget Heading 11 06 62 04

ACCOMPANYING MEASURES FOR THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (CFP) AND THE INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY (IMP) - 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.
- Articles 178 and 190(1)(d) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation.

1.2.4.1. Advisory Councils (ACs)

Type	Specific operating grant agreements under multiannual Framework Partnership Agreements
Budget	€ 3.300.000
Description	Advisory Councils (ACs) have the main function of advising the European Commission and the Member States on the management of fisheries and the socio-economic and conservation aspects of fisheries and aquaculture by submitting recommendations, suggestions or opinions. Public funding is needed to enable the ACs to function fully and provide the advice needed – failing this, there is a risk that the ACs would not be set up or at least would not be effective. The ACs which have acquired legal personality are given the possibility to apply for EU financial support as bodies pursuing an aim of general European interest within the meaning of Article 177(b) of the Rules of Application of the Financial Regulation. 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.
Objectives and expected results	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. 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.
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).
Approximate timetable	Specific grant agreements to be concluded in the course of 2016.

1.2.5. **Budget Heading 11 06 62 02**

CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund, in particular Article 87 (2) and (4).

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

Type	Action grants following a call for proposals
Budget	€ 10.200.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	The objective is to support the Member States in fulfilling their control and enforcement responsibilities under the CFP, from a regionalised perspective, by providing grants towards the joint chartering/purchase of control means (patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters). The means, which will be used by at least two Member States belonging to the same geographical area/sea basin, must be used for fisheries control for at least 60% of the total period of use per year in accordance with Article 87 (2) (a) of the EMFF. As regionalisation is a key element of the reformed CFP, this action represents an additional possibility for Member States in the area of control. It should increase the overall level of control activities, particularly those involving several Member States. The envelope is intended to cover the joint chartering of patrol vessels, aircraft or helicopters in different geographical areas. It may also be used for the joint purchase of patrol vessels, aircraft or helicopters. The means have to be used in priority for Specific Control and Inspection Programmes (Article 95 of the Control Regulation¹) or Joint Deployment Plans (Chapter III of the EFCA Regulation²), in Common Control Programmes (Art. 94 of the Control Regulation), or in common control and inspection programmes (Art. 15 of the EFCA

¹ Regulation (EC) 1224/2009 of 20.11.2009

² Regulation (EC) 768/2005 of 26.04.2005

	Regulation), unless otherwise agreed with the Commission. Except in the case of chartering of control means owned by a public authority (ministry, agency or other public entity), the beneficiary Member State will follow public procurement rules³. In case of chartering: Chartered control means may be publicly or privately owned. A public authority (ministry, agency or other public entity) which owns control means cannot conclude a charter party with itself for using those means. The beneficiary public authority may, however, charter control means owned by another public authority (in such case, only the marginal costs incurred for the joint control activities may be considered for co-financing under this action). The beneficiary Member State will conclude yearly contracts. These contracts should be renewable up to three times.
Essential eligibility, selection and award criteria	Eligibility criteria: All Member States with responsibility for fisheries control. The proposal must specify, inter alia, the geographical area concerned and the other Member State(s) participating in the proposal. In accordance with Article 87 (4) of the EMFF Regulation, only one of the Member States concerned shall be designated as a beneficiary. Selection criteria: Applicants must have the operational capacity to implement and complete the proposed project. Award criteria: – Degree to which the patrol vessel, aircraft or helicopter will be used in control activities in support of relevant multi-annual plans or management plans where these exist (according to Article 46 of the Control Regulation or Article 18 of Mediterranean Sea Regulation⁴), and/or in support of the fulfilment of the EU's international obligations (Interational Commission for the conversation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), North East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC). – Number of Member States participating in the chartering/purchase of the shared means in each geographical area and/or in support of the fulfilment of the EU's international obligations compared to the potential number of participant Member States. – The proposed cooperation and management mechanisms to be

³ Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement (OJ L 94, 28.3.2014, p. 65)

⁴ Regulation (EC)1967/2006 of 21.12.2006

	put in place by the participating Member States, to ensure optimal use of the vessel, aircraft or helicopter. – Number of days for which the Member States have committed to use the vessel, aircraft or helicopter for fisheries control. – Suitability of technical specifications of the means proposed. – Quality of the methodology and effectiveness of the practical arrangements proposed for the management of the vessels, aircraft or helicopters. – Degree of adequacy of the means proposed for operational challenges faced including applicable area and general conditions. – Lead time for availability of the means. – Cost-effectiveness measured by the cost of the operation vs. the control activity to be undertaken.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME
Cofinancing involved	Within the limits of budgetary resources available: - maximum 90 % of the eligible expenditure for chartering; - maximum 80 % of the eligible expenditure for purchase.
Indicative timetable	Call for proposals to be launched in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

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. Emerging pressures, human activities and cost-effective measures in the Marine Environment

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Project on the origin, extent and possible measures in relation to emerging pressures on the marine environment, in particular marine litter, underwater noise or invasive species, etc. or emerging sectors such as those promoted in the context of Blue Growth, where there is increasing impact on the marine environment addressing a cross-sector concern in the framework of the ecosystem approach (link to descriptors in Annex I of MSFD). Their impact on the marine environment and in particular on marine protected areas and possible measures at global, EU and (sub-) national level should be identified as well as possible innovative
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	solutions to prevent or mitigate these impacts. The work will be linked to the evaluation of the programme of measures that Member States will be sending to the Commission in 2016 in line with the Marine Strategy Framework Directive or particular issues notified to the Commission in the context of Article 15 of that Directive. This could include, in particular, action in relation to marine litter and the proposed marine litter target, such as microplastics, underwater noise or pressures that impact the seafloor. The actions will also include, as a component, e.g. best practice exchange on the basis of existing regulatory regimes and contribute to the better regulation agenda whereby legislative objectives should be achieved in the most efficient and effective way.
Type of contract	Specific contracts (up to 4) will be concluded as part of the existing Framework Contract (FWC) ENV. D2/2012/0025 or under a new FWC replacing the current one ending in September 2016, or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.1.2. EMODnet

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	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 INSPIRE Directive 2007/2EC and supports the political goal, endorsed by the Council and the European Parliament, of completing a seamless multi-resolution digital seabed map of European waters by 2020. The annual report 2013-2014 shows that the processed data is already being extensively used by industry, public authorities, researchers and civil society in all Member States and a number of international partners, particularly neighbourhood countries. It is contributing to implementation of the Maritime Spatial Planning and Marine Strategy Framework Directives. EMODnet, however, entails a process of continuous improvement. Whilst much has already been done, there is much scope for refining the data available now and developing new data products. The improvements proposed here are driven by feedback from users and the analysis undertaken by the Mediterranean and North Sea checkpoints. These upgrades are necessary for completing the seabed map to the required standard by 2020. The improved EMODnet will enhance innovation, foster competition and open new commercial opportunities for companies. The Network will become more effective in supporting the implementation of key environmental and maritime legislation and will provide greater transparency of data to support the growth of the blue economy.
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	<u>Geology:</u> The objective will be to maintain the operational service including adding new survey data and incorporating them in the data products as they become available, moving to higher resolution where the underlying data permit it, marking features such as canyons or cliffs and improving the mapping of coastal erosion. <u>Habitats:</u> As well as improving and maintaining the present version, survey data to check correlations between physical habitats and biological ecosystems will be included and adjustment to classification to cover unique Black Sea habitats will be made. This will particularly improve the assessment of the current network of marine protected areas. <u>Chemistry:</u> The focus up to now has been on nutrients and other pollutants reported under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. As well as including these parameters there will be new effort on marine litter and acidification and tighter collaboration with Regional Sea Conventions such as OSPAR and HELCOM. <u>Biology:</u> As well as improving searches for specific products across different surveys, increased effort will be made to develop products that meet the needs of the Marine Directive. Coverage will be extended by connecting to other biological data resources (e.g. from marine genetic data bases, animal tracking). <u>Physics:</u> There will be increased effort in improving machine-to-machine connections across different platforms, ensuring that these data are quality-checked, preparing the system for Big Data streams, providing data from newly deployed platforms such as HF Radar and automating the connection to archived data held by National Oceanographic Data Centres (currently the authorisation process causes delays). <u>Human activity:</u> The second phase will take into account the recommendations and interactions that have already taken place with key stakeholders and data users including from the provider sector, feedback from the Mediterranean and North Sea checkpoints and the Maritime Spatial Planning Expert Group. <u>Secretariat support:</u> Activity will be stepped up to include (1) development of the portals to achieve greater coherence and helping them develop stronger links to stakeholders. (2) setting up a technical monitoring system to continually monitor performance (3) producing high-quality professionally printed annual reports to provide Member States with a comprehensive view of progress and future plans.
Type of contract	7 service contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 13.770.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Calls for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.3.1.3. Intergrated maritime surveillance communication strategy

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	The EU maritime security strategy envisages communication campaigns in order to increase the visibility of the Strategy. Funds for such actions were already provided in the 2015 work programme. The purpose of this action is to further develop the demarches already made in 2015 to further develop the communication actions on Integrated Maritime Surveillance including the EU maritime security strategy (EUMSS) and the EUMSS action plan. The priorities cover awareness raising and image building, with the aim of enhancing knowledge and trust towards European actions in the field of maritime security and surveillance. The development of the communication strategy should target general, as well as professional, public.
Type of contract	Specific service contract linked to an existing framework contract ("Information and communication activities related to CFP and IMP" - MARE/2012/12 - Lot 1) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 300.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 2nd quarter of 2016.

1.3.1.4. IT support for the Maritime forum

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The Commission wide web-rationalisation initiative managed by DG COMM, with the support of DGT and DIGIT, increases relevancy, coherence and cost-efficiency. Based on DG MARE's experience with the multi site toolkit developed, DIGIT will be tasked with the maintenance of the maritime forum, a website for the European Maritime Day and the Mediterranean Virtual Knowledge Centre and for the Ocean Energy Forum.
Type of contract	Specific service contracts linked to existing framework contracts (STIS-III No DI/07057 and STIS-III No DI/07059 managed by DIGIT) or to future framework contract concluded by DIGIT for the provision of the concerned services.
Indicative Budget	€ 150.000
Implementation	The funds will be made available by DG MARE to DIGIT through a co-delegation.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.1.5. Assistance Mechanism for the implementation of Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP)

Subject matter of	The Assistance Mechanism supports the Members States, facilitating
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the contracts envisaged	implementation of the Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP) Directive. The support also foresees the provision of technical studies focused on added value, dissemination of information on best practices for each requirement of the MSP Directive, funding sources, bringing together potential project partners and necessary guidance. A "focal point service" will be operational in the sea basins providing guidance and information to stakeholders, including a dedicated website with a FAQ corner. In addition, the Assistance Mechanism will support the European Commission with the organisation of workshops, conferences and the running of the Member State Expert Group on MSP. The Assistance Mechanism will build on the previous mechanism.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 1.285.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Contract renewal or call for tender to be published in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.3.1.6. International Oceans Governance – Scientific Support

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	In a time of ever-increasing economic use of the oceans, the improvement of international oceans governance is a priority for the European Commission with the establishment of a framework, mechanisms and tools to keep the oceans healthy, safe and clean whilst creating a stable investment environment for maritime economic activities. A broad public consultation mid-2015 will define the way ahead. Scientific support is necessary to further evaluate policy and define options for the EU together with Member States in the field of international Oceans Governance.
Indicative Budget	€ 250.000
Type of contract	Service contract.
Implementation	This action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	In order to promote the IMP in the context of sea-basin strategies and through specific maritime policy actions, a number of events are planned to be held during 2016. These include, inter alia, activities such as: – the European Maritime Day 2016 and the European Maritime Day 2017;
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	– International Oceans Governance Conference – workshops on the Arctic; – a conference on maritime and coastal tourism in the Baltic; – a Dutch EU presidency event on MSP and cooperation in energy; – Pan-European dialogue between cruise operators, ports and coastal tourism stakeholders (2nd edition); – an event related to EMODnet; – a blue innovation summit; – an event on the transfer of blue biotechnology; as well as activities necessary to their preparation and follow-up.
Type of contract	Specific contracts linked to an existing framework contract ("Organisation of conferences, workshops, seminars and other events on the CFP, the IMP and EMFF" - MARE/2014/15) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.860.000
Implementation	Some 16 specific contracts under the future framework contract on events for the IMP, CFP and EMFF, or under other existing suitable framework contracts concluded by the Commission. Some of the actions could be implemented through a service level agreement with DG SCIC including the financial management (co-delegation).
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.1.8. Support and collaboration within and between the different maritime regions of the EU (North East Atlantic, Mediterranean, Baltic and Black Sea) implementing the ecosystem approach and exchange with other marine regions

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC) requires coherent approaches within and between marine regions. This is particularly important for Member States which share marine waters in different regions. Therefore coordination mechanisms, administrative and technical support for regional and inter-regional cooperation in relation to assessment, target setting and monitoring and measures implementation of marine waters are useful and will include e.g. regular workshops, exchange of best practices, alignment of reporting or knowledge exchange, progress towards good environmental status building on existing collaboration. Moreover, dissemination of results and communication and awareness raising campaigns will be developed, as appropriate. Finally, development of a cross-regional information exchange platform as a building block for WISE-Marine will be further explored in close collaboration with the European Environment Agency.
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	The actions in 2016 will continue and further develop past actions, support the preparation of the 2018 milestone in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive as well as to improve communication and dissemination of the work under the environmental pillar of the Integrated Maritime Policy, e.g. through a conference.
Type of contract	6 specific contracts will be concluded as part of the existing Framework Contract. ENV.D2/2012/0017 or the new FWC that will replace the current one ending in September 2016, or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 700.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	6 specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.1.9. Framework contract for the provision of expert support in the area of maritime affairs and blue economy development

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	This framework contract will support EU actions and initiatives on maritime affairs and blue economy development by ensuring the appropriate involvement of the Commission and other relevant stakeholders in both EU and non-EU countries. It will thereby expand knowledge, feed the debate and develop actions/strategies/initiatives on blue economy and maritime affairs, including ocean governance, integrated maritime policy and blue growth. It will involve the following non-exhaustive list of tasks: • Analyse and study activities and issues related to maritime affairs and sustainable blue economy development; • Identify how maritime economic activities can be promoted at the most appropriate level (local, regional, transnational or sea basin) taking into account future opportunities, needs and gaps, impacts and risks; • Develop proposals and solutions to address specific needs and gaps in terms of governance, finance, research, innovation, sustainability, skills, training, etc. (e.g. by proposing actions, policy initiatives, maritime strategies and action plans, etc.); • Facilitate stakeholder consultation and involvement, develop and disseminate approaches, contents and practices, through events (workshops, focus groups, conferences, etc.), virtual and social media.
Type of contract	New service framework contract
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

1.3.1.10. Socio-economics assessment of Marine Environment Modelling Toolbox results

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	The Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD, Directive 2008/56/EC) includes the requirement for the Commission to assess the Member States' implementation of the Directive and, by 2019 at the latest, to publish an evaluation report. In this context the Commission needs to build up its own analytical capacity in the field of marine environment policy. Work has already started on the development of a modelling toolbox that is linking up physical, chemical and biological models in the air, water and marine domains in order to analyse how human activity impacts on the state of the marine environment. The purpose of this contract is to develop analysis tools with which the output of the modelling toolbox can be assessed from a socio-economic perspective. On the basis of existing relevant activities, concepts, and sources of data and information (including the efforts undertaken by Member States and Regional Sea Conventions in implementing the MSFD as well as the Mapping and Assessment of Ecosystem Services (MAES) under the EU Biodiversity Strategy 2020), it should put into practice a concept for the socio-economic assessment of the inputs and results of the modelling toolbox. This includes developing the necessary databases and software.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 350.000
Implementation	This action will be implemented in co-delegation by DG ENV.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

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. Study on the ownership of exclusive rights of the fisheries means of production

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	This study will involve the analysis of the structure of ownership of the means of production, in particular of fishing rights, of the fisheries sector in EU MS. It will document the recent evolution of this structure, assess its impact on the economic performance of EU fleet segments and, on this basis, anticipate possible future prospects for these segments and for right-based management systems. The results of this study will be used for future evaluations and impact assessments.
Type of contract	Service contract.
Indicative Budget	€ 200.000

Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be launched 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.3.2.2. Framework contract for the provision of scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Provision of specific scientific advice needed in the international context and coordination of scientists' participation in RFMO's (Regional Fisheries Management Organisations)
Type of contract	New service framework contract
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.3.2.3. Scientific advice for fisheries beyond EU waters

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Provision of specific scientific advice needed in the international context an coordination of scientist's participation in RFMO's (Regional Fisheries Management Organisations).
Type of contract	Some 6 specific contracts linked to an existing framework contract ("Scientific advice for Fisheries beyond EU Waters" – MARE/2012/21) or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.2.4. Framework contract for the provision of scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	The framework contract will allow studies to be carried out inter alia in the area of technical and socio-economic advice, providing elements and data for drafting the EU Multi-annual Plans in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.
Type of contract	Service framework contract
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.3.2.5. Scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea

Subject matter of the contract	Studies providing scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea including:
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envisaged	– Scientific, technical and socio-economic advice providing elements and data for the drafting of EU Multiannual Plans in the Mediterranean Sea. – Feasibility study on the implementation of a management system based on catch limitations for small pelagic species in the Mediterranean and Black Seas (desk study).
Type of contract	Some 4 specific contracts linked to the new framework contract for the provision of scientific advice for the Mediterranean and the Black Sea or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission.
Indicative Budget	€ 500.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by EASME.
Indicative timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded in the 2 nd quarter of 2016.

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.
Type of contract	Specific service and supply contracts linked to existing framework contracts (DIGIT/ESP/DESI III, lots 1, 2, 3, 4 and ITSS III). Supply and service contracts. Some 25 contracts to be awarded in accordance with the framework agreement with DIGIT.
Indicative Budget	€ 3.700.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE. Part of the appropriations will be subject to co-delegation/cross sub-delegation granted to DIGIT (hosting services) and DG COMP (IUU case handling) to fund the different services and IT applications.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.3.2. Equipment for European Commission officials

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Protection and safety equipment as well as materials required for verification, inspection and audit related tasks.
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Type of contract	Some 8 supply and service contracts.
Indicative Budget	€ 10.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.3.3. Organisation of the meetings of the expert groups on fisheries control and on compliance with the CFP rules

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	Covering the expenses for the organisation of meetings of the experts groups on fisheries control and on compliance (logistical and administrative costs).
Type of contract	Specific contracts linked to existing framework contracts OIB.DR.2/PC/2012/117/55/C0 L1 (LotA), L2 (LotB) and L3 (Lot C), (about 4-10 contracts) (some 40 specific contracts). Procurement procedures (about 6 contracts).
Indicative Budget	€ 35.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Study supporting the impact assessment (IA) of a new control regulation.
Type of contract	Specific contracts linked to a future framework contract "Evaluation, Impact Assessment and related activities" or any other relevant and suitable framework contract in force in the European Commission
Indicative Budget	€ 250.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 4 th quarter of 2016.

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	Provision and coordination of information, communication and public relations actions including, inter alia: – 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 of the Markets in fishery and aquaculture products, science, conference on community-led local development in fisheries areas for Fisheries Local Action Groups, etc.); – information about fisheries legislation or IMP topics in Member States as well as in third countries; – production of promotional material, purchasing of advertising space, design, production and distribution of maps (digital or printed) and charts such as for instance on the TACs and quotas. Procurement of evaluation and impact assessment related services connected to information and communication activities for the Common Fisheries Policy and the Integrated Maritime Policy.
Type of contract	Service contracts Specific contracts
Indicative Budget	€ 1.658.000
Implementation	Some 30 specific contracts/order forms will be linked to: – framework contract (MARE/2012/12) of Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries for “Information and communication activities relating to the European Union's integrated maritime policy (IMP) and to the common fisheries policy (CFP)”; – framework contract for 'Evaluation and impact assessment activities for DG MARE (MARE/2011/01) and its successor; – 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. For publications and related services, some of the actions could be implemented through the service level agreement with OP signed on 22/01/2013 under the regime of budget co-delegation. For the conferences, some of the actions could be implemented through a service level agreement with DG SCIC including the financial management (co-delegation). Translations for information and communication activities can also be provided by DGT through the service level agreement signed with DG MARE. Some 5 service contracts may also be concluded through procurement procedures.
Indicative timetable	Service contracts and specific contracts to be concluded throughout 2016.

1.3.4.2. Framework contract for information and communication activities relating to the European Union's Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) and to the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)

Subject matter of the contract envisaged	The framework contract will cover information and communication activities and public relations in the areas of the IMP and the CFP, including, inter alia: creation of content for digital, printed and online publications and social media, production of audiovisuals; organisation of conferences, events and seminars or workshops; web development and updating of web-pages, revamping of existing websites; translations; information about fisheries legislation or IMP topics in Member States as well as in third countries; production of promotional material, purchasing of advertising space, design, production and distribution of posters, maps (digital or printed), and charts.
Type of contract	Service framework contract
Indicative Budget	€ -
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 1 st quarter 2016.

1.3.5. **Budget heading 11 06 62 05**

MARKET INTELLIGENCE

Legal basis:

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

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

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Provision of services for the running and maintenance of the European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA). EUMOFA is the market intelligence tool on the European Union fisheries and aquaculture sector, aiming at increasing market transparency and efficiency, analysing the EU market dynamics, supporting business decisions and policy-making.
Type of contract	Service contract (renewal of existing contract)
Indicative Budget	€ 4.047.880
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Renewal of service contract in the 4 th quarter of 2016.

1.3.5.2. European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture (EUMOFA) – project management

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Provision of services for EUMOFA project management requiring, inter alia specific IT expertise.
Type of contract	Specific contract linked to an existing framework contract DIGIT - FWC "ESP-Desis III".
Indicative Budget	€ 60.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.3.5.3. Establishment of a single information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Running and maintenance of an information system for commercial designations for fisheries and aquaculture products, also covering some minor or occasional IT developments.
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 120.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.

Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be launched in the 1 st quarter of 2016.
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1.3.5.4. Eurobarometer on the consumption patterns in the Member States: EU consumer habits with regard to fisheries and aquaculture products - phase 1

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	A study on EU consumer behaviour pertaining to fisheries and aquaculture products. The quantitative data and related statistics resulting from this study will be used in a second step, feeding into a qualitative analysis on the main drivers and influencing factors at the basis of consumer choices.
Type of contract	Specific contract linked to the future framework contract 'Flash Eurobarometer surveys' of DG COMM.
Indicative Budget	€ 200.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.3.5.5. Study on the consumption patterns in the Member States: EU consumer habits with regard to fisheries and aquaculture products - phase 2

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Study aiming at analysing consumer behaviour towards seafood products in the EU: main drivers and influencing factors of consumer choices, complementing and using results of an ad hoc Eurobarometer and contributing to the achievement of the objectives of Art 42 of the CMO. This will complement services delivered by the Market Observatory (EUMOFA).
Type of contract	Service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 300.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.3.5.6. Establishment of a revision framework of marketing standards for fisheries and aquaculture products

Subject matter of the contracts envisaged	Study aiming at assessing opportunities to adjust marketing standards within the industry and among other stakeholders for the putting in place of a self-regulation system.
Type of contract	Direct service contract
Indicative Budget	€ 100.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

1.4. OTHER ACTIONS

1.4.1. Budget heading 11 06 62 01

SCIENTIFIC ADVICE AND KNOWLEDGE

Legal basis:

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

1.4.1.1. Memorandum of Understanding between the European Community and the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

Type	Memorandum of Understanding
Description and objective of the action	Provision of advice and other services by the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) to support the implementation of the CFP and in relation to data and marine research needs.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.600.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Memorandum of Understanding to be concluded during the 1 st quarter of 2016.

1.4.1.2. 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	€ 1.600.000
Implementation	The action is implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2016.

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

Type	Compensations for STECF members and invited experts.
Description and objective of the action	The implementation of the EU policy for fisheries and aquaculture requires the assistance of highly qualified scientific experts, particularly in the application of the marine and fisheries biology, fishing technology, fisheries economics or similar disciplines, or in connection with the requirements of research and data collection in the fields of

	fishing and aquaculture. This assistance will be provided by a permanent Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF) set up by Commission Decision. This decision foresees the payment of a compensation to the members of the STECF and/or the experts invited by the STECF.
Indicative Budget	€ 1.000.000
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	20 to 30 STECF meetings spread throughout 2016.

1.4.2. Budget heading 11 06 62 02

CONTROL AND ENFORCEMENT

Legal basis:

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

1.4.2.1. Administrative arrangement with the Joint Research Centre (JRC) for the assessment and development of new control technologies

Type	Administrative Arrangement
Budget	€ 300.000
Priorities of the year, objectives pursued and expected results	Assessment of the existing fisheries control technologies and development of possible new control technologies (including drones, DNA analysis) aimed at improving compliance with the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) rules in a cost-effective way.
Implementation	The action will be implemented by DG MARE.
Indicative timetable	Administrative Arrangement to be concluded in the 4 th quarter of 2016.

1.4.2.2. 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: € 790.967

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

Subject: Expert group meetings on fisheries control examining the implementation of the CFP and meetings of the expert group on the compliance with the CFP rules (Art. 37 of the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of European Parliament and of the Council).

Amount: € 200.000

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

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

Amount: € 25.000

1.4.3. Budget heading 11 06 62 04

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

Legal basis:

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

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

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

Amount: € 120.000