



Sustainable Blue  
Economy Partnership

Call Announcement

2023 First Joint Transnational Co-  
Funded Call

**The way forward: a  
thriving sustainable blue  
economy for a brighter  
future**

**Sustainable Blue Economy  
Partnership**

2023



## **2023 First Joint Transnational Co-Funded Call**

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<b>VERSION</b>	<b>PUBLICATION DATE</b>	<b>CHANGES MADE</b>
<b>V0</b>	<b>13/02/23</b>	N/A
<b>V1</b>	<b>03/03/23</b>	Additional participating country in the call : Brazil ; updates made at 4.1 and in Table 1  LATVIA/LCS: update of the funded priority areas for Latvia (Table 1)
<b>V2</b>	<b>10/03/23</b>	BRAZIL/CONFAP: update of the overall budget  ITALY/MUR: update of the overall budget
<b>V3</b>	<b>17/03/23</b>	BRAZIL/CONFAP: update of the overall budget

## 1.0 BACKGROUND OF THE JOINT CALL

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (SBEP) is starting in 2022 under Horizon Europe. The vision of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership is to design, steer and support a just and inclusive transition to a regenerative, resilient, and sustainable blue economy. This Partnership aims to boost the transformation needed towards a climate-neutral, sustainable, productive, and competitive blue economy by 2030 while creating and supporting the conditions for a healthy ocean for the people by 2050. A total of 23 countries among Member-States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) with the support of the European Commission (EC) are participating in this wide initiative.

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership will deliver solutions to strengthen European Union (EU) and international science-policy interfaces in marine- and maritime-related domains of the EU Green Deal and Digital Europe strategies through aligning national, regional, and EU R&I priorities and bringing together science, industry, policy, and citizens. In addition, it will contribute to accelerating the post-pandemic recovery and resilience of NextGenerationEU.

In line with the “EC COM (2021) 240 final” on “a new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU. Transforming the EU’s Blue Economy for a Sustainable Future”<sup>1</sup>, the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership rolls out impact-oriented pathways to:

- Catalyse the transformation of ocean economy value chains towards climate neutrality by 2050, delivering a resilient future for our seas and oceans promoted by marine ecosystems restoration, biodiversity conservation, and a healthy ocean.
- Deliver ocean knowledge and impact-driven R&I solutions.
- Enable cooperation to respond to international, EU, and national regulations, recommendations, and policy strategies, e.g., Green Deal, Digital Europe, Water

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<sup>1</sup> EC COM (2021) 240 final ‘A new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU: Transforming the EU’s Blue Economy for A Sustainable Future’.

Framework Directive (WFD), Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (MSPD), Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP), Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork, Circular economy action plan, European Data Strategy, and the Proposal for a Nature Restoration Law characterised by restoration quality objectives with very stringent targets and in the frame of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UN-SDGs), the EU Europe's strategy for international cooperation<sup>2</sup>, amongst others.

- Contribute to the social and digital transition by developing innovative governance frameworks that benefit marine and maritime communities, including by reinforcing skills in line with the EC COM (2020) 274 final – EU Skills Agenda<sup>3</sup> and enhance our ocean observation capacity, contributing to a functional EOOS (the European Ocean Observation System), and GEOSS (the Global Earth Observing System of Systems).

A main ambition for this partnership is to launch a series of annual co-funded joint calls tackling priority areas drawn from the Strategic Research and innovation Agenda (SRIA) of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (Figure 1). The partnership will also identify other mechanisms for alignment to be tested at a later stage and look for further economic support of R&I programs leveraging other funding and finance streams, including, the NextGenerationEU recovery plan, sustainable private capital (e.g., of banks, companies, foundations) to accelerate market uptake, structural funds, and producing a cascade of investments. In parallel, a long-term structuring ambition will support the creation of a community of practice, fostering co-creation, coordinating all relevant initiatives at the pan-European level, promoting the EU blue economy, and seeking cooperation at the global level.

The 2023 Joint Call is the first Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership call, and it pools national and regional financial resources through participation of ministries and funding

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<sup>2</sup> EC COM (2021) 252, final Global Approach to Research and Innovation, Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world. Europe's strategy for international cooperation in a changing world.

<sup>3</sup> EC COM (2020)274final - EU Skills Agenda.

organisations from 23 countries responsible for funding research and innovation actions in blue economy, with the financial support from the EC.

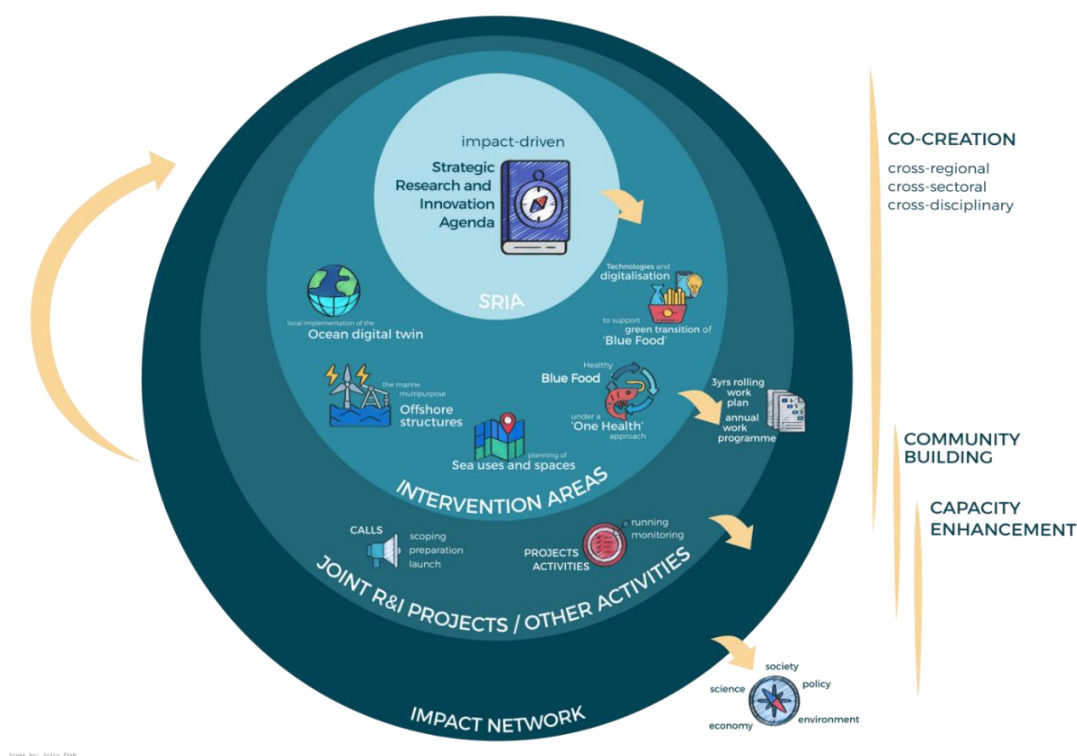


Figure 1: The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership approach entails a 4-dimension (4D) rolling structure to design calls and manage, monitor, and ensure the impact of the co-funded R&I projects and other activities. The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership architecture is comprised of the SRIA, the Intervention Areas (IAs), the joint R&I projects / other activities and the impact network and function according to the co-creation, community building and capacity enhancement principles.

## 2.0 CONTEXT AND OBJECTIVES OF THE JOINT CALL

The COVID-19 pandemic accentuated the vulnerabilities in the EU economy and the need for greater autonomy in terms of production and supply chains of goods, services, and workforce to ensure resilience. This was acutely highlighted in key blue economy sectors such as seafood and coastal tourism, and maritime sectors on which the



livelihoods of communities in peripheral regions are often completely dependent. An opportunity to tackle the challenges presented by the pandemic is in advancing science-industry collaboration to achieve a more resilient and sustainable recovery of the blue economy<sup>4</sup>. For instance, sustainable offshore investments could provide at least five times greater returns than costs<sup>5</sup>, demonstrating that sustainability and economic development are not mutually exclusive goals, but reinforce one another. Moreover, it is predicted that the ocean can sustainably provide six times more food than it does today through sustainable management and technological innovation<sup>6</sup>. In addition, research<sup>7</sup> has shown that restoring and protecting the world's large marine ecosystems would not only result in a healthier ocean, with associated positive impacts for coastal communities and livelihoods but also transform several maritime sectors resulting in significant opportunities for new jobs<sup>8</sup>, requiring new skills.

In several maritime sectors were identified advances<sup>9</sup> with the potential to deliver 'win-win solutions', i.e., strengthening economic development while at the same time supporting ecosystem preservation and restoration. Delivering such win-win solutions across all maritime sectors will require the establishment of new businesses, new business models, and the use of direct and indirect government support to change ocean business, in some cases incremental, but in others, transformative. Based on research, knowledge, and data, ocean industries and SMEs can drive the innovation needed to

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<sup>4</sup> United Nations Global Compact Blue Resilience Brief: Towards a more resilient and sustainable blue economy opportunities for science-industry joint action and collaboration. Sustainable Ocean Business Action Platform <https://ungc-communications-assets.s3.amazonaws.com/docs/publications/Towards-a-More-Resilient-and-Sustainable-Blue-Economy.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Konar, M. & Ding, H. A Sustainable Ocean Economy for 2050: Approximating Its Benefits and Costs (World Resources Institute, 2020).

<sup>6</sup> Costello, C., L. Cao, S. Gelcich et al. 2019 The Future of Food from the Sea. Washington, DC: World Resources Institute.

<sup>7</sup> Hudson, A. (2017) Restoring and Protecting the world's large marine ecosystems: An engine for job creation and sustainable economic development. Environmental Development 22: 150-155 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envdev.2016.10.003>

<sup>8</sup> Hudson, A. (2017) Restoring and Protecting the world's large marine ecosystems: An engine for job creation and sustainable economic development. Environmental Development 22: 150-155 <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.envdev.2016.10.003>

<sup>9</sup> OECD (2019), Rethinking Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean Economy, OECD Publishing, Paris, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264311053-en>

address the grand challenges of climate change, biodiversity loss, and post-pandemic recovery, and meet the Green Deal targets. Digitalization, technological and nature-based solutions, knowledge-based governance and decision-making systems, social innovation, Open Science, equitable access to Findable Accessible Interoperable and Reusable (FAIR) data, enhanced Ocean Literacy, and engagement of citizens are further essential components to fast-track the transition to climate-neutral and sustainable practices.

Cooperation for the Implementation of Smart Specialization Strategies (RIS) represents a key opportunity, not only to prioritise regional research and innovation investments in blue economy sectors, but also to promote interregional partnerships and blue economy value chains across borders.

RIS can be considered as a starting point for understanding the specialisation and the development trajectory envisioned by each region, and whether the region would be relevant for innovations or becoming specific demonstration sites developing the required technologies or innovations needed.

The impact of the pandemic has triggered the need to accelerate the speed and scale of the twin green and digital transitions to enable the transformation of the blue economy.

However, to pursue this transformation, several bottlenecks need to be addressed. Policy responsibilities, R&I disciplines, and industrial sectors are often compartmentalised or siloed. This issue is common at all levels: global, EU, national and local. These silos discourage cooperation across socioeconomic sectors and disciplines and ultimately prevent the provision of knowledge for “green” development of, and transformation to, and evidence and knowledge-based blue economy<sup>10</sup>. Other shortcomings are policy disconnects resulting in a lack of harmonised definitions, results, and frameworks around ecosystem services, thus limiting their contributions to the valuation of services and measurements of the impacts of interventions. In the case of the Ecosystem Approach

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<sup>10</sup> European Commission, Directorate-General for Research and Innovation, LAB – FAB – APP: Investing in the European future we want: report of the independent High-Level Group on maximising the impact of EU research & innovation programmes, Publications Office, 2017, <https://data.europa.eu/doi/10.2777/403189>

to Management (EAM), a planning procedure that integrates the management of human activities and their institutions with the knowledge of the functioning of ecosystems (as defined in CBD (2000)<sup>11</sup>), overcoming the knowledge fragmentation across maritime/marine sectors as well as social disciplines, is fundamental for its full implementation, including as a guiding principle for environmental strategies as formulated in the relevant EU legislation.

It is reasonable that a large portion of the planned €800 billion investments planned by the EC over the next decade<sup>12</sup> will be devoted to innovative, more sustainable, smart marine and maritime infrastructures, including ports, offshore platforms, vessels, aquaculture farms, and energy production platforms. EU Member-States (MS) and Associated Countries (AC) have their socio-political priorities and accordingly often specific for their R&I investments. For instance, in the EU, more than 85% of the investments in research, development & innovation are provided at national level. In 2010, EU MS agreed to increase their total R&D spending to 3% of GDP by 2020, a target that has been reaffirmed in 2021<sup>13</sup>. This has not been achieved, but the alignment of public R&I funding can at least maximise the impact of the investments and contribute significantly to strengthening a functioning and high-performing European Research Area (ERA).

The first Joint Co-funded Call within the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership is entitled “The way forward: a thriving sustainable blue economy for a brighter future” and encompasses all the five Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Intervention Areas (IAs) declined for this call in five priority areas as follows:

- (1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level*
- (2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy*
- (3) Climate neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed*

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<sup>11</sup> Conference of the Parties – Convention on Biological Diversity, CBD-COP 5 Decision V/6 (2000), A (1).

<sup>12</sup> [www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-recovery-idUSKCN2DD3XQ](https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-recovery-idUSKCN2DD3XQ) and The EU's 2021-2027 long-term Budget and NextGenerationEU April 2021, ISBN 978-92-76-30627-6 doi:10.2761/808559.

<sup>13</sup> COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION (EU) 2021/2122 of 26 November 2021 on a Pact for Research and Innovation in Europe.

*(4) Green transition of Blue Food production*

*(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basins and the Atlantic Ocean.*

These priority areas were selected to maximise participation while reinforcing the European blue economy through improved resilience of marine ecosystems, thus maximising the impact potential of funded projects. The priority areas embrace actionable routes from science to policy to observe, assess and mitigate the impact on vital ecological assets such as biodiversity and other ecosystem services on which our economies depend, thus supporting coastal communities.

## 3.0 JOINT CALL DESCRIPTION

### 3.1 Requirements

Projects in this call must be impact-driven contributions to the transformation into a blue economy for a more resilient future and towards carbon neutrality targets, following an impact pathway approach (see section 3.3 – Impact of the proposals, and Annex A).

A fundamental requirement for all projects is to establish close cross-sectorial cooperation in the science, innovation, and economic sectors. Stakeholder engagement in the research projects will be positively evaluated to enhance innovation, policy, and societal relevance and ultimately, to increase the impact of the projects.

Projects need to be developed in agreement with the different EU policies described in the Background of the Joint Call (1.0).

The projects will be developed at a pan-European level and in the different European Sea basins: the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, the Baltic Sea, the North Sea and the Atlantic Ocean. At the regional level, complementarities and synergies with the lighthouses of the Mission “Restore our Oceans and waters” will be requested mainly on the valorisation of the outcomes of the projects. The users of the outcomes should be identified in the application and involved from the outset.

## 3.2 Five priority areas in the same call

Overall, 36 funding organisations from 23 countries in addition to the European Commission will finance the different priority areas (see Table 1 in 4.2, and Annex B). Every proposal needs to be formed by a consortium consisting of partners from a minimum of three independent legal entities from three different countries participating in the call, whilst meeting National/regional eligibility criteria for each relevant funding organisation. In addition, self-funded partners including partners from countries (and/or regions) not participating in the call are allowed but do not contribute to the minimum eligible consortium size.

All the impact-oriented priority areas address transversal issues and point to the need for multidisciplinary approaches, involving actors from research – including, where appropriate, social sciences and humanities – and innovation (public and private sectors) to policymakers and citizens of the relevant communities. The actual consortium composition can vary in the number of different types of actors involved and must be tuned to the specific project objectives. A broad and strong project consortium will give leverage to increase the impact of the research and innovation project and the uptake of its outputs in marine-related policies. The further desired outcomes would then be that a project contributes significantly to a sustainable productive blue economy, that is carbon neutral and with minimal negative impacts. Relevant ocean literacy measures will be assessed as the other proposed actions to increase outcomes of the projects such as mobility, training, capacity building, knowledge transfer etc.

The priority areas are described below, including key areas for inclusion in project proposals and examples to guide the applicants.

### 3.2.1 Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level

Innovative support for planning and managing Marine Spatial Planning (MSP) sea uses, here below called 'MSP initiative', aims to resolve conflicting uses, and to minimise the respective impacts on marine ecosystems, notably through the removal of unexploded chemical and conventional munitions. The objective is to promote a new approach with

the integration of the national and/or local initiatives at the regional sea-basin between the different bordering countries, including the evolution of coastal environments.

The relevant scale of the MSP initiative must be well-defined and justified. It will have to be co-designed with competent local authorities from regional and national structures of different countries in synergies with existing EU funded projects and the Mission "Restore our Oceans and Waters". Participation of other stakeholders (including private sector and society) will be positively considered following the impact pathway approach (See Annex A). Cross-border cooperation between different countries and close interaction with all relevant sectors at the national level will be mandatory to obtain a consensual integrated MSP at the basin or sub-basin scale. The projects will need to reflect on previous local MSP developed in the area.

**All the regional sea-basins and the Atlantic Ocean are concerned by this priority area** to develop and sustainably manage marine and maritime industries. The targeted research questions to be explored in the project formulation are presented hereafter. **A project needs, as a minimum, to address one or more of the following points including a multi-actor approach:**

- Changing environmental scenarios, co-designed with the relevant authorities, about climate change, that address the effects of e.g., sea level rise, and the changing risks of coastal flooding will be proposed. The time horizon should not be less than the next 50 years with an application at the local level of (/downscaling from) International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) scenarios. The respective impacts of extreme events, erosion, sedimentation, subsidence, etc., on human activities, will be forecasted to be integrated into the MSP initiative. The consequences of future changes in nutrient inputs to the maritime area will be analysed in regards with the future applicable regulations of the EU Common Agricultural Policy (CAP). Expected trends in the relevant freshwater hydrological regimes such as the increase of droughts related to climate change are important elements, for which the changes in ecosystem productivity of estuaries and coastal areas, should be addressed. These cumulative impacts will include changes of inputs from the watershed to the coastal zone;
- Each country is planning, following the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, to increase the surface of its Marine Protected Areas (MPA) with a target of 30% of its marine area

protected<sup>14</sup> including 10% with a high level of protection. The identification of the biodiversity hotspots to be protected is the main issue. For continental European coasts, integrated approaches need to be promoted in the same region between the different national MPAs and the other competing uses in the area. These are conditions to achieve efficient conservation of marine and coastal biodiversity avoiding harmful uses in, but also at the vicinity of the MPAs;

- Previous studies have demonstrated that the connectivity of MPAs is an important element to maintain genetic diversity and to include all the stages of the life history of sessile species such as spawning grounds, nurseries, etc. The MSP initiative should address how ecological corridors between different MPAs could be proposed to maintain genetic diversity to achieve biodiversity conservation. All the targets to maintain and restore marine and coastal biodiversity should be integrated, at the proper scale, in the MSP initiative;

- All MSP initiative activities in sea basins will take account of the sectoral aspects of marine and maritime space management: fisheries management, aquaculture zone, navigation, sediment removal, offshore wind farms, oil and gas extraction, internet cables, munition deposit zone etc. The development of such activities in these coastal zones, such as industries, harbours, coastal cities, tourism, recreation, MPAs, terrestrial aquaculture, and agriculture effects etc., have to be estimated and evaluated with their potential impacts and quality requirements. The legacies of past impacts and their long-term effects on coastal environments in association with the possible future of these activities have to be considered in development scenarios. Therefore, industrial plants and their associated impacts (e.g. dumping sites) must not be ignored;

- Space-based remote sensing tools, offering global observations homogeneously over Europe on a regular basis, enhance the ability of coastal-resource managers to keep pace with increasing population pressure on coastal resources and improve climate change adaptation strategies. Remote sensing techniques allow assessments that are

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<sup>14</sup> Stated in the Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Biodiversity Conference CBD-COP15 – Montreal 2022.

impossible to do with traditional methods. It is recommended to use satellite data (i.e.: Copernicus programme) for this priority area;

- It is recommended that the MSP initiative contributes to the development of new Decision Support Tools (DSTs), including socio-economical components, making them amenable for transfer to competent authorities of different countries, for their use. They could be developed on the base of existing DSTs with updates on biodiversity conservation through MPAs, development of offshore wind farms and integration of climate change impact such as Sea Level Rise and erosion... DSTs are aimed to facilitate interaction and decision-making with the stakeholders, policymakers and all the actors and citizens of the area using *inter alia* foresight scenarios at the relevant regional/international scale.

### **3.2.2 Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy**

Increasing the development of multi-use structures from the sea surface to the sub-seabed could deliver synergistic benefits for the different uses including industrial sectors. About the increasing demand for space, for activities and functions at sea, multi-use infrastructures and multi-use spatial concepts are promoted. At the same time, the risk of conflicts and negative environmental effects needs to be minimised. Cross-sectoral scientific, industrial, and technological innovation and cooperation should contribute to advancing innovations in this area.

**All the regional sea basins are concerned by this priority area to develop marine and maritime industries.**

Connection with the Mission “Restore our Oceans and Waters” call on the Lighthouse in the Baltic and the North Sea basins will be established by planning joint actions with projects funded by the Mission to increase synergies and avoid duplication. The projects will be complementary to the Clean Energy Transition Partnership (CETP) focused on high TRL technologies but for a single source of energy.

The exhaustion or reduced production of petroleum or gas reservoirs induces a decommissioning or repurposing of existing platforms in parallel with the accelerating



green energy transition that includes a strong expansion of offshore energy development in different countries.

- Offshore multi-use platforms are likely to have as consequences the limitation of some activities in the nearby area, with, e.g., trawling for fisheries and the creation of No Take Zones (NTZ). The function of such zones could be "Marine Protected Areas", or areas where Nature-Based solutions such as artificial reefs or the creation of spawning areas or nurseries for fish, can be proposed to increase biodiversity. The combination of active economic use with natural and ecological functions including ecosystem services will be promoted. The project must comply with the EU "Do no significant harm" principle (DNSH).

**A project needs, as a minimum, to address one or more of the following points including a multi-actor approach:**

- Innovation and technological development of multi-use structures, with a focus on the primary function and the possible associated uses/functions including a sustainability approach on the materials along with the conceptual approach: reduce, recycle, reuse and resistance to extreme environmental conditions;
- The increase of fixed or floated constructions to harvest marine renewable energy sources such as wind, waves, currents etc., and their possible integration/coordination with floating systems for photovoltaic or other renewable production systems and storage solutions;
- The combination of marine renewable energy constructions with hydrogen (or other energy carrier substances) production, transport and storage;
- The modification of existing offshore platforms, or the combination of new ones combined with aquaculture facilities as well as fish, shellfish and seaweed facilities such as cages or long lines;
- The combination of marine renewable energy constructions with offshore structures to produce freshwater by desalination of seawater, with means to minimize the impact on the marine ecosystem and identification of their advantages with coastal ones including the socioeconomical aspects;

- Effects of the offshore industries, such as the release of contaminants, or underwater noise and light pollution, must be considered for associated aquaculture development and biodiversity conservation. Integrated models of the environmental conditions and the interactions between the different uses should be suitable to support decision-makers and industry and to propose options to reduce the different impacts;
- Based on economical mutual benefits studies, a win-win approach of the co-uses, including economical mutual benefits, could be developed in collaboration with industry and relevant policymakers;
- In conjunction, the social acceptance and proposed solutions to solve competition or conflicts between the different users of the multi-use platforms or their surroundings will be important components to succeed in the multi-uses offshore platform development;
- The development should include the provision of input for the future innovative legal framework including permitting processes and how this can reflect the elaborated innovations.

### **3.2.3 Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed**

The 'Blue Food', or food and feed from the sea, targets the sustainable management of ocean bioresources to produce environmentally sustainable, high-quality, resilient and climate-neutral seafood, including feed for blue food production<sup>15</sup>. The projects must be in agreement with the objectives of Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork Strategy and Circular economy action plan under the umbrella of the EU Green Deal. It will focus on three issues:

- (i) The reduction of bycatch, discards, and processing waste, and how value can be created from unavoidable biomass side streams, to increase the efficiency and circularity of aquaculture and fisheries;

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<sup>15</sup> In line with the objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity, UN Biodiversity Conference CBD-COP15 – Montreal 2022.

(ii) The exploration of the potential of low trophic level species in fisheries and aquaculture for blue food and feed purposes such as algae, shellfish, molluscs etc.

(iii) Increasing the supply of blue food by utilising a larger proportion of fish catches from fisheries and aquaculture for human consumption and by utilising new sustainable marine resources, such as algae.

**This thematic area is open to projects in different geographical locations of the different sea-basins and the Atlantic Ocean either with a pan-European and/or with a specific sea-basin perspective.**

**A project needs, as a minimum, to address one or more of the following points including a multi-actor approach:**

- All possible approaches to avoid or drastically reduce bycatch and discards can be considered. Projects should benefit from the analysis of previous successes or failures to reduce them, to avoid the fishing of undersized and non-commercial or protected species. Projects could address the development of innovative fishing gears and fisheries technologies such as attraction with baits, light..., keeping in mind the need to reduce the fisheries' carbon footprint (fuel consumption) and to help minimise fishing impacts on marine biodiversity and habitat destruction;
- Development of innovative new products and technologies with low energy consumption to increase the sustainable supply of food production. They will include the utilisation of side streams and residues from fish processing industries as well as unwanted wastes bycatch and discards, the use of low-value fish species and algae for innovative use for healthy and sustainable food and feed for human consumption with production of high-value products;
- Harvesting and cultivation of a wide range of low trophic marine species provide an opportunity for increased sustainable production of Blue Food and feed. Projects could address generic issues or sea-basin-specific issues for such production. Environmental sustainability, provision of services for climate mitigation and adaptation, and ecosystems or reduction of carbon footprints are expected outcomes of the projects;
- As the mesopelagic ecosystem is facing increasing fishing pressure, there is a need to propose a sustainability approach. It is important to promote studies focusing on

ecological-based and assessment of the limits of the possible exploitation of this part of the marine ecosystem. Such innovative studies should provide an understanding of the productivity of low-trophic level marine species which is a prerequisite to recommend the potential level of management to develop a sustainable activity. The counterexample of unsustainable deep-sea fisheries should be avoided.

- Before exploring an eventual exploitation of the mesopelagic ecosystem, it is important:

(i) to increase our knowledge of the biological characteristics (growth, reproduction, spawning behaviour etc.) and ecosystem functioning (trophic position, role in carbon pumping to the deep ocean) of potential mesopelagic potential resources, and;

(ii) to assess the possible sustainability of mesopelagic fisheries from the biological, ecological, and socio-economical perspectives, including backup studies where necessary.

### 3.2.4 Green transition of Blue Food production

The 'green transition of Blue Food production' priority area targets the objectives of Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), Biodiversity Strategy, Farm to Fork Strategy and Circular economy action plan. It is focused on technological, digital, smart, and just transition of the seafood sector to a sustainable, high quality and climate-neutral one. Key elements are the Internet of Things (IoT), Big Data, predictive analyses, automation, robotics and artificial intelligence.

There is a need for close knowledge, research, technological and innovation gaps of new as well as existing and promising solutions to boost the sustainability and viability of Blue Food production. As food production is more and more consumer-driven there is a growing demand to buy local fresh products from small producers and small scale fisheries and particular attention must be done to evaluating their way to increase their carbon efficiency and maintain coastal communities.

**This thematic area is open to projects in different geographical locations of the different sea-basins and the Atlantic Ocean** with a pan-European and/or a sea-basin-specific perspective. **A project needs, as a minimum, to address one or more of the following points including a multi-actor approach:**

- Research projects need to be developed by, or in close cooperation with the private sector. A focus on the refinement or the development of new innovative solutions for production processes in sustainable and integrated aquaculture and fisheries value chains while increasing food quality, carbon neutrality and potential development in light of the ongoing climate change are expected. Methods to ensure traceability of fisheries and aquaculture products to answer the consumer request. Particular attention will be brought on small scale fisheries to remain efficient and develop their competitiveness;
- The development of new technological and energy smart innovations (e.g. increase of fuel efficiency, alternative fuels etc.) in the fishing and aquaculture production which are the most energy and fuel-consuming (such as trawling and recirculation aquaculture systems) including the co-planning and acceptance of such innovations by entrepreneurs and by consumers;
- The development of new solutions to facilitate the energy transition in small-scale coastal fisheries;
- The analysis of the life cycle of the processes to reduce carbon footprint in fisheries and aquaculture;
- The assessment of the reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> capture by the seabed caused by demersal fishing gears through resuspension of mineralised seabed sediment and disturbance of benthic biodiversity;
- The promotion of digital and space-based solutions to contribute to enhancing fisheries sustainability and reduce overfishing; The development of digital solutions can also be promoted in aquaculture to optimize the production system, reduce energy consumption and carbon footprint;
- Socio-economic effects of the proposed innovations and their social acceptance by the actors from aquaculture and fisheries, and also by the citizens.

### 3.2.5 Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean

Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases will be developed at the sub-sea-basin scale to assess the state and health of the marine coastal systems and their ecosystems, the impacts of human activities and interventions, under different scenarios, thereby providing support to decision making processes and policies implementation. They should rely on existing data, assimilate data flows into AI or modelling capacities to produce directly usable information and knowledge. They should therefore consider other larger scale initiatives from other European actions and in particular the “Restore our Ocean and Waters” Mission’s Digital Twin Ocean<sup>16</sup>. Identification of data gaps should be performed to better understand relevant ecosystems functioning and forecasting their state and evolution. An assessment of their contribution to the capabilities of the twin(s) should be included. Projects should help to define digital solutions responding to existing needs (e.g. EU policy needs, climate change related scenarios, environmental or policy impacts assessment) for information from the different stakeholders. It should illustrate how scientific innovation and technologies can address knowledge gaps for future Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership calls. Cross-sea-basins exchange will be welcome to share knowledge and processes on DTO.

This call is contributing to the objectives of the Mission “Restore our Oceans and Waters” It is focused on studied area which could be associated to the mission lighthouses with a thematic and geographical definition, at the relevant time scales, the identification of data available and the creation of sea-basin database. The definition of modelling suites for ocean state, ocean health and ecosystem functioning, to support the development of evolution scenarios, to be co-designed with stakeholders, policymakers, and citizens.

**This priority area is open to proposals in different geographical locations of the different sea basins, including the Atlantic Ocean, either with a pan-European and/or a sea-**

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<sup>16</sup> [https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/restore-our-ocean-and-waters/european-digital-twin-ocean-european-dto\\_en](https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe/eu-missions-horizon-europe/restore-our-ocean-and-waters/european-digital-twin-ocean-european-dto_en)

**basin-specific perspective. Proposals must provide clear problem statements of the issues the proposed DTO use case should help solving. Proposals should rely on EU programmes and initiatives (e.g. Copernicus, EMODnet, EU DTO) but should go beyond and avoid duplication with the Copernicus Marine Service or other operational services.**

**Proposals should address some of the following points, with a multi-actor approach:**

- Actions dedicated to the initial development of DTO use cases at a sub-sea-basin scale. The implementations are selected according to the current coverage of data and information for the proposed (sub-)sea-basin and/or coastal areas. It will include the availability of existing data: oceanographic, detailed bathymetry, information about marine species with fisheries stocks, ecological data and biodiversity species, impact of human activities, etc... Availability of data on appropriate spatial and temporal scales should be considered;
- Existing data collection and representation: Analysis of the existing information, quality control and data management including format. Building of a regional database. Discovery of patterns in data analyses via data processing and analytics. Retrieve most important parameters and supporting data (collect for example of physical parameters e.g. provided by the Copernicus Marine Service and downscaling them) combine data and coupling issues with integrated multidisciplinary models and estimate probability distributions;
- Identification of gaps in data, propose of a new monitoring scheme with new or existing sensors;
- Ecological/Ecosystem Modelling: Analysis of the existing ecological / ecosystem models, intercomparison between existing models, selection and demonstration of sets of coherent and suitable models, for use in the next following call on the implementation of the regional/ local DTO use cases;
- DTO, will also contribute to assess potential impacts of the environmental scenarios on the economy and society of the sub-sea-basin and/or coastal region: possible societal and economic benefits for sea-based economic activities;
- DTO use cases development in the regional sea-basin should support the lighthouses of the Mission "Restore our Oceans and Waters by 2030", and should seek to contribute to

its EU core DTO (with data, models and/or services). Synergies with other relevant digital twin pilots, such as those in the ILIAD project<sup>17</sup>, should be pursued, avoiding duplication over regions of thematic interest. The actions should be complementary and/or contribute to EMODnet and similar national or regional initiatives. Duplication with Copernicus Marine Services and other operational services should be avoided. Observations should also contribute to the European Ocean Observation System (EOOS);

- Function of the location and the regional issues of the DTO use cases, request to make connections with the partnership Water4All, to consider for input (water flows and nutrients) from the watershed will be recommended and with the lighthouses of the Mission "Restore our Oceans and Waters";

- Propose scenarios demonstration to assess short-term consequences of current decisions and policies implementation (7-12 years) as well as long-term (e.g. 30/50 years) forecasting models will propose scenarios for evolutions/changes to estimate potential impacts of climate change, such as sea level rise, or changes in sediment load and hydrodynamics and seafloor evolution. DTO use cases addressing adapted measures for risk reduction and resilience of direct use by managers, policymakers, industries, and citizens should be proposed.

### 3.3 Impact of the proposals

With Horizon Europe, the EC Members-States and Associated Countries want to generate impact-driven R&I projects and to create significant societal and environmental impacts. In line with this perspective, it is requested to include a plan that describes what impact the research is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts defined for the call:

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<sup>17</sup> <https://www.ocean-twin.eu/>



- *the potential for impact beyond the academic world, such as in societal, technical, environmental, economic, policy-making, or behavioural realms.*
- *how relevant stakeholders can be involved in, and/or benefit from, the design and achievement of the research project.*
- *to what extent the project addresses the uptake of research findings into decision-making processes and policymaking.*
- *how approaches for achieving impact are integrated into the research design and conducted by the consortium.*

One way to make such a plan is to establish a methodology of Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) to describe the research process, mentioning well-specified outputs and outcomes. Please refer to the [Annex A: THEORY OF CHANGE](#), for more information on how to set up a Theory of Change, as well as to a workshop from the Dutch Research Council (NWO), which is freely accessible: <https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan>.

The integration of the above elements will be considered in the evaluation of the proposals. In particular, it will be considered whether the proposal ensures that the project consortium, in its composition, sufficiently reflects the project's stated aims in relation to output, outcome and impact creation, *i.e.*, that its initial Theory of Change is realistic and achievable by the consortium partners.

## 4.0 CALL STRUCTURE

### 4.1 Participating countries

A total of 37 Funding Organisations (FOs) from 24 countries (19 Member-States and 4 Associated Countries and 1 Non-EU country) have agreed to launch the first Joint Call for R&I proposals. The list of countries are as follows: Belgium, Brazil, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania,

Malta, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, The Netherlands, and Türkiye.

## **4.2 Financial commitment**

A total of approx. 50 million Euros have been provisionally allocated for this Joint Transnational Call by the participating FOs with the support of the EU (Table 1). These funds will be used for R&I activities carried out by researchers, institutions, and companies according to the funding rules and legal frameworks of their respective FOs (Annex B).

Partners applying in a consortium cannot request more than the maximum amount stated by the FO from which they seek funding in Annex B of the national/regional regulations to this Call Announcement.

Table 1. Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Funding organisations: priority areas and indicative budget

Country	Funding organisation	Priority Areas					Indicative Budget
		Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level	Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy	Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed	Green transition of Blue Food production	Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean	
Belgium	BELSPO <i>Belgian Science Policy Office</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Belgium	FIO/VLAIO <i>Fonds innoveren en ondernemen</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Belgium	F.R.S.-FNRS <i>Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique</i>	×	×	×	×	×	300 000 €
Belgium	FWO <i>The Research Foundation – Flanders</i>	×	×	×	×	×	700 000 €
Brazil	CONFAP* <i>Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies</i>	×	×	×	×	×	840 000€
Cyprus	RIF <i>Research and Innovation Foundation</i>	×	×	×	×	×	2 000 000 €

Denmark	IFD <i>Innovation Fund Denmark</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Estonia	ETAG <i>Estonian Research Council</i>			×	×	×	100 000 € (100.000 € if project partner 150.000 € if project coordinator)
Estonia	KEM <i>Estonian Ministry of the Environment</i>			×		×	150 000 €
Estonia	MEM <i>Ministry of Rural Affairs of the Republic of Estonia</i>			×	×	×	100 000 €
Faroe Islands	RCFI <i>Research Council Faroe Islands</i>	×	×	×	×	×	135 000 €
Finland	AKA <i>Academy of Finland</i>			×	×		850 000 €
Finland	MMM <i>Ministry of agriculture and forestry</i>			×	×		500 000 €
France	ANR <i>Agence Nationale de la Recherche</i>	×	×	×	×	×	2 000 000 €
Germany	BMBF/PtJ <i>Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) represented by Project Management Jülich,</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 250 000 €

	<i>Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH</i>						
Iceland	<b>RANNIS</b> <i>The Icelandic Centre for Research</i>			×	×	×	800 000€
Ireland	<b>MI</b> <i>Marine Institute</i>	×		×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Italy	<b>MIMIT</b> <i>Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy</i>	×	×	×	×	×	10 000 000 €
Italy	<b>MUR</b> <i>Ministry of Universities and Research</i>	×	×	×	×	×	5 000 000€
Latvia	<b>LCS</b> <i>The Latvian Council of Science</i>	×		×		×	600 000 €
Lithuania	<b>LMT</b> <i>Lietuvos mokslo taryba</i>	×	×	×	×	×	200 000 €
Malta	<b>MCST</b> <i>Malta Council for Science and Technology</i>	×	×	×	×	×	500 000 €
Norway	<b>RCN</b> <i>The Research Council of Norway</i>	×	×	×	×	×	2 900 000 €
Poland	<b>NCBR</b> <i>The National Centre for Research and Development</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Portugal	<b>CCDRC</b> <i>Comissão de Coordenação e</i>	×	×	×	×	×	250 000 €

	<i>Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro</i>						
Portugal	FCT <i>Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia</i>	×	×	×	×	×	500 000 €
Portugal	FRCT <i>Fundo Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia</i>	×			×	×	100 000 €
Romania	MCID <i>Ministerul Cercetarii Inovarii si Digitalizarii</i>	×	×	×	×	×	1 000 000 €
Slovenia	MVZI <i>Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation</i>	×	×	×	×	×	900 000 €
Spain	AEI <i>Agencia Estatal de Investigación</i>	×		×	×	×	1 500 000 €
Spain	CDTI <i>Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico y la Innovación e.p.e.</i>	×	×	×	×	×	400 000 €
Sweden	FORMAS <i>The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning</i>	×	×	×	×		2 000 000 €
Sweden	SNSA <i>Swedish National Space Agency</i>					×	650 000 €
The Netherlands	LNv, IenW, NWO	×	×	×	×	×	1 250 000 €

	<i>Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management Dutch Research Council</i>						
Türkiye	<b>TÜBİTAK</b> <i>The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye</i>	×	×	×	×	×	400 000 €

(\*) CONFAP: Please check the National regulations (Annex B) for details on the Brazilian State Funding Agencies supporting the call

## 4.3 Call process

The Joint Call will be advertised online from the following web pages:

- Online Submission Tool: <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue>
- Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Website: [www.bluepartnership.eu](http://www.bluepartnership.eu)
- RFOs web pages and on the EC Funding & Tenders portal.

The application process consists of two consecutive steps:

### STEP 1

The Consortium Coordinator must submit a pre-proposal on behalf of the consortium, providing key data on the proposed project. The deadline for the submission of the pre-proposal is **14/04/2023, 15.00 CET (Brussels time). Submission of pre-proposals is mandatory**; it is not possible to enter the procedure at a later stage.

### STEP 2

The Consortium Coordinator must submit a full proposal (upon invitation) on behalf of the consortium. The deadline for full proposal submission is **13/09/2023, 15.00 CET (Brussels time). Deadline to be confirmed after Step 1.**

## 4.4 Dates and deadlines

January 2023	Pre-announcement
13 February 2023, 15:00 CET (local time in Brussels)	Official launch – Call Publication
14 April 2023, <b>15.00 CET</b>	Deadline for submission (pre-proposals)
Early-May 2023	First eligibility check by Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) and National Contact Points (NCPs)



Early-July 2023	Results of the pre-proposal evaluation  Invitation to submit full proposals
Early- to mid-July 2023	Period for the redress procedure
Mid-July to early-August 2023	Evaluation of the requests of redress and communication of decisions to the applicants
13 September 2023, 15:00 CET	Deadline for submission (full proposals)
Early-October 2023	Second eligibility check by JCS and NCPs
November 2023	Results of full proposal evaluation (ranked list of proposals)
Early-December 2023	Projects recommended for funding by the Call Steering Committee (CSC)  Communication of results to applicants
Early- to mid-December 2023	Period for the redress procedure
Mid-December 2023 to mid-January 2024	Evaluation of the requests of redress and communication of decisions to the applicants
1 February to 31 May 2024	Start of funded projects
31 January to 30 May 2027	End of funded projects

## 4.5 Confidentiality and conflict of interests

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Funding Organisations are committed to avoid any Conflict of Interests and to safeguard good scientific practice. A Code of Conduct related to Conflict of Interests, confidentiality and non-disclosure is defined and applies to the Call Steering Committee (CSC), independent observer and International Evaluation Committee (IEC). An important aspect of this code is the avoidance of any conflicts between personal interests and the interests of the applicants. The Call Steering Committee (CSC) and related National Contact Points (NCPs), the independent

observer, and the International Evaluation Committee (IEC) will perform their work impartially and take all measures to prevent any situation where the impartial and objective implementation of the work is compromised for reasons involving economic interest, political or national affinity, family or emotional ties or any other shared interest ('conflict of interests').

The following situations will automatically be considered as a conflict of interest:

- Being involved in (the preparation of) any pre- and/or full proposal;
- Having submitted a proposal as a principal investigator or a team member, under the call;
- Being director, trustee or partner or in any way involved in the management of an applicant;
- Being employed or contracted by one of the applicants;
- Having close professional proximity, e.g. being a member of the same scientific institution with a hierarchical or department relation or impending change of the IEC member to the institution of the applicant in a position with a hierarchical or department relation or vice versa;
- Having close family ties (spouse, domestic or non-domestic partner, child, sibling, parent etc.) or other close personal relationship with the applicants of the proposal;
- Having (or have had during the last five years) a close scientific collaboration with an applicant of the proposal;
- Having (or have had) a relationship of scientific rivalry or professional hostility with an applicant of the proposal;
- Having (or have had), a mentor/mentee relationship with a principal investigator of the proposal;
- Having a current or prior (past 5 years) activity in advisory bodies of the applicant's institution, e.g. scientific advisory boards;

- Having direct or indirect benefit if any proposal submitted is accepted or rejected;
- Having personal economic interests in the funding decision. Other situations preventing the IEC members or reviewers to participate in the evaluation impartially could be considered a conflict of interest and should be reported as such by the IEC members.

Applicants included in a (pre-)proposal submitted to this call (including all the team members) may not serve as IEC members.

At the implementation level, the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Consortium partners that might apply to the co-funded calls are completely excluded from the work of call preparation, selection and projects' follow-up and monitoring. All related information is kept non-accessible to these Consortium members. In that way, the possibility for research units belonging to these organisations to participate in Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership calls for proposals is safeguarded. To ensure complete transparency and inform the recipients of calls, the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Consortium partners that may apply to the co-funded calls are explicitly listed in Annex C, emphasizing their absolute extraneousness to the process of preparing the calls both in terms of defining the priority areas of the call and the procedures for evaluating and selecting project proposals. Concrete measures to avoid potential Conflicts of Interest or unequal treatment of applicants are ensured.

## **4.6 Publishable information**

A list of the funded projects will be published at the end of the call process (once the projects have been selected) on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Website. Therefore, applicants should be aware that the following information from the proposals may be published by the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and the Funding organisations for promotional purposes: (1) Project Title and Project Acronym, (2) Publishable abstract, (3) Duration of the project, (4) Total costs and total funding of the research project, (5) Organisation name and country of each partner, (6) Name of the Project Coordinator.

Each of the funding organisations will subsequently handle projects approved for funding. Projects approved for funding will be governed by the confidentiality rules in the national law of the funding organisations.

## 4.7 Privacy policy

By submitting the application, the Consortium Coordinator and partners agree to the use, to the share (for specific purposes: e.g., evaluation, for the future nomination of experts, Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership-specific communication) and the storage of projects-related information according to the Privacy Policy and the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Further information on the Privacy Policy is presented on the Online Submission Tool (<https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue>).

## 5.0 ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

When applying to this call, the applicants must be aware that their project (pre-) proposals must meet both (i) general eligibility criteria, summarized in Table 2, and (ii) national/regional eligibility criteria (Annex B).

A (pre-)proposal that does not fulfil all the general eligibility criteria will be declined without any further review.

Each partner involved in the project will be funded by its national/regional funding organisations. The consortium must therefore also comply with all the relevant national/regional eligibility rules (Annex B). It is particularly important to note that some funding organisations may require the submission of national documents in addition to the international (pre-)proposal. Besides, a national/regional funding bodies may not fund all types of organisations.

If the partner acting as the consortium coordinator is not eligible, the whole proposal will be considered ineligible and will not be evaluated.

If any other partner (not applicable to the coordinator) is declared ineligible:

- the ineligible partner could participate in the consortium as a self-funded partner
- the others partners could engage themselves to cover the tasks of the ineligible partner
- the ineligible partner could be replaced by another partner from a country with an undersubscription ratio; the list of the countries with undersubscription ratio will be provided to coordinators invited to submit a full proposal at the end of the first step selection process.

Any change in the consortium composition must conform to the general eligibility criteria defined in 5.1 and be validated by the relevant funding organisations.

Before applying, each and every partner should verify their corresponding national/regional regulations and checked their eligibility with their National contact points (NCPs). The Consortium Coordinator should verify that all partners of the consortium verified their eligibility.

National contact points will provide support about national/regional rules and requirements (Annex B).

(Pre-)proposals that fulfil all requirements *i.e.* general eligibility criteria and all relevant national/regional eligibility criteria, will enter the evaluation process described in 7.0. The Joint Call Secretariat (JCS) on behalf of the Call Steering Committee (CSC), will communicate the results of the eligibility check and the decisions taken to the coordinator of each consortium.

### **Particular case of beneficiaries of Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership' participating to R&I call for proposals:**

Research teams of some beneficiaries of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership may participate in this co-funded call; the list of the beneficiaries of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership allowed to participate in the projects' consortia is indicated in Annex C. For those beneficiaries, firewall measures have been foreseen to mitigate the risk of, perception of, or de facto conflict of interest or unequal treatment of applicants, including clear segregation of duties. All other beneficiaries of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership may not apply for funding under the co-funded call for proposals.

## 5.1 General eligibility criteria

The general eligibility criteria are described in Table 2. (Pre-)proposals that do not meet all these criteria will be considered ineligible and thus will not be considered for funding.

Table 2. General Eligibility Criteria

<b>Scope</b>	<p>(Pre-)proposals must address <b>one main priority area</b>.</p> <p>It is not compulsory to address all sub-themes within the priority area.</p>
<b>Consortium composition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Each consortium must be composed of <b>eligible partners from at least three different countries participating in the call and requesting support from at least three different funding organisations participating in the call</b>.</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Specific requirements regarding self-funded partners, i.e. partners that do not require funding:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>Self-funded partners must demonstrate the willingness to self-fund their own activities or show evidence that others partners are willing to fund their activities;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>A letter of intent/commitment must be submitted with the full proposal at stage 2;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>A self-funded partner cannot act as the consortium coordinator;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>Self-funded partners are not counted for the minimum requirement of eligible partners and countries.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Consortium coordinator</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <i>In each (pre-)proposal, one entity must act as the consortium coordinator;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The consortium coordinator must be eligible for funding by a funding organisation of this call;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The consortium coordinator has the responsibility for submitting the (pre-)proposal;</i></li> <li>➤ <i>The principal investigator (PI) of the entity acting as consortium coordinator must be employed by an eligible organisation in</i></li> </ul>

	<p>one of the countries participating in the call according to the terms and conditions of the participating funding organisation from which he/she applies for support;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The PI of an entity can act as consortium coordinator only in one proposal.</li> </ul>
<b>Requested funding</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Partners from the same country cannot request more than 60% of the total funding requested by a proposal.</li> </ul>
<b>Duration</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The international R&amp;I project must be 36 months.</li> </ul> <p>The start date and end date of the researcher groups within the consortium must be aligned as far as possible.</p>
<b>(Pre-) proposal submission</b>	<p>A two-stage process will apply, with a mandatory submission of pre-proposals at the first stage and submission of full proposals at the second stage.</p> <p>(Pre-) proposals must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ be written in English</li> <li>➤ be submitted electronically with the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS) before the set deadlines at <a href="https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue">https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue</a></li> <li>➤ Instructions for electronic submission will be available on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership website at <a href="http://www.bluepartnership.eu">http://www.bluepartnership.eu</a> in February 2023.</li> <li>➤ be complete, respect page limits and the number/type of attachments allowed, including CV templates that are in line with sound principles for research assessment according to the (pre-)proposals forms (Annexes D-E) and Guidelines for applicants (<a href="http://www.bluepartnership.eu">http://www.bluepartnership.eu</a>)</li> </ul>

## 5.2 National/regional eligibility criteria

In addition to the general eligibility criteria, each project partner must ensure that his/her contribution to the overall project conforms to:

- *Where applicable, relevance of the (pre-)proposal to the priority areas funded by national/regional funding organisations;*
- *Compliance with national/regional funding eligibility criteria and regulations as reported in the document “National/Regional Regulations” available on the 2023 Joint Transnational Call website and/or on the funding organisations’ websites;*
- *Compliance with limits to budget requests;*
- *Where requested by the national funding organisation, submission of additional national documents in accordance with national rules.*

The table in Annex B describes important restrictions related to each national/regional regulation.

## 5.3 Recommendations for the applicants

All partners within a consortium should take into consideration the following recommendations for setting up their project (pre-)proposals:

### Scope

- *(Pre-)proposals should go beyond the state of the art by providing high-quality R&I and, when appropriate, make use of innovative technologies, approaches, and concepts to do so;*
- *(Pre-) proposals should be scientifically excellent and relevant to policies framed under Blue Economy and consider ongoing research activities funded by other EU Missions, instruments, programmes, or projects. Cooperation with these activities is of high importance to avoid redundancy, favour complementarity and increase synergies;*
- *(Pre-)proposals should contribute to cross-cutting themes such as the open data policy, development of capacity-building activities and ocean literacy activities, promote the inclusion of young people in the activities and knowledge transfer, follow*



partnership communication guidelines using a common visual identity, to promote equal opportunities for participation of women and men in the research consortia and comply with EC ethics self-assessment principles;

- (Pre-) proposals are strongly encouraged to cover a broad geographic scale (i.e., more than one sub-sea basin). Projects are expected to consider several EU sea basins or, at least, to consider the impact of the projects on several EU sea basins.

### **Consortium composition**

- All (pre-)proposals are encouraged to consider geographical balance and implementation in appropriate geographic settings and according to the objectives of the proposal, including in low- and middle-income countries/regions, and less-performing countries;
- Participation of legal entities from countries (and/or regions) not participating in the call, at the entities' own expense, is welcome;
- Project partners that are not eligible for funding may participate at their own expense or if they have their own separate source of funding;
- It is strongly encouraged to involve stakeholders (i.e., small, and medium enterprises (SMEs), industries, authorities, public administrations, associations, as well as civil society organisations) as partners or self-funded partners. The modalities of participation of stakeholders are defined in the national/regional eligibility criteria. Stakeholder engagement in the research projects will enhance innovation, policy, and societal relevance and ultimately the impact of the projects;
- All proposals should integrate the gender dimension <sup>18</sup> of R&I activities;
- Every partner in a (pre-)proposal, including a self-funded partner, needs a Participant Identification Code (PIC) from the EC to be included in the submission. The applicants must check their PIC or ask for the creation of a PIC well in advance of the submission<sup>19</sup>. The same request applies to subcontractants.

<sup>18</sup>[https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/GEPs\\_in\\_HE\\_guidelines.pdf](https://erc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/document/file/GEPs_in_HE_guidelines.pdf)

<sup>19</sup> 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programmes/procurements. If needed, one can apply for a temporary PIC at:

### Budget

- *There is no specific limit of the total budget for proposals;*
- *The requested total budget of proposals is only limited by the number of eligible partners and by the budget of each partner. **Please consider the national regulations of each research funding organisation about the specific budget limitations.***

### Data management

Please note that you will be requested to produce data management plans and regularly update them in the course of the project. The guide in Annex F "OPEN ACCESS AND FAIR DATA" presents the core requirements for the establishment of a DMP and the expectations at the stages of (pre-)proposals, and awarded projects.

## 5.4 Ethical issues

The Joint Call will include the evaluation of compliance with relevant ethical criteria. Applicants should always describe any relevant ethical aspects in their research plans. If a research permit or a statement by an ethics committee is required for the implementation of the project, applicants should provide information on the permits or permit proposals.

Researchers are required to adhere to the principles of good scientific practice and to follow the European Code of Conduct for Research Integrity by ALLEA (All European

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<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register>. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available at <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search>. We suggest validating the PICs via the public available Partner Search – Organisation Profile service. This allows to fill out some requested data inputs automatically, which is less error-prone and provides a much better user experience. <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/apis>

Academies)<sup>20</sup> and the Global Code of Conduct for Research in Resource-Poor Settings<sup>21</sup>. Projects must comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"<sup>22</sup>.

Any proposal which seems to contravene fundamental ethical principles will not be selected and may be excluded from the selection procedure by the IEC. Judgment of the significance of ethical issues will be made by using the criteria published by the Commission in its guidelines on How to Complete your Ethics Self-Assessment<sup>23</sup>.

## 6.0 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

### 6.1 Submission procedure

A two-stage procedure will apply to this Joint Transnational Call; at stage 1 the submission of pre-proposals is mandatory, and at stage 2, applicants must submit full proposals upon invitation.

(Pre-)proposals must be submitted electronically using the Electronic Proposal Submission System (EPSS): <https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue>.

Instructions for electronic submission will be available on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership website at <https://www.bluepartnership.eu/> in February 2023.

For any technical questions regarding the submission procedure using the EPSS, please contact the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Joint Call Secretariat: [sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr).

Please note that:

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<sup>20</sup> <https://allea.org/code-of-conduct/>

<sup>21</sup> <https://www.globalcodeofconduct.org/>

<sup>22</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/support/faq/15485>

<sup>23</sup>Link:[https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf)

- The online system may experience high traffic volumes in the last hours before the submission deadline and it is therefore highly recommended to submit the final version of the pre / full proposal well in advance of the deadline to avoid any last-minute technical problems;
- The submission system will close at 15:00 CET of the deadline date set for both Stage 1 and Stage 2. Please note that the joint call secretariat can only ensure responses to email support requests up to noon CET;
- Requests for extensions of the deadline due to last-minute technical problems will not be considered. Any proposals not correctly submitted at this moment will be declared ineligible;
- All complete proposals will be submitted automatically when the platform closes, to avoid a situation where an applicant does not have time to click on the submit button. In this situation, the proposal will be evaluated as it stands;
- Some partners of the consortia may also be required to submit an application to their respective national/regional funding organisations. Please consult the national/regional regulations (Annex B) and contact the designated NCPs, for further information about the procedures to follow.

### **6.1.1 Stage 1: Submission of a Pre-Proposal (mandatory stage)**

Applicants must submit Pre-Proposals, it is not possible to enter the procedure at a later stage. Applicants must submit any national documentation required by each participating funding organisation according to national rules.

A pre-proposal eligibility check will be carried out both at the international level (by the Joint Call Secretariat, based on the general eligibility rules) and the national/regional level according to the funding organisations' rules. The eligible pre-proposals will be sent to the scientific evaluation.

#### **Submission on the EPSS:**

- The consortium coordinator (PI) creates an account on the EPSS (<https://proposals.etag.ee/sustainable-blue>);

- *The consortium coordinator can enter, edit and save the electronic forms, add partners to the consortium, upload the project description (5 pages), the required budget for each partner and submit the proposal. Partners can enter and edit their own data only. Each partner must connect itself to the EPSS before the submission deadline, to validate its participation with the project consortium;*
- *All information must be written in English. The proposal is a self-contained document. Links and hyperlinks are not allowed;*
- *Information entered or uploaded on the platform can be updated until the submission deadline;*
- *It is very important to note that the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. It is not possible to change the content of the project between stage 1 and stage 2.*

If applicants have successfully passed the first stage (eligibility checks and evaluation), they will be invited to submit a full proposal at stage 2.

### **6.1.2 Stage 2: submission of a full proposal (only for invited applicants)**

Only invited applicants can submit full proposals: information (in English) on the project consortia, a **16-page description** of the project and the required budget for each partner must be submitted on the EPSS.

All rules described in stage 1 apply to stage 2.

Applicants should note the important following information:

- **Information on the core data (e.g. funding requested or institutions) cannot be changed in full proposals**, unless explicitly requested by evaluators, by a funding organisation or by the Call Steering Committee (CSC);
- In addition, as indicated in Stage 1, **the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed** by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals;
- **Minor changes may be possible to improve your proposal if the objectives remain unchanged.** Applicants must explicitly indicate in their full proposal the changes made as compared to the pre-proposals;

- **Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed.** They, however, must comply with the general rules of the call and the rules of the relevant funding organisations. Any request for changes must be addressed by email to the JCS and the NCPs and will be reviewed by all funding organisations involved in the proposal;
- **Minor changes to the budget** must be allowed by the relevant funding organisation;
- Regarding changes in the composition of the consortium: **no change will be allowed, except in case of force majeure** or if explicitly requested by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) for the particular cases of i) ineligibility of a partner and/or ii) invitation to add partner from a country with an undersubscription ratio; the list of the countries with undersubscription ratio will be provided to coordinators invited to submit a full proposal at the end of the first step selection process. The request for the change must be submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline set for the submission of full proposals, it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the call steering committee.

Please indicate the acronym of your project when you contact the Joint Call Secretariat and/or your NCP.

## 7.0 EVALUATION OF PROPOSALS

A two-stage evaluation procedure will apply at both Stage 1 (for the pre-proposals evaluation) and Stage 2 (for the full proposal evaluation).

### 7.1 The International Evaluation Committee (IEC)

The Call Steering Committee (CSC) will establish an international evaluation committee (IEC). The composition of evaluation committees will consider the gender and geographical balance.

The IEC will comprise international scientific experts from the relevant research areas and experts in ethics.

The IEC composition should allow covering, as far as possible, the range of priority areas of the present call.

IEC members will have to sign a confidentiality, non-disclosure and conflict of interest policy and will have to declare all their potential conflicts of interest with submitted pre-proposals at Stage 1 and with submitted full-proposals at Stage 2. The JCS will also check that no conflict of interest exists concerning the proposals evaluated.

IEC members cannot be applicants in the joint call and cannot evaluate proposals with which they declared a conflict of interest, to ensure a fair evaluation process and equal treatment of applicants. The IEC will be headed by a Chair. The Chair will be a regular member of the IEC with the added duties of moderating the IEC meeting and conveying the results of the discussions to the CSC. The Chair and Vice-Chair of the IEC will be selected from a country not represented within the CSC to avoid as much as possible conflicts of interest. Members take part in the IEC as independent experts and do not represent any organisation nor can they send any replacements. This means that their work on this Committee does not represent any organisation or nation.

For each proposal, one of the IEC members will be nominated as a rapporteur and another two as evaluators. They must assess the proposal, in advance of the IEC panel meeting and prepare a draft common Evaluation Summary Report (ESR). Details about the assessment criteria and scoring of proposals are detailed in 7.3.

During the panel meeting, the evaluation results for each full proposal will be presented by the rapporteur. The IEC will discuss the proposals and establish the final ranking of pre- and full proposals based on the set of criteria defined.

In Step 2, the IEC meeting will complete the evaluation procedure, agreeing on the final individual score for each criterion and the overall score for each proposal. An independent expert will be invited as an independent observer to the IEC meeting to assess the conformity of the general procedure.

The decisions of the IEC should be taken collectively, preferably by consensus or by a simple majority of the panel members in case consensus cannot be reached. The IEC will produce a final score and a final Evaluation Summary Report for each proposal, which will be transmitted to the applicants.

## 7.2 Evaluation procedures

### **Stage 1 (pre-proposals)**

#### **1. Eligibility checks**

Pre-proposals will be checked for eligibility at both the international level by the Joint Call Secretariat (see criteria defined in 5.1) and at the national/regional level by the relevant funding organisations according to their national/regional criteria (see national/regional regulations; Annex B).

#### **2. Scientific Evaluation**

The eligible pre-proposals will be sent for scientific evaluation that will be carried out by at least three independent reviewers of the International Evaluation Committee (IEC) who will be assigned by matching expert's profiles with the need for pre-proposals evaluation.

**The evaluation of each pre-proposal will be based on the following criteria:**

- **Excellence (Threshold: 3/5)**
- **Impact (Threshold: 3/5)**

**A ranking list of pre-proposals will be produced, including only pre-proposals that meet the minimum threshold, i.e., 3 out of 5 in each criterion.**

#### **3. Decision**

The final score will be calculated by summing up the calculated average scores of the two criteria given by the independent experts (from the IEC) for each criterion.

This first stage aims to identify the best proposals to proceed to stage 2 and to ensure a balance between requested and available funds at the national level. The eligible pre-proposals will be divided into 3 groups, according to their scores:



<b>Group A (highest evaluation scores)</b>	<b>Group B (medium evaluation scores)</b>	<b>Group C (low evaluation scores)</b>
All pre-proposals in Group A, if funds are available, will be invited to stage 2	Among the pre-proposals in Group B, proposals will be selected to stage 2, taking into account the ranking list, the representativeness of all RFOs and the oversubscription ratio.	Pre-proposals in Group C will be dismissed for their low ranking and unavailability of funding

Consortium coordinators will be informed of the outcomes by the JCS and, if appropriate, invited to submit a full proposal on the EPSS as well as any national documentation required by each participating Funding organisation according to national rules.

## **Stage 2. (full proposals)**

### **1. Eligibility checks**

After the submission deadline for full proposals, the submitted full proposals will be checked (by the JCS, and NCPs) to ensure that they meet the eligibility criteria and have not changed substantially from the respective pre-proposals. Full proposals not meeting the formal conditions will be rejected without further review.

### **2. Scientific evaluation**

All full proposals will be subject to a scientific evaluation by at least three independent reviewers of the International Evaluation Committee (IEC) based **on three criteria**:

- **Excellence (Threshold: 3/5)**
- **Impact (Threshold: 3/5)**
- **Quality and efficiency of implementation (Threshold: 3/5)**

The JCS will produce a preliminary ranking list of the full proposals based on scores calculated with the same methodology used for pre-proposals in stage 1 (first averaging the scores per criterion and, afterwards, summing up the averages).

**The threshold on the final score is 10/15: no project with a lower score will be funded.**

A ranked list of proposals will be produced based on the final scores.

### **3. Decision**

The final ranking list will be forwarded to the CSC which will meet to decide on the projects to be recommended for funding by FOs.

For this decision, the CSC will consider the order of the ranking list from the IEC and the funding availability.

The projects with the same final scores will be prioritised by the CSC taking into consideration the following principles. The CSC can decide how to use these principles providing that they are used uniformly for all proposals:

- *Maximizing the total number of projects funded and thus optimizing the amount of EC financial support to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership call;*
- *Maximizing the number of countries/regions involved in the projects funded;*
- *Ensuring a balance between sea-basins involved in the projects funded;*
- *Assuring a good balance between different priority areas of the call;*
- *Promoting the allocation of the EC financial support pro rata, based on the actual contributions of the RFOs involved in the proposals;*

Official letters on evaluation results will be sent to Consortium coordinators.

## 7.3 Evaluation criteria and scoring system

The evaluation criteria (and sub-criteria) used by the IEC are summarised in the table below.

Table 3: Evaluation criteria

<b>Excellence (Stages 1 and 2)</b>	<b>Impact (Stages 1 and 2)</b>	<b>Quality and efficiency of implementation (Stage 2 only)</b>
<b>Threshold: 3/5</b>	<b>Threshold: 3/5</b>	<b>Threshold: 3/5</b>
<p><b>Fit to the scope:</b> clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives to the call priority areas</p> <p>Is there adequacy between the proposal's objectives and research questions and the thematic priorities of the present call?</p> <p><b>Novelty of research</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art</li> <li>- To what extent does the proposed activity suggest and explore creative, original concepts?</li> <li>- Is the proposal contributing to and/or increasing the advancement of its field and</li> </ul>	<p><b>The credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the call text, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions to the project.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the plan for impact clear and does it follow logically from the expected results of the project?</li> <li>- Is it suitably ambitious with regards to solving the problem addressed?</li> <li>- Is there a strategic impact on reinforcing competitiveness and/or on solving societal or environmental problems at the European and</li> </ul>	<p><b>Quality and effectiveness of the work plan, assessment of risks, appropriateness of the effort assigned to work packages, and the resources overall.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the proposed organization and management of the scientific project effective and efficient?</li> <li>- Are the management structures and procedures, including risk and innovation management, appropriate?</li> <li>- Are the resources assigned to the work packages in line with</li> </ul>

<p>across different fields?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal contribute to scientific excellence and significant progress toward the state of the art?</li> <li>- Does the proposal take scientific and/or technological risk? (Please comment...)</li> <li>- Does the proposal have a potential breakthrough despite this risk-taking?</li> </ul> <p><b>Addressing the knowledge gaps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are the methodology and research design clear, feasible and suitable to answer the identified knowledge gaps and/or achieve the proposed objectives?</li> </ul> <p><b>Are risks properly identified and managed?</b></p> <p><b>Soundness of the proposed methodology</b>, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, inter-disciplinary approaches,</p>	<p>international levels?</p> <p><b>Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts</b>, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are there feasible exploitation and dissemination plans of the scientific project results (including management and IPR)</li> <li>- Are the expected results or the knowledge acquired of importance for economic/ societal sectors and economic development?</li> <li>- Is there a clear communication plan?</li> </ul> <p><b>The added value of European transnational cooperation and networking</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Does the proposal</li> </ul>	<p>their objectives and deliverables?</p> <p><b>Capacity and role of each participant, and the extent to which the consortium brings together the necessary expertise.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Are participants in the proposal well-suited to the tasks assigned to them (necessary expertise)?</li> <li>- Is their role well-defined and do they complement each other well?</li> <li>- Are tasks well balanced among partners?</li> </ul> <p><b>Appropriateness of the partners and justification of the resources to be committed (budget, staff, equipment ...)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Is the estimated effort/allocation of resources appropriate?</li> <li>- Is it ensured that all</li> </ul>
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appropriate consideration of the ethical issues according to the EU "Do no significant harm" principle (DNSH), gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.	identify the right actors to make successful use of the results possible? - Is there are clear plan for interactions with /exchange and transfer of results within the consortium, to stakeholders or society?	participants have a valid role and adequate resources in the project to fulfil that role? - Do the work and financial plans plus the schedule show prospects for success? - Is there a balance of scientific and financial contributions from respective countries' partners?
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Individual scores will be attributed only to the three main criteria, even though the IEC experts will evaluate all sub-criteria described in Table 3.

Each criterion will be scored out of 5 (no half marks allowed) based on the following scoring system. The threshold for each criterion is 3 out of 5.

Any project with a lower score for one of the criteria or an overall score lower than 10 at Stage 2 will not be considered for funding.

Evaluators will identify strengths and weaknesses (if any) and provide context for their comments based on the application, *i.e.*, evaluators will be asked to score (pre-) proposals as they were submitted, rather than on their potential if certain changes were to be made. When an evaluator identifies substantial shortcomings, he/she must reflect this by awarding a lower score for the criterion concerned. There should be consistency between the numerical scores and written comments.

**Table 4 – Scoring system**

**0 – LIMITED** - The (pre) proposal fails to address the criterion or cannot be assessed due to missing or incomplete information.

**1 – POOR** - The criterion is inadequately addressed, or there are serious inherent weaknesses.

**2 - FAIR** - The (pre-)proposal broadly addresses the criterion, but there are significant weaknesses.

**3 – GOOD** - The (pre-)proposal addresses the criterion well, but several shortcomings are present.

**4 – VERY GOOD** - The (pre-)proposal addresses the criterion very well, but a small number of shortcomings are present.

**5 – EXCELLENT** - The (pre-)proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion. Any shortcomings are minor.

## 7.4 Funding decision

The choice of transnational projects to be funded will then be taken by the CSC strictly following the ranking list and in accordance with budgetary considerations.

Final funding decisions are made by the participating Funding organisations.

## 7.5 Redress procedure

Applicants can challenge the evaluation outcome if they suspect a breach in the application of the evaluation and selection procedures. This redress procedure only covers the procedural aspects of the evaluation and/or eligibility checks, including the national eligibility checks. The redress will not call into question the scientific or technical judgement of appropriately qualified experts.

In this case, they shall submit their request for redress to the Joint Call Secretariat ([sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr)) via email, up to 14 calendar days after the date of dispatch of the evaluation outcome email by the joint call secretariat at the end of each stage (first or second stage). The (pre-)proposal outcome email containing the

results of the evaluation will give information on the redress procedure, which is described below.

### **Admissibility of requests for redress**

For a request for redress to be admissible the following conditions must be met:

- *The request for redress must be submitted by the coordinator of the (pre-)proposal to which the request for redress relates*
- *Only one request for redress per (pre-)proposal will be considered*
- *The request for redress must be addressed to the IEC Chair*
- *The request for redress must be submitted via email within the 14 calendar days deadline. The request for redress must contain the following minimum information:*
  - *The name of the call for (pre-)proposals;*
  - *The (pre-)proposal number;*
  - *The title of the (pre-)proposal;*
  - *A description of the alleged shortcomings of the evaluation procedure.*

The request for redress must demonstrate a procedural irregularity, factual error, manifest error of assessment, misuse of powers, or a conflict of interests. Requests for redress that do not meet the above conditions do not deal with the evaluation of a specific (pre-)proposal or express mere disagreement with the result or the reasoning of the evaluation might be judged as not suitable for redress.

### **Procedure**

Upon receipt of a request for redress, an acknowledgement of receipt will be sent by the joint call secretariat within 7 calendar days. The acknowledgement shall report the redress process and the anticipated date by which a decision on the request for redress will be communicated to the coordinator of the (pre-)proposal.

All requests for redress received by the 14 calendar days deadline will be processed together and the decision will be communicated to the coordinator of the (pre-)proposal within 14 calendar days from the deadline for submitting the requests for redress.

The IEC Chair will establish an internal redress committee chaired by the IEC Chair and comprised of the Independent Observer, and one representative of the consortium. The role of the redress committee is to evaluate the requests for redress according to the

procedure, ensuring fair and equal treatment of applicants, with the support of the JCS (or the Chair of the Call Steering Committee) and one representative per research funding organisation concerned by the proposals requesting a redress procedure, if needed. The Committee will provide its opinion on the implementation of the evaluation procedure, based on the available information related to the proposal and its evaluation, and will make a recommendation to the IEC Chair, who is in charge of deciding, except for national eligibility.

A negative national eligibility check of a research funding organization cannot be overruled by the IEC Chair. Requests for redress on national eligibility decisions will be assessed by the RFO responsible for the national eligibility check, which will justify its decision to the Chair, to prove that national funding rules listed in the call text have been applied correctly.

For Stage 1: Pre-proposals which were originally considered ineligible or not admissible to submit a full proposal, but which the IEC Chair found to be eligible will be allowed to participate in Stage 2. This will not lead to a change in the deadline for the full proposal submission.

For Stage 2: The redress procedure may lead to a re-evaluation of all or part of the proposal by independent experts not involved in the previous evaluation or to the confirmation of the initial evaluation.

A re-evaluation will only be carried out if the request for redress shows that the selection procedure was flawed by a breach which affects the evaluation outcome and the final decision on whether to fund a proposal. This means, for example, that a problem relating to one evaluation criterion will not lead to a re-evaluation if the proposal has failed anyway on another criterion or if even by adding the maximum points for this criterion, the final score remains below the funding threshold.

The score following any re-evaluation will be regarded as definitive. It may be lower than the original score.

All requests for redress will be treated in confidence and will not prejudice future applications.



## 8.0 PROJECT FUNDING AND REPORT

### 8.1 Contractual relationships

This Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership call is a collaboration between funding organisations with the aim of establishing transnational research collaboration. The contracts with project partners are in the responsibility of the national/regional funding organisations.

Because of the fragmented nature of the funding, care will be taken to ensure that the individual contracts are synchronised both in time and content so that the project consortium can deliver transnational outputs as described in the project proposal. The national/regional research funding organisations must ensure that common Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership conditions are met (e.g., the common start date of a given project, reporting requirements etc.).

For the whole duration of the contract, it is the responsibility of the Project Coordinator to inform the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership consortium about any changes in the project, *i.e.*, modifications of the work plan, the project consortium, or the contract. The communication should be transmitted through the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Monitoring Group and approved by the JCS.

Any financial issue is under the responsibility of each national/regional funding organisation involved in the approved project.

### 8.2 Consortium Agreement

All project partners are required to sign a Consortium Agreement (CA) before the official project start or in any case no later than three months after the project start. The CA should address matters on the management of project activities, finances, Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and how to avoid and solve disputes which might be detrimental to the completion of the project. It will be the responsibility of the project coordinators to draw up a CA suitable for their own group.

Upon request, the CA must be made available to the national or regional research funding organisation(s), together with any other information required by national or regional regulations. Funding organisations might require the CA to release the funds.

Support for the preparation of a consortium agreement can be found on the DESCA webpage <http://www.desca-2020-eu>.

## 8.3 Project monitoring and reporting

Funded projects will be required to submit via the project coordinator a mid-term report and a final report on research and activity progress (submission procedure will be specified at the kick-off of the projects). Some research funding organisations may request additional specific reports.

The funded projects must be completed within a maximum of three years and are considered to be part of an international research programme (Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership) for which some joint activities will be organised, in particular:

- a Kick-Off meeting, at the beginning of the funding period (approx. Spring 2024), to explain objectives and expected results;
- a mid-term meeting (approx. Autumn 2025) to present and discuss the mid-term reports, preliminary results, and future work;
- a final meeting (approx. Spring 2027), to present and disseminate the project results and main outcomes.

The coordinators (at least) of the funded projects are expected to actively engage to these three joint activities. Accordingly, the cost for attendance to the physical meetings should be foreseen in their proposals' budget.

The objectives of these joint activities are the monitoring of the projects funded through the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and the provision of networking and future collaboration opportunities. When possible, the meetings will be organised back-to-back with other relevant workshops/events.

Besides this, on behalf of the consortium, the project coordinator will be required to submit two written progress reports (mid-term and final). All consortium partners will have

to deliver input for these reports. the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership will provide a template for this task.

Funding recipients must ensure that all outcomes (publications, etc.) of transnational Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership projects include a proper acknowledgement of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership. All the publications resulting from funded projects must be published in adherence to the EC Open Science Policy (see Annex F).

## **8.4 Dissemination requirements**

Dissemination of project outputs is obligatory and is the responsibility of the funded project partners. Detailed plans for dissemination of the results must be described in the proposals and are considered in the evaluation procedure. This can be organised in the form of various communication routes such as scientific papers, posters, course or training material, web-based tools, stakeholder involvement, workshops, or direct intervention towards end users. Dissemination to national end-users is necessary for all partner countries. A dissemination plan will be requested for the full proposal and should specify how the planned activities will contribute to the impact of the project.

Further, the project partners must acknowledge the transnational funding of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership under Horizon Europe and the individual national/regional funding organisations in any document that is published (in written, oral, or electronic form) within the research project.

## **9.0 LIST OF ANNEXES**

- 9.1 ANNEX A – Theory of change**
- 9.2 ANNEX B – National Contact Points (NCP) and national/regional funding regulations**
- 9.3 ANNEX C - List of the beneficiaries of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership allowed to participate in R&I projects' consortia**
- 9.4 ANNEX D\_Pre-Proposal form**
- 9.5 ANNEX E\_Full proposal form**
- 9.6 ANNEX F\_Open Access and Fair Data**

## CONTACT

[sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr](mailto:sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr)

[WWW.BLUEPARTNERSHIP.EU](http://WWW.BLUEPARTNERSHIP.EU)



Sustainable Blue  
Economy Partnership

## ANNEX A – THEORY OF CHANGE

With Horizon Europe the EC and members and associated countries want to generate impact-driven R&I projects and to create significant societal and environmental impacts. In line with this perspective, it is requested to include a plan that describes what impact the R&I project, either driven by academia or industry, is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts defined for the call:

- *the potential for impact beyond the academic world, such as in societal, technical, environmental, economic, policy-making, or behavioural realms.*
- *how relevant stakeholders can be involved in, and/or benefit from, the design and achievement of the R&I project.*
- *to what extent the project addresses the uptake of research findings and innovative outputs into decision-making processes and policy-making.*
- *how approaches for achieving impact are integrated into the R&I design and conducted by the consortium.*

To better consider these different aspects, it is requested to include a plan that describes what impact the R&I process is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts defined for the call. One way to make such a plan is to establish a methodology of Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) in order to describe the research process, mentioning well-specified outputs and outcomes. See below a summary with further information on the Theory of Change, as well as freely accessible online workshop proposed by the Dutch Research Council (NWO): <https://impact.nwo.nl/en/working-with-an-impact-plan>.

The integration of the above elements will be considered in the evaluation of the proposals. In particular, it will be considered whether the proposal ensures that the project consortium, in its composition, sufficiently reflects the project's stated aims in relation to output, outcome and impact creation, *i.e.* that its initial Theory of Change is realistic and achievable by the consortium partners.

A training session will also be organized at the beginning of the funded projects (back-to-back to the kick-off meeting) to exchange best practices related to Theory of Change principles.

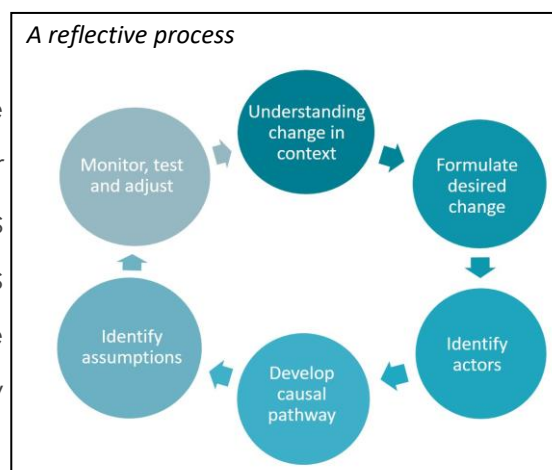
### Using a theory of change:

A Theory of Change is a logical framework that can be used as a tool to write a good R&I proposal that is aimed at societal impact (see box 1 for a schematic overview). It describes how the research and innovation process can contribute to societal/economic/environmental change, taking into account the context, and all actors involved and describing the sequence of logically linked consequential relations. There are two parts:

The *Problem Analysis* where a joint effort with research partners as well as stakeholders allows for making explicit which (and whose) problem is being tackled and how the desired change is perceived to happen through research efforts. You start by clearly defining the societal problem and the desired impact. Next, the causes are discussed and the knowledge gaps are identified. This part should form a logical chain to the project, hypotheses, methodology and work plan.

The *Impact Pathway* is the visualisation of the change process following research execution as described in the Theory of Change. It makes explicit how the research activities will lead to results (output) and how the exchange of knowledge and the uptake of research output will contribute to desired changes in behaviour, relationships, actions and activities of partners and stakeholders (outcome) that are considered essential to achieving the desired impact.

Any projections on expected change will of course be based on a myriad of *assumptions*, which can differ from person to person, between organizations or groups and even over time. Making assumptions explicit helps to create a shared vision and documenting these assumptions allows for reflection on whether and how expected pathways to impact remain adequate.



Given its construction based on logical-linked outputs and outcomes, a Theory of Change is also used as part of the monitoring, evaluation and learning trajectory.

An important element are productive interactions: Exchanges between researchers and stakeholders in which knowledge is produced and valued that is both scientifically robust and socially relevant. No change can be made without exchanging information AND people acting on that information. Interactions can be direct/personal, indirect or financial. The quantity as well as quality of the productive interactions forms an indicator for the potential for societal impact. Examples of productive interactions are:

- Co-design: formulation of research questions and approaches jointly with potential end-users;
- Co-creation: joint execution of research projects with stakeholders and interactive dialogue on research results.

A Strategic Activity Planning spells out how the proposed productive interactions contribute to achieving outcomes. Outputs do not automatically lead to outcomes; thus strategies are needed of the research consortium to plan and monitor how their efforts will enhance the potential for outcomes. This planning should include specific activities for:

- *Stakeholder engagement: Who are the relevant stakeholders to engage with according to context analysis, how are the productive interactions organised and when?;*
- *Communication strategy: How are engagement dialogues organised and results exchanged and translated, and whose responsibility is it?;*
- *Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning: How are results of activities monitored and evaluated, such that assumptions can be tested and activities adjusted accordingly and whose responsibility is it?;*
- *Capacity strengthening: How are required capacities (of consortium partners and stakeholders) strengthened in order to achieve the outcomes, how is this organised and whose responsibility is it?*



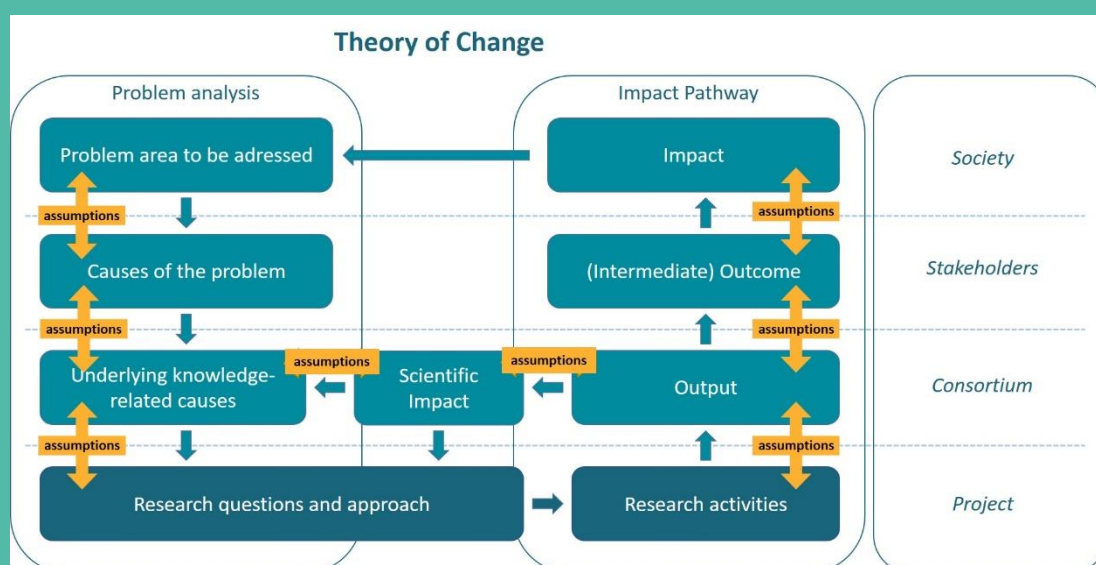
- A Risk assessment entails a description of potential risks for the successful execution of your project and options for handling or mitigating these risks.

#### Box 1: Defining Output, outcome and impact

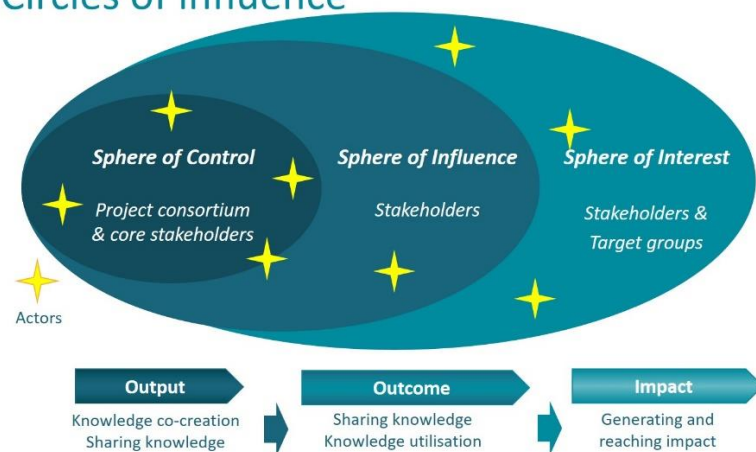
Research & innovation outputs relate to the direct and immediate insights obtained by a research project or programme.

Research & innovation outcomes relate to the changes in behaviour, relationships, actions, or activities of stakeholders because of sharing and uptake of research. This starts during the project but continues after the end of the project.

Research & innovation impact is defined as changes in economic, environmental, and social conditions that a project or programme is aiming at. The actual impact is often long after the project ends.



## Circles of influence



## ANNEX B. NATIONAL CONTACT POINTS (NCP) AND NATIONAL/REGIONAL FUNDING REGULATIONS

Table summarizing the different editions of this document, including the changes made within each version

VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGES MADE
V0	13/02/23	N/A
V1	15/02/23	Removal of the Watermark text «Confidential»
V2	03/03/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ROMANIA/MCID: useful link added <a href="https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/p3-cooperare-europeana-si-internationala">https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/p3-cooperare-europeana-si-internationala</a></li> <li>- PORTUGAL/FCT: update of Additional eligibility criteria; the sentence “<u>Important notice</u>: <b>FCT funds strategic (basic) research and applied research only. TRL levels from 1 to 8</b>” was deleted.</li> <li>- ITALY/MUR: correction of the NCP email address: <a href="mailto:aldo.covello@mur.gov.it">aldo.covello@mur.gov.it</a></li> <li>- Addition of BRAZIL/CONFAP regulations</li> <li>- NORWAY/RCN: update of the national contact points</li> <li>- LATVIA/LCS: update of funded priority areas and update of the national contact points</li> </ul>
V3	10/03/23	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BRAZIL/CONFAP: update of (1) the overall budget, (2) the budget and number of projects of FAPESC, and addition of the participation of FAPDF</li> <li>- SWEDEN/FORMAS: update of the national contact point</li> <li>- ITALY/MUR: update of the funding contribution to the call</li> </ul>



<b>V4</b>	<b>21/03/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- BRAZIL/CONFAP: update of the overall budget, and addition of the participation of FAPERN and FAPEAL</li> <li>- FRANCE/ANR: update of the ANR website link</li> </ul>
<b>V5</b>	<b>03/04/23</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- ESTONIA/KEM: update of the national contact point</li> <li>- ITALY/MIMIT: update of the national contact point</li> <li>-PORTUGAL/FCT: update of «useful link» and «additional information» section</li> </ul>

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# 1. BELGIUM – BELSPO


	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.belspo.be">www.belspo.be</a>	<b>Belgian Science Policy Office (BELSPO)</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Koen Lefever David Cox	<a href="mailto:koen.lefever@belspo.be">koen.lefever@belspo.be</a> +32 2 238 35 51 <a href="mailto:david.cox@belspo.be">david.cox@belspo.be</a> +32 2 238 34 03
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.000.000 €	Max 275.000 €/partner
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	The whole Belgian scientific community: universities, colleges of higher education, public scientific institutions, and non-profit research centres. European and foreign organisations established in Belgium are not eligible.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Applicants affiliated to an eligible institution.	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<b>Staff:</b> Pre-tax wages associated with increases in the cost of living, employers' social security and statutory insurance contributions, as well as any other compensation or allowance due by law and	

	<p>secondary to the salary itself and tax-free scholarships.</p> <p>The staff costs are limited to a maximum amount of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 4 750 €/month FTE for a technician/bachelor (regardless of years of experience)</li> <li>- 6 700 €/month FTE for a scientist with a Master's degree (regardless of years of experience)</li> <li>- 8 250 €/month FTE for a scientist with a PhD (regardless of years of experience)</li> </ul> <p><b>General operating costs:</b> this includes day-to-day/usual supplies and products for the laboratory, workshop and office, documentation, shipments, use of day-to-day software and IT facilities, organisation of internal meetings, etc.. The budget envelope for this category may not exceed 15% of the staff. The amounts claimed must correspond to actual expenditures strictly related to the project, even if supporting documents are not requested. The institution must keep these invoices in its accounts in the event of an audit.</p> <p><b>Specific operating costs:</b> this includes operating costs specific to the execution of the project tasks, such as costs for project analyses, maintenance and repair of equipment purchased by the project, use of specific IT facilities and software, costs for surveys, open data publications, organisation of workshops and events, etc....</p> <p><b>Overheads:</b> Institutions' general overheads that cover, in one lump sum, administration, telephone, postal, maintenance, heating, lighting, electricity, rent, machine depreciation, and insurance costs. The total amount of this item is set as 5% of the total staff and operating costs.</p> <p><b>Equipment:</b> Purchase and installation of scientific and technical apparatus and instruments, including computer hardware. Equipment needs to be purchased in the first half of the project.</p> <p><b>Subcontracting:</b> Expenses incurred by a third party to carry out tasks or provide services that require special scientific or technical competences outside the institution's normal area of activity. The amount may not exceed 25% of the total budget allocated to the Belgian partner concerned.</p>
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<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Partners must be involved in the research and innovation activities of the project.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	





## 2. BELGIUM – FIO/VLAIO

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.vlaio.be">www.vlaio.be</a>	<b>FIO/VLAIO</b> <b>VLAIO</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Jozef Ghijselen	<a href="mailto:jozef.ghijselen@vlaio.be">jozef.ghijselen@vlaio.be</a> +32 2 432 42 40
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.000.000 €	Min. 25.000 € (experimental development) Min. 100.000 € (industrial research) Max. 1.000.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Organisations other than Flemish companies (incl. research organisations) should be subcontracted to the applicants.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Flemish companies with sufficient economic activities in the region of Flanders, Belgium, only.	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Personnel, overhead, operations, subcontractors, small investments	
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Flemish applicants are required to contact NCP before submission to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership.	



	Core data (company data, economic impact for Flanders, budget details) to be submitted to VLAIO together with pre/full proposal. Costs and activities should fit our programmes of industrial R&D. Sufficient economic impact for Flanders should be demonstrated.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<b>Industrial R&amp;D manual:</b> <a href="https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/668">https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/668</a> <b>Cost model manual:</b> <a href="https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1760">https://www.vlaio.be/nl/media/1760</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>Experimental development:</b> <a href="https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject">https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/ontwikkelingsproject</a> <b>Industrial research:</b> <a href="https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject">https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-financiering/onderzoeksproject</a>
<b>Useful Links</b>	

### 3. BELGIUM – F.R.S.-FNRS

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/">https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/</a>	<b>F.R.S.-FNRS</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Florence Quist	<a href="mailto:international@frs-fnrs.be">international@frs-fnrs.be</a> +32 2 504 9351
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	300.000 €	300.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Universities, public research organisations All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a> (see Annex 1)	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a>	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Personnel costs</li> <li>○ Small equipment</li> <li>○ Operational costs</li> <li>○ Subcontracting</li> </ul> All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a> .	

	<p>Please note that personnel costs (Article III.6) have an annual average cap of 80,000 euros for this call.</p> <p><b><u>“Overhead” is not an eligible cost.</u></b> If the project is selected for funding, these costs will be subject to a separate agreement between the institution of the beneficiary and the F.R.S.-FNRS.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	All eligibility rules and criteria can be found in the <a href="#">PINT-MULTI regulations</a>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p><b>Applicants to F.R.S.-FNRS funding must provide basic administrative data by submitting an administrative application on <a href="#">e-space</a> within 5 working days after the general deadline of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership call to be eligible.</b> Please select the “PINT-MULTI” funding instrument when creating the administrative application. Proposals invited to the second stage will be able to complete the pre-proposal form and provide information for the full proposal upon validation by the F.R.S.-FNRS.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels">https://www.frs-fnrs.be/fr/calendrier-des-appels</a>

## 4. BELGIUM (Flanders) – FWO

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <u>The Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO)</u>	 Opening new horizons
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Toon Monbaliu (general) Kristien Peeters (SBO)	<a href="mailto:europa@fwo.be">europa@fwo.be</a> +32 (0)2 550 15 70 +32 (0)2 550 15 95
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	700.000 €	350.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<p>The FWO <b><u>funds all priority areas</u></b> mentioned in the call text, if they fit the integrated FWO funding channels:</p> <p><b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p> <p><b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b>  <input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	



<p><b>Eligible Institutions</b></p>	<p>The FWO integrates two of its 'national' funding channels within this multilateral framework. The choice of funding channel depends on the <u>type of project</u> (e.g. exploration of basic mechanisms, strong focus on valorisation) the researchers from Flanders wish to undertake.</p> <p>The eligibility of institutions and its researchers can be verified in the relevant and respective chosen funding channels regulations, which can be consulted on the FWO website:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <a href="#">FWO Research Projects (FO)</a></li> <li>- <a href="#">Strategic Basic Research (SBO)</a></li> </ul>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p>See 'Eligible Institutions' above.</p>
<p><b>Eligible Costs</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <i>The respective funding channel regulations apply (see links to national rules above; i.e. FO and SBO)), and both are capped at max. 350.000 EUR per project/consortium (incl. overhead, for which the calculation method diverges per funding channel).</i></li> <li>o <i>The FWO foresees a budget of 700.000 EUR in total, which allows for the funding of at least two projects.</i></li> </ul> <p>For the <u>overhead calculation</u>, the fundamental (FO) and strategic research projects (SBO) entail the same approach:</p> <p>A <u>structural overhead rate</u> should be applied on the project costs, with an overhead rate of <u>6%</u> for 'FO' projects, and a <u>17% overhead rate</u> for 'SBO' projects. Some practical examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o <b>FO:</b> <i>the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 12.000 EUR (6% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested cost is 212.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.</i></li> <li>o <b>SBO:</b> <i>the sum of all costs (personnel, consumables, travel, subcontracting, etc.) amounts to 200.000 EUR, then the overhead will amount to 34.000 EUR (17% of 200.000 EUR) and the total requested</i></li> </ul>

	cost is 234.000 EUR. This total requested cost may never exceed the max. available amount of 350.000 EUR.
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Participation in this call does not interfere with the 'regular' project submission framework, and is consequently not taken into account for calculating the max. available number of new applications and running projects combined. However, <b>researchers can only participate within 2 different international consortia in this call.</b></i></li> <li>○ <b><i>When the FWO <u>SBO project channel</u> is chosen, the researchers are asked to provide proactively, and before the pre-proposal submission deadline (preferably one week in advance), a concise – but to the point – valorisation plan to the FWO (no fixed format, max. two A4-pages), which</i></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i) clarifies the economic and/or societal valorisation context within, and added value for Flanders (and also internationally preferably), and</li> <li>ii) mentions the involved – and specific - actors from Flanders.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>This document can be sent towards the <a href="mailto:europa@fwo.be">europa@fwo.be</a> email address. <u>Failure to comply with this requirement can lead to ineligibility.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <i>Projects aiming at the development of a spin-off company are not eligible in this context.</i></li> <li>○ <i>The project duration is limited to 36 months, which implies the funding has to be budgeted and spent accordingly. An automatic prolongation and using positive (financial) balances after the end date is not applicable in this framework. As such article 28 of the <u>FWO Research Projects</u> and article 14 of the <u>Strategic Basic Research (SBO)</u> regulations do not apply in this context.</i></li> <li>○ <i>The PI, for each of the participating institutions applying for FWO funds, must hold an</i></li> </ul>

	<p>appointment that fully covers the duration of the research project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Linked to the above, and when it comes to the <a href="#">FWO research project regulations (FO)</a>: article 10, §7 is not applicable in this call. I.e. supervisors (-spokespersons), or coordinators/consortium partners in this context, who are granted an emeritus status during the calendar year of submission of the project application, or during the duration of the project, are <b>not eligible</b>.</li> </ul>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	No submission at the national/regional level is required. However, <b>if the SBO funding channel is chosen</b> , a valorisation plan has to be submitted before the pre-proposal submission deadline.
<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>It is strongly advised to contact the FWO contact points mentioned above, in order not to jeopardize any research projects/consortia.</b>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="#">FWO European Programmes</a>



## 5. BRAZIL – CONFAP

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://confap.org.br">confap.org.br</a>	<b>Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies</b>  <small>Conselho Nacional das Fundações Estaduais de Amparo à Pesquisa</small>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	<b>Elisa Natola</b>	<a href="mailto:elisa.confap@gmail.com">elisa.confap@gmail.com</a> +55 61 99613 885
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	€ 840.000,00	Detailed for each participating State Funding Agency - FAP in item below: "Additional Info", indicating within the maximum budget, the maximum number of projects which may be supported (if applicable). Applicants must verify with the funding agency involved, the maximum amount, also in local currency.
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Public or private (non-profit) Higher Education and Research Institutions, Scientific Institutions, Technology	



	and Innovation Institutions, eligible for the involved funding agencies - FAPs.				
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Applicants must have a doctoral or equivalent degree, and be linked to a Research Institution located in Brazilian States participating in the call and have scientific or technological production evaluated by Curriculum (Lattes Curriculum).				
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	As a general rule, Brazilian Funding Agencies finance scholarships, mobility and grants, related to scientific, technological and innovation projects.				
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Applicants must necessarily comply to the specific eligibility rules and financing modalities, which shall be defined and informed by the participating FAPs.				
<b>Relevant documents</b>	Specific Guidelines may be published by the participating FAPs.				
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Brazilian applicants may be supported by the State Funding Agencies - FAPs, participating to the call, listed below.</p> <p>Applicants based in the States participating to the call should firstly consult their respective FAPs.</p> <p>Details on the Brazilian State Funding Agencies supporting the call, including amount of total funding, maximum number of projects (when defined) and contact points in each FAP are detailed below:</p>				
	<b>FAPs</b>	<b>State</b>	<b>Budget Euros</b>	<b>Max. No. of projects within the max. allocated budget</b>	<b>Contacts</b>
1	Fundaçã o Araucária	Paraná	50.000,00	Not defined	Marcio Spinosa Eliane Segati Rios Barbara Taniguti spinosa@fundacaoaraucaria.org.br internacionalizacao@fundacaoaraucaria.org.br barbara@fundacaoaraucaria.org.br
2	FAPEMA	Maranhão	50.000,00	2	Eva Danielle Silva Pedrosa eva.pedrosa@fapema.br convenios@fapema.br
3	FAPERGS	Rio Grande do Sul	50.000,00	1	Daniela Ziani Dec@fapergs.rs.gov.br

4	FAPERJ	Rio de Janeiro	100.000,00	3	Ana Beatriz assessoria.internacional@faperj.br
5	FAPES	Espírito Santo	100.000,00	2	Marcia Calil parcerias@fapes.es.gov.br
6	FAPESB	Bahia	200.000,00	2	Adriele Almeida adriele.almeida@fapesb.ba.gov.br
7	FAPESC	Santa Catarina	100.000,00	2	Pedro Valentim internacional@fapesc.sc.gov.br
8	FAPESQ	Paraíba	20.000,00	1	Hannah de Oliveira Santos Bezerra programas-projetos@fapesq.rpp.br
9	FUNCAP	Ceará	40.000,00	3	Vivian Nobre vivian.nobre@funcap.ce.gov.br
10	FAPDF	Federal District	50.000,00	2	Veridianne Nery veridianne.nery@fap.df.gov.br
11	FAPERN	Rio Grande do Norte	20.000,00	2	Jucirema Ferreira da Silva juciremafapern@gmail.com
12	FAPEAL	Alagoas	60.000,00	2	Antonio Daniel Carvalho pesquisafapeal@gmail.com

Other FAPs may still confirm their support.


<b>Useful Links</b>	Links to the websites of the participating FAPs:
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Fundação Araucária: <a href="http://www.fappr.pr.gov.br">http://www.fappr.pr.gov.br</a></li> <li>2. FAPEMA: <a href="https://www.fapema.br">https://www.fapema.br</a></li> <li>3. FAPERGS: <a href="https://fapergs.rs.gov.br">https://fapergs.rs.gov.br</a></li> <li>4. FAPERJ: <a href="http://www.faperj.br">http://www.faperj.br</a></li> <li>5. FAPES: <a href="http://www.fapes.es.gov.br">www.fapes.es.gov.br</a></li> <li>6. FAPESB: <a href="http://www.fapesb.ba.gov.br">http://www.fapesb.ba.gov.br</a></li> <li>7. FAPESC: <a href="http://www.fapesc.sc.gov.br">www.fapesc.sc.gov.br</a></li> <li>8. FAPESQ: <a href="http://fapesq.rpp.br">http://fapesq.rpp.br</a></li> <li>9. FUNCAP: <a href="https://www.funcap.ce.gov.br">https://www.funcap.ce.gov.br</a></li> <li>10. FAPDF: <a href="https://www.fap.df.gov.br">https://www.fap.df.gov.br</a></li> <li>11. FAPERN: <a href="http://www.fapern.rn.gov.br">http://www.fapern.rn.gov.br</a></li> <li>12. FAPEAL: <a href="https://www.fapeal.br">https://www.fapeal.br</a></li> </ol>

## 6. CYPRUS – RIF

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.research.org.cy/">https://www.research.org.cy/</a>	<b>Research and Innovation Foundation</b>  <b>RESEARCH &amp; INNOVATION FOUNDATION</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Anna Maria Christororou	<a href="mailto:amchristoforou@research.org.cy">amchristoforou@research.org.cy</a> +357 22205043
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	2.000.000 €	Maximum funding per awarded project: 250.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Legal entities established and based in the areas, which are under the effective control of the Republic of Cyprus.  Research Organisations, Enterprises (small, medium, large), Other Private Sector Organisations, Other Public and Broader Public Sector Organisations	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	According to RESTART 2016-2020 Workprogramme for the period 05-2022 and 03-2023.	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Research & Development Cost Categories Personnel Cost	



	<p>Costs for Instruments and Equipment</p> <p>Costs for External Services</p> <p>Consumables</p> <p>Other Specific Costs</p> <p>Overheads</p> <p>The calculation of the Proposal Budget will be based on the simplified cost method "Personnel costs plus 40% on Personnel Costs for covering the rest of the Project costs".</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Please check National Regulations at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.research.org.cy">www.research.org.cy</a></p> <p><a href="https://iris.research.org.cy/">https://iris.research.org.cy/</a></p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>Please check National Regulations at:</p> <p><a href="http://www.research.org.cy">www.research.org.cy</a></p> <p><a href="https://iris.research.org.cy/">https://iris.research.org.cy/</a></p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>RPF Website: <a href="http://www.research.org.cy">www.research.org.cy</a></p> <p>IRIS Portal: <a href="https://iris.research.org.cy">https://iris.research.org.cy</a></p>

## 7. DENMARK – IFD

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.innovationsfonden.dk">www.innovationsfonden.dk</a>	<b>Name of the funding organisation</b> <b>Innovation Fund Denmark</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Aila Lonka	<a href="mailto:Aila.lonka@Innofond.dk">Aila.lonka@Innofond.dk</a> +45 6190 5036
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.000.000 €	Maximum funding budget for a Danish partner is € 300,000. If two or more Danish partners participate in a project, the maximum funding budget is € 500,000. Investment rates and conditions vary depending on applicant type (e.g. Enterprise or Public organisation).
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Any legal entity (such as an enterprise, a research institution, or a public institution) in Denmark directly	

	involved in the international project activities, is eligible to participate and receive funding from IFD.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	IFD can fund all types of Danish partners actively participating in the projects.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Eligible cost-categories for Danish partners: Salary, Travel, Subcontracting, Materials, Communication and knowledge sharing, 'Other expenses' and overhead.
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	
<b>Relevant documents</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	All Danish applicants should consult the Danish Rules and Guidelines for International Projects.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="#"><u>Danish Rules and Guidelines for International Projects.</u></a>

## 8. ESTONIA – ETAG

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>	<b>Name of the funding organisation</b>  <b>Estonian Research Council</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Katrin Saar	<a href="mailto:katrin.saar@etag.ee">katrin.saar@etag.ee</a> (+372) 7317386
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	100.000 € if project partner 150.000 € if project coordinator	100.000 € if project partner 150.000 € if project coordinator
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	The project is carried out by consortia, in which various research entities apply for support from national funding organisations. Each participant in a funded project will be funded by their national Funding Organisation. It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow the national eligibility criteria. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible.	



	<p>If a positive financing decision is made, the Host Institution and the Funding Organisation enter into a bilateral agreement.</p> <p><b>The Host Institution</b> could be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia.</p> <p>The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated.</p> <p>The Host Institution must confirm to Estonian Research Council (with a confirmation letter after the submission deadline) that the project can be carried out on their premises and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.</p> <p>If the Host Institution is an undertaking, then State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account.</p> <p>If the support is State aid or de minimis aid, then support will not be granted to a Host Institution who is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.</p> <p><b>If there are more than one Estonian institution applying in one proposal, then all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets national requirements.</b></p>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p><b>The Principal Investigator</b> is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator will be responsible for how the grant is used and how Estonia's part in the project is executed.</p> <p><b>The Principal Investigator:</b></p> <p>1.2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded at the latest by the submission deadline of the grant application;</li> <li>- must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to</li> </ul>

	<p>the proposal submission deadline.<sup>1</sup> International patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another good reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.</p>
Eligible Costs	<p><b>If several Estonian institutions are applying in one proposal, the total requested budget can be still max 100.000 € per proposal or 150 000 € per proposal in case if one Estonian institution is the coordinator.</b></p> <p>Estonian partners will be funded by the Mobilitas programme.</p> <p><b>Budget</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research expenses consist of <b>direct costs</b> (personnel costs, travel costs and other direct costs) and <b>subcontracting costs</b>. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.</li> </ul> <p><b>Direct costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Personnel costs</b> are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.</li> <li>- <b>Travel costs</b> may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance.</li> <li>- <b>Other direct costs are:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consumables and minor equipment related to the project;</li> <li>- publication and dissemination of project results;</li> <li>- organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering);</li> <li>- fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project;</li> <li>- patent costs;</li> <li>- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<p>editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and comply with the eligible costs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Subcontracting costs</b> should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. <b>Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs.</b></li> <li>- <b>Indirect costs</b> are overhead from the personnel costs only, which may <b>not exceed 15%</b> and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.</li> <li>- <b>Double funding of activities is not acceptable</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>Additional eligibility criteria</b></p>	<p><b>State Aid</b> EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Research Council (ETAG).</p> <p>Support is not considered to be State aid for research and development, if the project has ties to the non-economic activities of the Research (or Host) Institution, as long as the research and development activities and the related costs, funding and revenue can be clearly separated, thus avoiding the cross subsidisation of economic activity.</p> <p>The criteria defined in Clauses 17-22 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01) forms the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking who is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives support.</p> <p>When an entity applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it has to fill in the <b>State aid form</b>. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.</p>

	<p>If State aid and de minimis aid are given, the documents related to giving the support must be kept for 10 years as of the date when the agreement was entered into.</p> <p><b>State aid pursuant to the Block Exemption Regulation</b>          If the support is considered to be State aid, then support is given on the basis of Article 25, 25a or 25c of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ L 187, 26.6.2014, p. 1–78) (hereinafter the Block Exemption Regulation), and the provisions of the Commission Regulation and Section 34<sup>2</sup> of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p> <p>State aid is not given in cases specified under Articles 1 (2) to (5) of the Block Exemption Regulation.</p> <p>If State aid is given on the basis of Article 25, the eligible costs of the project activities must comply with the requirements specified under Article 25(3) of the Block Exemption Regulation (except clause (c)), and the maximum aid intensity must comply with Articles 25(5) and (6). For State aid given on the basis of Articles 25a or 25c, see rules laid down in mentioned Articles accordingly.</p> <p>If the support applied for can be considered to be State aid, the application must include the information specified in Article 6(2) of the Block Exemption Regulation, and the application has to be submitted before the start of the activities.</p> <p>If State aid is given, then the costs of the activities carried out before application submission will not be eligible for aid.</p> <p><b>De minimis aid</b>          If support is considered de minimis aid, then giving support is subject to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 1–8) (hereinafter the De Minimis Aid Regulation), and the provisions of the Regulation and Section 33 of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p>
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	<p>De minimis aid is not given in cases specified under Article 1(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>In case of de minimis aid, the maximum aid intensity must comply with Article 3 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>De minimis aid given to the Host Institution together with de minimis aid applied for as support cannot exceed 200,000 euros during the current financial year and the two previous financial years.</p> <p>Article 5 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation applies to cumulating de minimis aid.</p> <p>A single undertaking is an undertaking specified in Article 2(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p><b>Grant Agreement</b></p> <p>If a positive funding decision is made, the Estonian Research Council enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed.</p> <p>The Consortium Agreement should be signed at the latest six months after the grant agreement has been signed. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out.</p> <p><b>Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing</b></p> <p>If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Research Council by the start of the relevant activities.</p> <p><b>Nagoya Protocol</b></p> <p>By applying for funding by the Estonian Research Council, the applicants agree to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<b>National Eligibility Criteria for grant applications in partnership calls for transnational research projects:</b>

	<a href="https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_30.08.22.pdf">https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_30.08.22.pdf</a> Juhend taotlejatele: <a href="https://www.etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Juhend-ERA-NET-toetuse-taotlejale_ETAg-juuni-2018-1.pdf">https://www.etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Juhend-ERA-NET-toetuse-taotlejale_ETAg-juuni-2018-1.pdf</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>It is expected that publication of results should be carried out in accordance with the Horizon programme policy on Open Access.</p> <p>It is strongly advised to contact the contact point before submitting the application.</p> <p><b>The State aid form must be sent to the contact point before submitting the application.</b></p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://etag.ee/valiskoostoo/euroopa-horisont/partnerlused/era-net-projektid/">https://etag.ee/valiskoostoo/euroopa-horisont/partnerlused/era-net-projektid/</a>

## 9. ESTONIA – KEM

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>  <a href="http://www.envir.ee">www.envir.ee</a>	<b>Name of the funding organisation</b>  <b>Estonian Ministry of the Environment (Keskkonnaministeerium abv KEM)</b>   <div>             REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA              MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT           </div>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Irja Truuma	<a href="mailto:irja.truuma@envir.ee">irja.truuma@envir.ee</a>
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	150.000€	150.000€
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	The project is carried out by consortia, in which various research entities apply for support from national funding organisations. Each participant in a funded project will be funded by their national Funding Organisation. It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow the national eligibility criteria. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible.	

	<p>The Host Institution may be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia. The Host Institution must confirm to the Estonian Ministry of the Environment (with a confirmation letter after the submission deadline) that the project can be carried out on their premises and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.</p> <p>If the Host Institution is a for-profit institution, then State aid and de minimis aid regulations must be taken into account.</p> <p>If the support is State aid or de minimis aid, then support will not be granted to a Host Institution who is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.</p> <p><b>If there are more than one Estonian institution applying in one proposal, then all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets national requirements.</b></p>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p><b>The Principal Investigator</b> is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator is responsible for how the Estonia's part in the grant budget is allocated and how Estonia's part in the project is executed in case of a positive funding decision.</p> <p>The Principal Investigator:</p> <p>Must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;</p> <p>Must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded at the latest by the submission deadline of the grant application;</p> <p>Must have published or received formal acceptance for at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal</p>



	<p>submission deadline.<sup>1</sup> International patents are equalled with publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another acceptable reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.</p>
Eligible Costs	<p>If several Estonian institutions are applying in one proposal, the total requested budget can be still max 100.000 € per proposal or 150 000 € per proposal in case if one Estonian institution is the coordinator.</p> <p><b>Budget</b></p> <p><b>Research expenses</b> consist of direct costs, indirect costs and subcontracting costs. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.</p> <p><b>Direct costs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Personnel costs</b> are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to the person's commitment and in proportion to the person's total workload at their Host Institution.</li> <li>- <b>Scholarships</b> may be paid to master's and doctoral students.</li> </ul> <p>Alternatively, remuneration can be paid as salary to students.</p> <p>All payments to the students should be done according to the usual practices of the Host Institution, following the Estonian legal acts.</p>

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<sup>1</sup> ETIS classification: **1.1.** Scholarly articles indexed by Web of Science, Science Citation Index Expanded, Social Sciences Citation Index, Arts & Humanities Citation Index, Emerging Sources Citation Index and/or indexed by Scopus (excluding chapters in books); **1.2.** Peer-reviewed articles in other international research journals with an ISSN code and international editorial board, which are circulated internationally and open to international contributions; **2.1.** Scholarly monographs; **3.1.** Articles/chapters in books published by the publishers listed in Annex

	<p>- <b>Travel costs</b> may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance. Fringe benefits are ineligible costs.</p> <p>- <b>Other direct costs</b> include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consumables, IT software, licences and minor equipment related to the project;</li> <li>- publication and dissemination of project results;</li> <li>- organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering);</li> <li>- fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project;</li> <li>- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.).</li> </ul> <p>- <b>Subcontracting costs</b> should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total requested budget.</p> <p><b>Overhead costs</b> are indirect costs, which may not exceed <b>15% of the eligible personnel costs</b><sup>2</sup> and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Overhead costs of the Host Institution may include costs of office supplies; communication services; current expenditure on postal and electronic communications; maintenance and repair costs for IT and office equipment; utility costs; rental cost; costs of opening and managing a bank account and transfer fees only related to the project; security service; land tax.</p> <p><b>Double funding</b> of activities is not acceptable.</p>
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<sup>2</sup> Order of the Minister of the Environment on the overhead costs:

<https://adr.envir.ee/et/document.html?id=36a914d4-a430-438e-85b1-91b3e1584044>



<p><b>Additional eligibility criteria</b></p>	<p><b>State Aid</b></p> <p>EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Estonian Ministry of the Environment.</p> <p>The grant is not considered to be State aid for research and development, if the project has ties to the non-economic activities of the Research (or Host) Institution, as long as the research and development activities and the related costs, funding and revenue can be clearly separated, thus avoiding the cross subsidisation of economic activity.</p> <p>The criteria defined in Clauses 17-22 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01) forms the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking that is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives support.</p> <p>When an entity applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it has to fill in the State aid form. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.</p> <p>If State aid and de minimis aid are given, the documents related to giving the support must be kept for 10 years as of the date when the agreement was entered into.</p> <p>If the grant is considered State aid or de minimis aid, then it will not be granted to a Host Institution that is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.</p> <p><b>State aid pursuant to the Block Exemption Regulation</b></p> <p>If the grant is considered to be State aid, then it is allocated on the basis of Article 25 of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ L 187, 26.6.2014, p. 1–78) (hereinafter the Block</p>
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	<p>Exemption Regulation), and the provisions of the Commission Regulation and Section 34<sup>2</sup> of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p> <p>State aid is not given in cases specified under Articles 1 (2) to (5) of the Block Exemption Regulation.</p> <p>In case of State aid, the eligible costs of the project activities must comply with the requirements specified under Article 25(3) of the Block Exemption Regulation (except clause (c)), and the maximum aid intensity must comply with Articles 25(5) and (6).</p> <p>If the grant applied for can be considered to be State aid, then the application must include the information specified in Article 6(2) of the Block Exemption Regulation, and the application has to be submitted before the start of the activities.</p> <p><b>De minimis aid</b></p> <p>If the grant is considered de minimis aid, then the funding is subject to the Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 1–8) (hereinafter the De Minimis Aid Regulation), and the provisions of the Regulation and Section 33 of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p> <p>De minimis aid is not given in cases specified under Article 1(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>In case of de minimis aid, the maximum aid intensity must comply with Article 3 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>De minimis aid given to the Host Institution together with de minimis aid applied for cannot exceed 200,000 euro during the current financial year and the two previous financial years.</p> <p>Article 5 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation applies to cumulating de minimis aid.</p> <p>A single undertaking is an undertaking specified in Article 2(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p>
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	<p><b>Grant Agreement</b></p> <p>If a positive funding decision is made, the Estonian Ministry of the Environment enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution and the Principal Investigator. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed.</p> <p>The Consortium Agreement (CA) should be signed at the latest six months after the grant agreement has been signed. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out.</p> <p><b>Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing</b></p> <p>If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Estonian Ministry of the Environment by the start of the relevant activities.</p> <p><b>Nagoya Protocol</b></p> <p>By applying for funding by the Estonian Ministry of the Environment, the applicants agree to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p><b>National Eligibility Criteria for grant applications in partnership calls for transnational research projects:</b>  <a href="https://adr.envir.ee/et/document.html?id=b5ff3648-2f9f-47b5-b18a-c875cf8ff5be">https://adr.envir.ee/et/document.html?id=b5ff3648-2f9f-47b5-b18a-c875cf8ff5be</a></p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>It is expected that publication of results should be carried out in accordance with the Horizon programme policy on Open Access.</p> <p>It is strongly advised to contact the contact point before submitting the application.</p> <p><b>The State aid form must be sent to the contact point before submitting the application.</b></p>

<b>Useful Links</b>	
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## 10. ESTONIA – MEM

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.agri.ee">www.agri.ee</a>	<b>Name of the funding organization:</b>  REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA MINISTRY OF RURAL AFFAIRS
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Maarja Malm	<a href="mailto:maarja.malm@agri.ee">maarja.malm@agri.ee</a> +372 625 6250
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	100.000 €	100.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<p>The project is carried out by consortia, in which various research entities apply for support from national funding organisations. Each participant in a funded project will be funded by their national Funding Organisation. It is mandatory for all Estonian applicants to follow the national eligibility criteria. Please note that if one of the partners is not eligible, the entire proposal might be considered ineligible.</p> <p>If a positive financing decision is made, the Host Institution and the Funding Organisation enter into a bilateral agreement.</p>	

	<p><b>The Host Institution</b> could be any legal entity that is registered and located in Estonia.</p> <p>The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated.</p> <p>The Host Institution must confirm to Ministry of Rural Affairs (with a confirmation letter after the submission deadline) that the project can be carried out on their premises and that they will employ the Principal Investigator during the proposed project, should the project receive funding.</p> <p>If the Host Institution is an undertaking, then State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account.</p> <p>If the support is State aid or de minimis aid, then support will not be granted to a Host Institution who is subject to a support withdrawal decision pursuant to a previous European Commission decision deeming the aid illegal and incompatible with the common market, if that decision has not been complied with.</p> <p><b>If there are more than one Estonian institution applying in one proposal, then all institutions must have a Principal Investigator who meets national requirements.</b></p>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p><b>The Principal Investigator</b> is a researcher who acts as the Estonian team leader in the project proposal. The Principal Investigator will be responsible for how the grant is used and how Estonia's part in the project is executed.</p> <p><b>The Principal Investigator:</b></p> <p>1.2.1 must have an updated public profile in the Estonian Research Information System (ETIS) by the submission deadline;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- must hold a doctoral degree or an equivalent qualification. The degree must be awarded at the latest by the submission deadline of the grant application;</li> <li>- must have published at least three articles that comply with the requirements of Clause 1.1 of the ETIS classification of publications, or at least five articles that comply with the requirements of Clauses 1.1, 1.2, 2.1 or 3.1, within the last five calendar years prior to the proposal submission deadline.<sup>1</sup> International patents are equalled with</li> </ul>



	<p>publications specified under Clause 1.1. A monograph (ETIS Clause 2.1) is equalled with three publications specified in Clause 1.1 if the number of authors is three or fewer. If the applicant has been on pregnancy and maternity or parental leave or performed compulsory service in the Defence Forces, or has another good reason, they can request the publication period requirement to be extended by the relevant period of time.</p>
Eligible Costs	<p><b>If several Estonian institutions are applying in one proposal, the total requested budget can be still max 100 000 € per proposal.</b></p> <p><b>Budget</b></p> <p>- Research expenses consist of <b>direct costs</b> (personnel costs, travel costs and other direct costs) and <b>subcontracting costs</b>. The research expenses must be used to carry out the project and be separately identifiable.</p> <p><b>Direct costs</b></p> <p>- <b>Personnel costs</b> are monthly salaries with social security charges and all the other statutory costs of the project participants, calculated according to their commitment and in proportion to their total workload at their Host Institution.</p> <p>- <b>Travel costs</b> may cover expenses for transport, accommodation, daily allowances and travel insurance.</p> <p>- <b>Other direct costs are:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- consumables and minor equipment related to the project;</li> <li>- publication and dissemination of project results;</li> <li>- organising meetings, seminars or conferences (room rent, catering);</li> <li>- fees for participating in scientific forums, conferences and other events related to the project;</li> <li>- patent costs;</li> <li>- all other costs that are identifiable as clearly required for carrying out the project (e.g. translation, copy editing, webpage hosting, etc.) and comply with the eligible costs</li> </ul> <p>- <b>Subcontracting costs</b> should cover only the additional or complementary research related tasks (e.g. analyses, conducting surveys, building a prototype, etc.) performed by third parties.</p>

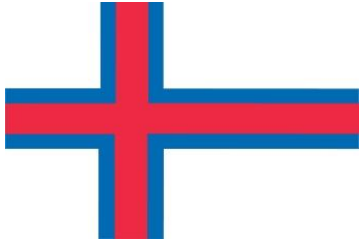

	<p>Subcontracting costs should not be included in the overhead calculation. The activities and budget should be described in the proposal. Core project tasks should not be subcontracted. <b>Subcontracting costs may not exceed 15% of the total costs.</b></p> <p>- <b>Indirect costs</b> are overhead from the personnel costs only, which may <b>not exceed 15%</b> and should cover the general expenses of the Host Institution. Costs for equipment and services intended for public use (a copy machine or a printer that is publicly used, phone bills, copy service, etc.) should be covered from the overhead.</p> <p>- <b>Double funding of activities is not acceptable</b></p>
<p><b>Additional eligibility criteria</b></p>	<p><b>State Aid</b> EU Regulations on State aid and de minimis aid must be taken into account when requesting funding from the Ministry of Rural Affairs.</p> <p>Support is not considered to be State aid for research and development, if the project has ties to the non-economic activities of the Research (or Host) Institution, as long as the research and development activities and the related costs, funding and revenue can be clearly separated, thus avoiding the cross subsidisation of economic activity.</p> <p>The criteria defined in Clauses 17-22 of Communication from the European Commission – Framework for State aid for research and development and innovation (2014/C 198/01) forms the basis for determining whether the activities carried out are economic activities and whether the Host Institution is an undertaking who is considered to be a State aid recipient when it receives support.</p> <p>When an entity applies for State aid or de minimis aid, it has to fill in the <b>State aid form</b>. No tax arrears are allowed on the proposal submission date.</p> <p>If State aid and de minimis aid are given, the documents related to giving the support must be kept for 10 years as of the date when the agreement was entered into.</p> <p><b>State aid pursuant to the Block Exemption Regulation</b> If the support is considered to be State aid, then support is given on the basis of Article 25, 25a or 25c</p>

	<p>of Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (OJ L 187, 26.6.2014, p. 1–78) (hereinafter the Block Exemption Regulation), and the provisions of the Commission Regulation and Section 34<sup>2</sup> of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p> <p>State aid is not given in cases specified under Articles 1(2) to (5) of the Block Exemption Regulation.</p> <p>If State aid is given on the basis of Article 25, the eligible costs of the project activities must comply with the requirements specified under Article 25(3) of the Block Exemption Regulation (except clause (c)), and the maximum aid intensity must comply with Articles 25(5) and (6). For State aid given on the basis of Articles 25a or 25c, see rules laid down in mentioned Articles accordingly.</p> <p>If the support applied for can be considered to be State aid, the application must include the information specified in Article 6(2) of the Block Exemption Regulation, and the application has to be submitted before the start of the activities.</p> <p>If State aid is given, then the costs of the activities carried out before application submission will not be eligible for aid.</p> <p><b>De minimis aid</b></p> <p>If support is considered de minimis aid, then giving support is subject to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1407/2013 on the application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union to de minimis aid (OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 1–8) (hereinafter the De Minimis Aid Regulation), and the provisions of the Regulation and Section 33 of the Estonian Competition Act apply.</p> <p>De minimis aid is not given in cases specified under Article 1(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>In case of de minimis aid, the maximum aid intensity must comply with Article 3 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p>De minimis aid given to the Host Institution together with de minimis aid applied for as support cannot</p>
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	<p>exceed 200,000 euros during the current financial year and the two previous financial years.</p> <p>Article 5 of the De Minimis Aid Regulation applies to cumulating de minimis aid.</p> <p>A single undertaking is an undertaking specified in Article 2(1) of the De Minimis Aid Regulation.</p> <p><b>Grant Agreement</b> If a positive funding decision is made, the Ministry of Rural Affairs enters into a grant agreement with the Host Institution. Information on the transnational project must be entered into ETIS once the agreement has been signed.</p> <p>The Consortium Agreement should be signed at the latest six months after the grant agreement has been signed. If one year has elapsed and the CA has not been signed, the next instalment of funding will not be paid out.</p> <p><b>Research Involving Human Subjects or Animal Testing</b> If human research or animal testing are intended in the project, a positive resolution by the Human Research Ethics Committee or the Authorisation Committee for Animal Experiments must be submitted to the Ministry of Rural Affairs by the start of the relevant activities.</p> <p><b>Nagoya Protocol</b> By applying for funding by the Ministry of Rural Affairs, the applicants agree to consider the relevance of the Nagoya protocol for their research, and to submit the Due Diligence Declaration, if applicable.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p><b>National Eligibility Criteria for grant applications in partnership calls for transnational research projects:</b>  <a href="https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_30.08.22.pdf">https://etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Vastavusnouded-RV-uhiskonkurssidel_30.08.22.pdf</a>          Juhend taotlejatele:  <a href="https://www.etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Juhend-ERA-NET-toetuse-taotlejale_ETAg-juuni-2018-1.pdf">https://www.etag.ee/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Juhend-ERA-NET-toetuse-taotlejale_ETAg-juuni-2018-1.pdf</a></p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>It is expected that publication of results should be carried out in accordance with the Horizon programme policy on Open Access.</p>



	<p>It is strongly advised to contact the contact point before submitting the application.</p> <p><b>The State aid form must be sent to the contact point before submitting the application.</b></p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p><a href="https://etag.ee/valiskoostoo/euroopa-horisont/partnerlused/era-net-projektid/">https://etag.ee/valiskoostoo/euroopa-horisont/partnerlused/era-net-projektid/</a></p>

## 11. FAROE ISLANDS – RCFI

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>	<b><u>Research Council Faroe Islands</u></b>  
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Maria Húsgarð Adviser	<a href="mailto:maria@gransking.fo">maria@gransking.fo</a> +298 567802
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	135.000 €	135.000 € per project
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	The Host Institution could be any legal entity that is registered and located in the Faroe Islands.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The Host Institution (the final recipient) is the applicant to which the grant will be allocated.	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Personnel costs, expenses, indirect costs and overhead.	
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	The Research Council Faroe Islands may grant funding up to 2/3 of the total cost for the Faroese project partners.	
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<u>National Terms of Reference</u>	

<b>Additional Information</b>	Before submitting an application, partners from the Faroe Islands are required to consult with the Research Council Faroe Islands.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://gransking.fo">Gransking.fo</a>

## 12. FINLAND – AKA



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://aka.fi">Academy of Finland - Academy of Finland (aka.fi)</a>	 <b>ACADEMY OF FINLAND</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Jaana Lehtimäki Päivi Kolu	<a href="mailto:jaana.lehtimaki@aka.fi">jaana.lehtimaki@aka.fi</a> +358 295335060 <a href="mailto:paivi.kolu@aka.fi">paivi.kolu@aka.fi</a> +358 295335028
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b> 850.000 €	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b> Max. 300.000 € (partner)/ Max. 400.000 € (coordinator)
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Academy research funding is granted to Finnish sites of research (usually universities or research institutes). As a rule, Academy funding is not granted to support economic activity. Funding	



	<p>may be granted for economic activity only if it can be granted in keeping with the EU's state aid rules in the form of de minimis aid.</p> <p>Due to actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, the European Union and/or the United Nations have imposed and may in the future impose sanctions in their legislation and/or by decisions of their institutions. The funding recipient must comply with the restrictive measures imposed on Russia and Belarus by the European Union or the United Nations concerning the economy and financing, which are in force in the European Union.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>In addition to a doctoral degree, the principal investigator (PI) of the proposed sub-project must also have other significant scientific merits. Usually, the PI is a researcher at the professor or docent (adjunct professor) level.</p>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>The Academy of Finland funding is granted under the full cost model where Academy's funding can be up to 70 % of the total costs of a project. Academy funding can be used to cover both direct project costs (e.g. direct salaries) and indirect costs (e.g. costs for premises). Both types of costs are covered with the same percentage. Academy funding can be used to cover direct costs of the research team arising from, for example, the following: working hours (salary), research, travel, national and international collaboration and mobility, work and researcher training abroad, preparation of international projects, publishing).</p> <p>The funding may be applied for by research teams. The funding is primarily intended for the salaries of full-time researchers working on the projects and for other research costs.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Finnish applicants (partners and coordinators) are not allowed to submit more than one application.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>Academy of Finland's funding terms and conditions <a href="https://rahoitusehdot.2022.2023.020622_en_aka.fi">rahoitusehdot 2022 2023 020622 en (aka.fi)</a></p>

<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Applicants should contact the Academy of Finland before applying.</p> <p>After all proposals have been evaluated the Academy of Finland will invite the successful Finnish candidates to submit their proposal to the Academy of Finland's online service in which you need to include also the funding share of the site of research (at least 30 % of total costs), so that only funding requested from the Academy (max. 70 % of total costs) is included.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	

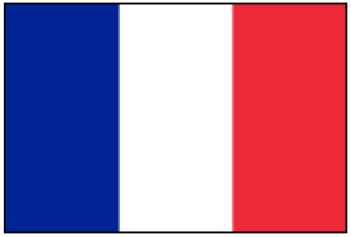

## 13. FINLAND – MMM

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <b>Ministry of Agriculture of Forestry</b> <b>(MMM)</b> <a href="http://www.mmm.fi">www.mmm.fi</a>	<b>Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MMM)</b>  Maa- ja metsätalousministeriö Jord- och skogsbruksministeriet Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Elna Nikkola	<a href="mailto:elina.nikkola@gov.fi">elina.nikkola@gov.fi</a> +358505981626
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	500.000€	max. 200.000.00 €/ project or max 300.000.00 per project if the Finnish applicant is the project coordinator
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Universities, universities of applied sciences and state-funded research institutes</li> <li>- Research and guidance organisations that are outside of state finances and may receive state funding</li> <li>- Companies, under specific conditions (see the document 'General terms and instructions for research and development activities funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry', link available below.</li> </ul>	

	Due to actions undermining or threatening the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Ukraine, the European Union and/or the United Nations have imposed and may in the future impose sanctions in their legislation and/or by decisions of their institutions. The funding recipient must comply with the restrictive measures imposed on Russia and Belarus by the European Union or the United Nations concerning the economy and financing, which are in force in the European Union.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The responsible administrator of the research/development project must be duly authorised to act for and on behalf of the recipient(s) of the funding in project-related matters as if such actions were carried out by the recipient(s) themselves.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>Costs that are necessary and reasonable in view of the project work and which can be allocated to the project in accounting are considered acceptable costs. The costs must be incurred during the period of time indicated in the funding decision in order to be approved. Costs incurred before the application was submitted will not be approved as project costs.</p> <p>For details, please see Chapter 4 'Use of funding' in the document 'General terms and instructions for research and development activities funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry', link available below.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>MMM funds only applied research; MMM does not fund basic research.</p> <p>For detailed eligibility criteria, the applicants should check the "General terms and instructions for research and development activities funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry", see the link below.</p> <p>The share of funding granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry for research, development and innovation projects is discretionary. As a general rule, the funding shares of the approved total costs are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Universities, universities of applied sciences and state-funded research institutes, max. 70 %</li> <li>- For research and guidance organisations that are outside of state finances and may receive state funding, max. 70–90 %</li> <li>- For companies, max. 50 % (please note the EU's state aid rules).</li> </ul> <p>MMM will fund maximum two (2) projects in this call.</p>

	Finnish applicants (partners and coordinators) are not allowed to submit more than one application.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>In Finnish:  <a href="#">MMM rahoittaman TK-toiminnan yleiset ehdot ja ohjeet 2022</a></p> <p>In English:  <a href="#">General Terms and Instructions for RD activities funded by MMM</a></p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	Applicants should contact MMM before applying.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>In Finnish:  <a href="http://www.mmm.fi/tutkimus">www.mmm.fi/tutkimus</a>  <a href="https://www.hankerahoitus.fi/MMM/hakemus/kirjaudu.php?ki=1">https://www.hankerahoitus.fi/MMM/hakemus/kirjaudu.php?ki=1</a></p> <p>In English:  <a href="https://mmm.fi/en/research-and-development">https://mmm.fi/en/research-and-development</a></p>

## 14. FRANCE – ANR



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://anr.fr/">https://anr.fr/</a>	<b>Agence Nationale de la Recherche (ANR)</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email :</b>
	<b>Claude Yven Coraline Chapperon Sylvain Pasquier</b>	<i>sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr</i>
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	2.000.000 €	<p>The maximum amount that can be requested from ANR by each proposal with French applicant(s) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 350.000 € (if Coordinating Partner is French)</li> <li>• 300.000 € (for standard French Partners)</li> </ul> <p>The minimum amount per beneficiary is 15 000€.</p> <p>If there are several French partners, the total requested funding from ANR (300 000 €, extended to 350 000 € if the coordinating partner is requesting funding to ANR) must be split among them.</p>
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<p><b>In this call, to be eligible, the consortium must include at least one French public research organization</b> (EPA, EPSCP, EPST, EPIC).</p> <p>The involvement of an enterprise is encouraged but not mandatory.</p> <p><b><u>If a non-French enterprise is involved in a project, it is mandatory to involve a French enterprise; otherwise the French partners will be declared ineligible.</u></b></p> <p>See more information on the eligibility of institutions on the ANR Funding Regulations <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/rf/">https://anr.fr/fr/rf/</a>.</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	See above
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Please check the ANR Funding Regulations at: <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/rf/">https://anr.fr/fr/rf/</a>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p><b>Additional eligibility criteria:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To be eligible, a proposal must not be deemed similar to another proposal still undergoing evaluation in another ANR call, or already funded.</li> </ul> <p><b>Regarding project partners' commitment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources</li> <li>• Ethics and scientific Integrity</li> <li>• Publications and Open Science Policy</li> <li>• Scientific, Technical and Industrial Culture</li> <li>• GDPR</li> <li>• "PPST"</li> </ul> <p><b>Please consult the complete terms and conditions for French Partners on the ANR website for more details</b>  <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/">https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/</a></p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<b>National Funding Regulations</b> <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/rf/">https://anr.fr/fr/rf/</a>

	<b><u>Annex for partners requesting funding to ANR :</u></b> <a href="https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/">https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/">https://anr.fr/fr/detail/call/premier-appel-a-projets-transnationaux-cofinance-du-partenariat-europeen-sustainable-blue-economy-pa/</a>





## 15. GERMANY – BMBF/PtJ

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>  <b>Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) represented by Project Management Jülich, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH</b>  <a href="https://www.fz-juelich.de">https://www.fz-juelich.de</a>	 <b>Federal Ministry of Education and Research</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Dr. Claudia Schultz  Christin Lambertz	<a href="mailto:c.schultz@fz-juelich.de">c.schultz@fz-juelich.de</a> +49 228 60884 212 <a href="mailto:c.lambertz@fz-juelich.de">c.lambertz@fz-juelich.de</a> +49 381 20356 284
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.250.000 €	400.000 € max.
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b>	

	☒
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Applications may be submitted by German institutions of higher education and non-university research institutions as well as by commercial companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) which are headquartered and exploit their results primarily in Germany. Also, local authorities, non-profit organizations or associations are eligible for funding.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	For information regarding the EU's standard definition of SMEs, please visit <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en">http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition_en</a> . Research institutions, which receive joint basic funding from the Federal Government and the Länder, can only be granted project funding supplementary to their basic funding for additional expenditure under certain preconditions.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>The current guidelines for grants on an expenditure-cost basis and for allocations for administrative agreements apply (Es gelten die aktuellen Richtlinien für Zuwendungen auf Ausgaben-Kostenbasis, sowie für Zuweisungen für Verwaltungsvereinbarungen): <a href="https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare">https://foerderportal.bund.de/easy/easy_index.php?auswahl=easy_formulare</a></p> <p>Projektpauschale: Universities should consider cost for the "Projektpauschale" already in the preparation of the proposal.</p> <p>Applications may be submitted by German institutions of higher education and non-university research institutions as well as by commercial companies, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) which are headquartered and exploit their results primarily in Germany. In addition, local authorities, non-profit organizations or associations are eligible for funding. Research institutions, which are eligible to joint basic funding from the Federal Government and the Federal States can only be granted project funding supplementary to their institutional funding for additional expenditure under specified preconditions. In the case of collaborative projects including more than one German partner, the German partners must nominate a national coordinator.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Subject, relevance criteria: Germany supports applications from all topics of the 2023 Joint Transnational Call "The way forward: thriving a



	<p>sustainable blue economy for a brighter future" in frame of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership .</p> <p>National Regulations: Research program "MARE:N - Coastal, Marine and Polar Research for Sustainability". The funding procedure will follow the national criteria of the funding of the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.</p> <p>National additional application:</p> <p>In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the German participants are requested to submit in addition a national application upon eligibility check and selection of project proposals and, national applications will be invited in writing and must be submitted to the Funding Agency Project Management Juelich (PtJ) through the national web platform. The link to the platform will be published with the national funding announcement.</p> <p>Specific questions should be addressed to the national partner organizations in advance of proposal submission. It is strongly recommended to contact the National Contact Persons already in early stage of project preparation.</p> <p>The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	

## 16. ICELAND – RANNIS

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.rannis.is">www.rannis.is</a>	<b>The Icelandic Centre for Research</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Sigurður Björnsson Elísabet Andrésdóttir	<a href="mailto:sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is">sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is</a> <a href="mailto:elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is">elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is</a> +354 515 5800
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	800.000€	Max: 300.000€ per project
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at sub-sea-basin scale</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Applicants have to follow the general guidelines of the Technology Development Fund „Hagnýt rannsóknarverkefni” except for the requirement of the main applicant as in paragraph 2.2 <a href="https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/">https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/</a>	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Same as above	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Applicants have to follow the general guidelines of the Technology Development Fund, where own contribution can	

	vary – further information on <a href="https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/">https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/</a>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	None
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<a href="https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/">https://www.rannis.is/sjodir/rannsoknir/taeknithrounarsjodur/</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	N/A
<b>Useful Links</b>	See above

## 17. IRELAND – MI



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.marine.ie/">https://www.marine.ie/</a>	<b>Marine Institute</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Veronica Cunningham	<a href="mailto:Veronica.Cunningham@marine.ie">Veronica.Cunningham@marine.ie</a> +353 91 387532 or +353 91 387200
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.000.000€	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• €300.000 max per partner for Public RPO (€200.000 max partner for Industry/Private RPO)</li> <li>• Rates apply for funding of 36 months</li> <li>• Limit two Irish partners per project</li> </ul>
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Legal entities in the Republic of Ireland with the appropriate scientific and technical qualifications and expertise can be funded as partners in a joint proposal.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The eligible partners are Higher Education Institutions, Other Public Research Performing Organisations	

	(RPOs), Industry and Private RPOs in the Republic of Ireland.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p><b>Personnel costs (permanent/temporary)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eligible staff costs include gross salary and employer's PRSI (pay-related social insurance) and employer's pension costs (max 20% of gross salary). Temporary or contract research staff are eligible for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public RPOs, but staff costs for permanent staff are not. Both temporary and permanent staff costs are eligible for Industry/Private RPO partners.</li> <li>Master's and PhD student costs (current rates – student stipend €18,500 per annum and college fees €6,000 per annum).</li> <li>Masters and PhD must be registered, on a full-time basis, for a higher degree at an eligible Higher Education Institution.</li> </ul> <p><b>Research costs (travel, consumables, etc.)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Project-related travel and consumables are allowable costs e.g. travel and subsistence for project fieldwork and meetings, workshops, conferences, laboratory supplies, computer supplies, software, etc.</li> </ul> <p><b>Equipment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The purchase and installation of small-scale scientific equipment and instruments for the project is allowable. Depreciated cost reimbursed with be either 36 or 60 months.</li> <li>The purchase of a personal computer/laptop is eligible at a maximum cost of €2,000 per researcher, and must be used solely for carrying out the project work.</li> </ul> <p><b>Overheads</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximum overheads allowed is 30% of all costs excluding Equipment and Subcontracting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Subcontracting</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subcontracting to a third party for specialist resources/skills is allowable, subject to normal procurement guidelines. Subcontracting costs are limited to 20% maximum.</li> </ul>

	The maximum Grant-Aid reimbursement for Industry is 50% for Large Scale Enterprises and 75% for Small-Medium Sized Enterprises of eligible costs. Grant-Aid reimbursement for Higher Education Institutions and Other Public RPOs is up to 100% of eligible costs.
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Projects with Irish partners should address requirements under national strategies and policies (see below).</p> <p>Irish project partners will be required to sign a <b>Grant Agreement</b> with the Marine Institute, if their proposal is successful under this call.</p> <p>Projects that receive funding from the Marine Institute are required to submit progress and final reports pursuant to their Grant Agreement with the Marine Institute.</p> <p>Projects that receive funding from the Marine Institute are required to follow Open Access/Research guidelines.</p> <p>Marine Institute researchers may participate as partners in proposals, but not co-ordinators.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	The Marine Institute manages the <i>National Marine Research Programme</i> , which provides funding to the Irish marine sector through competitive calls. Funding is provided for marine research that addresses national strategic priorities as stated in the <a href="#">National Marine Research &amp; Innovation Strategy 2017-2021</a> (successor strategy due for publication in 2023), <a href="#">Climate Action Plan 2021</a> , <a href="#">Food Vision 2030</a> and <a href="#">Impact 2030</a> .
<b>Additional Information</b>	Applicants are advised to contact their National Contact Point (details above) prior to submission of any application under this call.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>Further details published on the Marine Institute website at:</p> <p><a href="https://www.marine.ie/site-area/research-funding/research-funding/current-funding-opportunities">https://www.marine.ie/site-area/research-funding/research-funding/current-funding-opportunities</a></p> <p>Email queries can also be sent to: <a href="mailto:funding@marine.ie">funding@marine.ie</a></p>



## 18. ITALY – MIMIT



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.mise.gov.it/it/">https://www.mise.gov.it/it/</a>	 <b>Ministero delle Imprese e del Made in Italy</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Alessandra D'Ambrosio Valentina Milazzo	<a href="mailto:alessandra.dambrosio@mise.gov.it">alessandra.dambrosio@mise.gov.it</a> <a href="mailto:valentina.milazzo@mise.gov.it">valentina.milazzo@mise.gov.it</a> +39 06 5492 7928
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>maximum funding per awarded project</b>
	10.000.000 €	800.000 €
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	See "eligible applicants" section	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The following entities are eligible: - Enterprises - Research Centers - Universities, research organizations (only in collaboration with Italian enterprises with which to set up a Consortium or a Network of Companies). The lead partner of the joint project must be an Italian enterprise	

<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>All costs incurred during the lifetime of a project under the following categories are eligible: personnel, equipment, subcontracting, consumables, and overheads. Overheads are calculated as a fixed percentage 25% of eligible costs of the project, as established by art. 20 of the delegated regulation (EU) n. 480/2014 and by art. 29 of the regulation (EU) n. 1290/2013, in line with the provisions of art 53.3 lett. c of Regulation (EU) 1060/2021 as referred to in art. 10 paragraph 4 of Decree 121/2021. They include also communication, dissemination and travel expenses.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Projects to be eligible must respect the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-all activities that can be classified as industrial research or experimental development are eligible for funding, but experimental development costs must be higher than industrial research costs</li> <li>- previously selected by the partnership</li> <li>- contribute to the pursue of the climate neutral and digital transition targets set out in the Reg. (EU) 2021/241</li> <li>- ensure the compliance with the DNSH principle set out in the Reg. (EU) 2020/852</li> <li>- start within 3 months by the financial grants decree</li> <li>- last no longer than 36 months</li> </ul> <p>According to Article 2, paragraph 6-bis of the Decree Law 31 May 2021 n. 77, the Administrations ensure that at least 40% of the resources will be allocated to the beneficiaries of South Italy Regions. Nevertheless, it will be protected the interest in the total allocation of the resources put up for tender if the Ministry doesn't receive a number of applications, from Southern Italy applicants, that would exhaust the financial resources referred to the aforementioned reserve.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>National documents to be submitted are grouped into the following categories.</p> <p>PRE PROPOSAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>national funding request</i></li> <li>• <i>self declaration on the eligibility requirements to access the national grants</i></li> <li>• <i>self declaration on relevant financial data for the assessment of the project</i></li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>in case of a joint project, the delegation to the lead partner from italian partners of the project to submit the pre proposal</i></li><li>• <i>special proxy to signature (only if needed)</i></li><li>• <i>pre proposal submitted to the partnership</i></li></ul> <p>FULL PROPOSAL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>national funding request</i></li><li>• <i>technical data sheet</i></li><li>• <i>development plan sheet</i></li><li>• <i>network contract (in case of joint project)</i></li><li>• <i>self declaration on the compliance with the NRRP rules</i></li><li>• <i>special proxy to signature (only if needed)</i></li><li>• <i>conflict of interests self declaration</i></li><li>• <i>full project proposal submitted to the partnership</i></li></ul>												
<p><b>Additional Information</b></p>	<p>In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the Italian participants are requested to submit a national additional application to MIMIT, by sending the proposal to: <a href="mailto:dgiai.div6@pec.mise.gov.it">dgiai.div6@pec.mise.gov.it</a></p> <p><b>This national additional application must be submitted by the same deadline established in the international joint call for pre-proposal submission. Any participant who does not submit its national documents by the pre-proposal deadline will be considered not eligible for funding.</b></p> <p>It is strongly recommended to contact the National Contact Persons already in early stage of project preparation.</p> <p>The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources.</p> <p>Funded participants will be requested to submit financial and scientific reports to MIMIT.</p> <p>Furthermore, according to the Reg. (EU) n. 651/2014, the Ministry will provide with the following funding rates:</p> <table><tr><td></td><td>Industrial Research</td><td>Experimental development/ innovation</td></tr><tr><td>Large enterprises</td><td>50%</td><td>25%</td></tr><tr><td>Medium Enterprises</td><td>60%</td><td>35%</td></tr><tr><td>Small enterprises</td><td>70%</td><td>45%</td></tr></table>		Industrial Research	Experimental development/ innovation	Large enterprises	50%	25%	Medium Enterprises	60%	35%	Small enterprises	70%	45%
	Industrial Research	Experimental development/ innovation											
Large enterprises	50%	25%											
Medium Enterprises	60%	35%											
Small enterprises	70%	45%											

	Universities, Research Performing Organisations	50%	25%
	<p>The criteria and provisions provided herewith are intended only for informative purposes. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in the “Avviso integrativo nazionale”, which will be published on the MIMIT website, and in the applicable Italian laws.</p>		
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p><b>National website:</b> <a href="http://www.mise.gov.it">www.mise.gov.it</a></p> <p><b>National submission platform:</b> <a href="mailto:dgiai.div6@pec.mise.gov.it">dgiai.div6@pec.mise.gov.it</a></p>		

## 19. ITALY – MUR

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.ricercainternazionale.mur.it">www.ricercainternazionale.mur.it</a>	<b>Ministry of Universities and Research</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Aldo Covello Yasmine Iollo	<a href="mailto:aldo.covello@mur.gov.it">aldo.covello@mur.gov.it</a> <a href="mailto:Yasmine.iollo@est.mur.gov.it">Yasmine.iollo@est.mur.gov.it</a>
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	5 000 000€ of National Funds of which 1 Million is allocated for projects in which the coordinator of the Italian partner/s (Principal Investigator) is a young researcher under 40.	Maximum funding per project:  International projects coordinated by an Italian entity: 500.000 €; Projects not coordinated by an Italian entity: 350.000 € euro
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>		



<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The following entities are eligible for funding, providing that they have stable organization in Italy: 1. Universities; 2. Enterprises; 3. Private and Public research institutions 4. Research organizations (public and private) in accordance with EU Reg. n. 651/2014 of the European Commission - June 17, 2014.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>All activities classifiable as Basic research, Industrial research and Experimental development are eligible for funding. Furthermore, Basic Research and Industrial research activities must be predominant with respect to Experimental development activities (in terms of costs). All costs incurred during the lifetime of the project under the following categories are eligible: Personnel, Equipment, Consulting and equivalent services, Consumables and Overheads. Overheads ("Spese generali") shall be calculated as a percentage of the personnel costs and cannot be higher than 50% of them. Travel expenses, dissemination and coordination costs are to be included in the overheads.</p> <p>The amount of funding which can be granted to each beneficiary is calculated multiplying the eligible costs for the funding rates listed in the following table:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Basic research: 70%</i></li> <li>• <i>Industrial research: 50%</i></li> <li>• <i>Experimental development: 25%</i></li> </ul> <p>On request of applicants a pre-payment may be done, equal to 50% of the total funding at project start and a second pre-payment up to 40% of the total funding at mid-term. The remaining 10% will be paid at the end of the project. Private partners requesting the pre-payments need to provide MUR with a bank guarantee. Beneficiaries who doesn't request the pre-payments will be paid after each financial and progress report</p> <p>Value added tax (VAT) actually and definitively incurred by the beneficiaries is an eligible expense only if it is not recoverable.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p><b>a) Legal/administrative/financial conditions</b></p> <p>The participant must be registered at the "Anagrafe Nazionale delle Ricerche"</p> <p>The participant must not be defaulting with regard to other funding received by the Ministry.</p> <p>The participant must not have requested/got any other funding for the same research activities.</p> <p>The participant must respect the Italian law "D.Lgs. n 159 del 6/09/2011 e successive modificazioni ed integrazioni".</p>

	<p>The participant must not be subject to bankruptcy proceedings as of art. 5, comma 4, letter b) of DM 593/2016 or must not be a company in difficulty according to the definition under number 18) of article 2 "Definitions" of Regulation (EU) no. 651/2014.</p> <p>The participant must follow the obligations laid down in the contributory and social security regulations (DURC). The judicial and pending records of the legal representative of the participant are negative.</p> <p><b>b) Financial conditions</b></p> <p>For any participant, with the exception of public universities and public research institutions (Enti pubblici di ricerca), the following financial criteria, calculated using the data reported in the last approved balance sheet, must be fulfilled.</p> <p><math>CN &gt; (CP - I)/2</math></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>CN = net assets (Capitale netto)</p> <p>CP = sum of the costs of all the projects for which public funding has been requested by the participant during the year.</p> <p>I = sum of the contributions received, approved or requested for the same projects.</p> <p><math>OF/F &lt; 8\%</math></p> <p>Where:</p> <p>OF = financial charges (Oneri finanziari)</p> <p>F = turnover (Fatturato)</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>The admission for funding is subject to the adoption of the necessary accounting and administrative measures for the allocation of the resources.</p> <p>Funded participants will be requested to submit financial and scientific reports to MIUR.</p> <p>The criteria and provisions provided herewith are intended only for informative purposes. The complete list of criteria and provisions legally valid, which must be respected by all the Italian participants, is included in the "<b>Avviso integrativo nazionale</b>", to be published on the dedicated web page on MUR website:  <a href="http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/">http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/</a></p> <p>Applicable laws and rules  <a href="http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/evidenza/normativa-prog-internazionali.aspx">http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it/evidenza/normativa-prog-internazionali.aspx</a> :</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>DL 22 giugno 2012, n. 83, convertito, con modificazioni, dalla Legge 7 agosto 2012, n. 134, articoli 60, 61, 62 e 63 di cui al Titolo III, Capo IX "Misure per la ricerca scientifica e tecnologica"</u></li> <li>- <u>DM n. 1314 del 14 dicembre 2021 - Nuovo sistema di concessione delle agevolazioni del MUR alle attività di ricerca</u></li> <li>- <u>DM n. 1368 del 24 dicembre 2021 - Modificazioni all'articolo 15 del decreto n. 1314 del 14 dicembre 2021</u></li> </ul> <p>Information available at  <a href="http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it">http://www.ricercainternazionale.miur.it</a></p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>In addition to the project proposal, which shall be submitted at European level, the Italian participants are requested to submit further documentation to MUR, through the national web platform, available at the following link: <a href="https://banditransnazionali-miur.cineca.it">https://banditransnazionali-miur.cineca.it</a>.</p> <p>These national additional documents must be submitted by the same deadline established for the pre-proposal phase submission as defined in the international call. Any participant who does not submit its national documents by the deadline of the pre-proposal phase will be considered not eligible for funding.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	




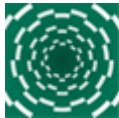
## 20. LATVIA – LCS

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.lzp.gov.lv">www.lzp.gov.lv</a>	<b>Latvijas Zinātnes padome (LZP) – Latvian Council of Science (LCS)</b>  <b>Latvijas Zinātnes padome</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Aiga Salmiņa Lāsma Brenča	<a href="mailto:aiga.salmina@lzp.gov.lv">aiga.salmina@lzp.gov.lv</a> <a href="mailto:lasma.brenca@lzp.gov.lv">lasma.brenca@lzp.gov.lv</a> +37 126 686 000
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	600.000 €	Max 300.000 € per partner, not exceeding Max 100.000 € per year  Funding rates under R651/2014 shall be respected
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<p>1) Research institutions registered in the Latvian Registry of Scientific Institutions, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research Institutes</li> <li>- Universities</li> </ul> <p>and must have the status of Research and knowledge dissemination organization (Regulation EC 651/2014)</p> <p>2) Business enterprises entered into the Latvian Commercial registry as companies, assumed they are eligible to do the specific research and have specific capacity and resources to do the research in Latvia and have their main activity in Latvia. Limitations of EU legislation apply (R651/2014) together with financial reporting requirements, in this case this is state aid. Two previous statements with sworn auditor's approval should be provided and they must reflect the correspondence to the regulation as well as evidence of previous scientific activity and presence of capacity.</p> <p>Any other type of participant is not covered by LZF funding mandate</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Latvian beneficiaries are institutions as defined in previous point. The research group is represented by a leading researcher (PI) from the respective research institution who is mandated to participate in the application.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personnel costs incl. taxes;</li> <li>• Consumables;</li> <li>• Subcontracts (up to 25% of direct costs), needs detailed justification, includes all external services, project core activities cannot be subcontracted;</li> <li>• Equipment (only depreciation costs during project directly attributable to project tasks);</li> <li>• Travels (according to travel plan);</li> <li>• Indirect costs (up to 25% of direct costs excluding subcontracting).</li> </ul>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	TRL9 is not funded
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers</p> <p><a href="http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma">http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma</a></p>

	<p>At the contract phase - <a href="https://lzp.gov.lv/starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas/atbalsts-projektiem/">https://lzp.gov.lv/starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas/atbalsts-projektiem/</a></p> <p>To receive funding by LZP, Consortium agreement duly signed should be presented.</p> <p>Annual financial and scientific reporting is mandatory.</p> <p>Enterprises shall provide audited statements of 2 previous closed financial periods on request.</p> <p>Final audit according to the LZP regulations.</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Support is provided according to Provisions Nr 259, 26.05.2015 of the Latvian Cabinet of Ministers <a href="http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma">http://likumi.lv/ta/id/274671-atbalsta-pieskirsanas-kartiba-dalibai-starptautiskas-sadarbibas-programmas-petniecibas-un-tehnologiju-joma</a></p> <p>These provisions should be respected without exceptions. The maximum rates should respect the Provisions. The requirements in the provisions to specific applicant groups must be respected.</p> <p>LZP cannot fund implementation support, nor training activities. LZP is funding only research</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="http://www.lzp.gov.lv">www.lzp.gov.lv</a>

## 21. LITHUANIA – LMT

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="http://www.lmt.lt">www.lmt.lt</a>	<b>LMT</b>  Lietuvos mokslo taryba
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Viktoras Mongirdas	<a href="mailto:viktoras.mongirdas@lmt.lt">viktoras.mongirdas@lmt.lt</a> +370 676 19613
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	200.000 €	150.000 € (Coordinator) 100.000 € per project
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<b>Eligible implementing institution – Lithuanian research and higher education institution which is included in the Register of Education and Research institutions</b>	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>		
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<b>Personal, travel, purchase (assets, services), indirect, subcontracting</b>	
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>		
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<b>No national official paper work until positive evaluation decision</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>Maximum project duration: up to 36 months VAT is included in the budget</b>	

	<p><b>Subcontracting rules: subcontracting costs must be incurred in accordance with the provisions of the Law on Public Procurement of the Republic of Lithuania. Expenses incurred according to service and/or copyright agreements where such agreements were concluded for performing minor tasks in the project are eligible.</b></p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p><a href="https://www.lmt.lt/lt/mokslo-finansavimas/euopos-partnerystes-era-net-ir-kitos-koordinavimo-veiklos/2329">https://www.lmt.lt/lt/mokslo-finansavimas/euopos-partnerystes-era-net-ir-kitos-koordinavimo-veiklos/2329</a></p>

## 22. MALTA – MCST



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.mcst.gov.mt">Home - MCST (gov.mt)</a>	<b>Malta Council for Science and Technology</b>  The Malta Council for Science & Technology
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Maria AZZOPARDI	<a href="mailto:maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt">maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt</a> +356 2360 2175
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	500.000 €	N/A
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Malta-based applicants that are Eligible Undertakings, with an Operating Base in Malta, which plans to carry out Fundamental, Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development projects are eligible for funding, subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the latest version of the National Rules for Participation (State Aid). Eligible Undertakings can be: <b>a)</b> a partnership constituted under the Companies Act, being a partnership <i>en nom collectif</i> , <i>en commandite</i> or a limited liability company; or <b>b)</b> be duly registered as a co-operative society under the Co-Operative Societies Act, or <b>c)</b>	

	<p>professional body; or <b>d)</b> NGO; or <b>e)</b> Non-profit making entity (including Foundation).</p> <p>Any Public Entity or Public Research or Knowledge-Dissemination Organisation registered in Malta, that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU, will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the latest version of the National Rules for Participation (Non-State Aid).</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>Malta-based applicants that are Eligible Undertakings, with an Operating Base in Malta, which plans to carry out Fundamental, Industrial Research and/or Experimental Development projects are eligible for funding, subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the latest version of the National Rules for Participation (State Aid). Eligible Undertakings can be: <b>a)</b> a partnership constituted under the Companies Act, being a partnership <i>en nom collectif</i>, <i>en commandite</i> or a limited liability company; or <b>b)</b> be duly registered as a co-operative society under the Co-Operative Societies Act, or <b>c)</b> professional body; or <b>d)</b> NGO; or <b>e)</b> Non-profit making entity (including Foundation).</p> <p>Any Public Entity or Public Research or Knowledge-Dissemination Organisation registered in Malta, that do not carry out an economic activity within the meaning of Article 107 TFEU, will be eligible for funding subject to the terms and conditions laid out in the latest version of the National Rules for Participation (Non-State Aid).</p>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>Eligible costs and rates of funding depend on the type of Malta-based entity applying for aid, and the funding modality chosen (<i>de minimis</i> route, <i>General Block Exemption Regulation</i> route, non-state aid route).</p> <p>Eligible costs include the following: personnel; equipment; instruments, specialised equipment, and research consumables; IP and knowledge transfer</p>

	<p>activities; travel and subsistence; subcontracting; other operating expenses; overheads.</p> <p>Detailed information on the aid intensity and which costs are eligible under different funding modalities can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from <a href="#">MCST website</a>.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Further information can be found in the detailed National Rules accessible from the <a href="#">MCST website</a> .
<b>Relevant documents</b>	The national application form together with the required annexes can be downloaded from the <a href="#">MCST website</a> and must be sent to <a href="mailto:eusubmissions.mcst@gov.mt">eusubmissions.mcst@gov.mt</a> by the deadline specified in the detailed National Rules.
<b>Additional Information</b>	For further information and assistance with partner search, applicants can contact the MCST lead call manager Dr Maria Azzopardi ( <a href="mailto:maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt">maria.azzopardi.2@gov.mt</a> ) and/or the alternate call manager Ms Martina Vella ( <a href="mailto:martina.vella.5@gov.mt">martina.vella.5@gov.mt</a> ).
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="#">Funding Opportunities - MCST (gov.mt)</a>





## 23. NORWAY – RCN

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://forskningsradet.no">The Research Council of Norway (forskingsradet.no)</a>	<b>The Research Council of Norway (RCN)</b>  The Research Council of Norway
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Jon Øygarden Flæten  Anne Magnussøn	<a href="mailto:jof@forskingsradet.no">jof@forskingsradet.no</a> +47 99 53 54 75 (+32) 470 04 69 98  <a href="mailto:anm@rcn.no">anm@rcn.no</a> +47 41517891
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	2.900.000 €	The RCN will fund up to 300.000 € per project proposal. In addition, the RCN may fund up to 100.000 € per project with a Project Manager (coordinator) from a Norwegian research organisation
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Applicants for project funding must be affiliated with an academic institution, company/industry, the public sector or an NGO. See definition and specification here:	

	<a href="https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/who-can-apply-for-funding">https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/who-can-apply-for-funding</a>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The Project Leader (PL) or the Principal Investigators (PI) must have completed a doctoral degree or have corresponding qualifications.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>See: <a href="https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/Budget/">https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/Budget/</a></p> <p>Applicants that are private companies, that is an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market, must be aware that their funding will be given within the limits set by the State Aid Rules; <a href="https://www.forskningsradet.no/Conditions%20for%20awarding%20state%20aid">Conditions for awarding state aid (forskningsradet.no)</a> State aid awarded by the Research Council is granted under the General Block Exemption Regulation for state aid, Article 25: Aid for research and development projects.</p> <p>To ensure that support is awarded in compliance with the state aid rules, the Research Council asks all applicants selected for conditional allocation of funding to provide supplementary information. The Project Owner must be able to document that its own institution and all its partners (all recipients of state aid) are eligible to receive state aid.</p> <p>Support from the Research Council constitutes state aid when it is awarded to an "undertaking", i.e., an actor that carries out an economic activity consisting of offering products or services on a given market.</p> <p>The budget applied for shall be stated in Euro. Conversion from Euro to Norwegian kroner is based on the official exchange rate per application date for preproposals. The official exchange rate can be found here: <a href="https://www.inforeuro.europa.eu/">Exchange rate (InforEuro) (europa.eu)</a></p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	
<b>Relevant documents</b>	For more general information about Norwegian conditions for funding, please read: <a href="https://www.forskningsradet.no/Funding%20from%20the%20Research%20Council">Funding from the Research Council (forskningsradet.no)</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	After funding decision, the Norwegian part of funded projects must register through the RCN portal. Further information will be provided to the relevant partners. Norwegian project partners will have to report to RCN on an annual basis following RCN guidelines and deadlines.
<b>Useful Links</b>	General information: <a href="https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/">https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/</a>

	Annual reporting to the RCN: <a href="https://forskingsradet.no">Project Reporting (forskingsradet.no)</a>
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## 24. POLAND – NCBR

	Funding Organisation:	<p>The National Centre for Research and Development (NCBR)</p>  <p>National Centre for Research and Development</p>
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Maciej Zdanowicz	<a href="mailto:maciej.zdanowicz@ncbr.gov.pl">maciej.zdanowicz@ncbr.gov.pl</a> +48 504 785 616
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner
	1.000.000 €	up to 200.000 € for polish consortium partner
Funded priority area (s)	(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(4) Green transition of Blue Food production <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Eligible Institutions	N/A	

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>1. Enterprises<sup>3</sup>: micro, small, medium or large</p> <p>2. Research organisations<sup>4</sup> (research and knowledge-dissemination organisations)</p> <p>3. Groups of entities composed of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimum one research organisation and minimum one enterprise (micro, small, medium or large) or</li> <li>- minimum two enterprises (micro, small, medium or large)</li> </ul> <p>or</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- minimum two research organisations.</li> </ul>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>The eligible costs shall be the following:</p> <p>1. <b>personnel costs</b> (researchers, technicians and other supporting staff to the extent employed on the research project);</p> <p>2. <b>costs of subcontracting</b>, costs of consultancy and equivalent services used exclusively for the research activity; this cost type cannot account for more than 70% of all eligible costs of a project; the subcontracting can be obtained from consortium partner only in justified case, this need will be verified by a national experts panel;</p> <p>3. <b>operating costs including:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>costs of instruments and equipment</b>, technical knowledge and patents to the extent and for the period used for the research project; if such instruments and equipment are not used for their full life for the research project, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice, shall be considered eligible;</li> <li>• <b>costs for buildings and land</b>, to the extent and for the duration used for the research project; with regard to buildings, only the depreciation costs corresponding to the life of the research project, as calculated on the basis of good accounting practice shall be considered eligible; for land, costs of commercial transfer or actually incurred capital costs shall be eligible;</li> </ul>

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<sup>3</sup> defined in Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014 of 17 June 2014 declaring certain categories of aid compatible with the internal market in application of Articles 107 and 108 of the Treaty (hereinafter referred to as “Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014”);

<sup>4</sup> defined in the Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>other operating costs</b> including costs of materials, supplies and similar products incurred directly as a result of the research activity;</li></ul> <p>4. <b>additional overheads</b> incurred indirectly as a result of the research project; that costs should account 25% of all eligible project costs; That costs (4) are counted as a multiplication by percentage given above (called x%) and the rest of direct costs, excluding subcontracting (2); It means <math>4=(1+3)*25\%</math>.</p>																				
Additional eligibility criteria	<p><b>Research organisations:</b> all types of research may be funded. Basic research must not exceed 10% of value of national requested budget. Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate WP/Task.</p> <p><b>Enterprises:</b> Only Industrial/Applied Research and Experimental Development will be funded. Other types of activities (e.g. coordination, dissemination, management) are not eligible for funding as separate WP)/Task.</p> <p><b>National funding rates:</b> Funding quota of Polish participants can be up to 100% for research organisations. In the case of enterprises, funding quota will be decided on a case-by-case basis depending on the size of the company, type of research/development, risk associated with the research activities and commercial perspective of exploitation.</p> <p>The following maximum funding quotas apply:</p> <table><tr><th>Type of Organisation Type of Activity</th><th>Micro/S small Enterprises</th><th>Medium Enterprises</th><th>Large Enterprises</th><th>Research Organizations</th></tr><tr><td>Fundamental/ Basic Research</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>n/a</td><td>Up to 100%</td></tr><tr><td>Industrial Research</td><td>Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)</td><td>Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)</td><td>Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr><tr><td>Experimental development</td><td>Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)</td><td>Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)</td><td>Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)</td><td>Up to 100 %</td></tr></table>	Type of Organisation Type of Activity	Micro/S small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Large Enterprises	Research Organizations	Fundamental/ Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	Up to 100%	Industrial Research	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 100 %	Experimental development	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 100 %
	Type of Organisation Type of Activity	Micro/S small Enterprises	Medium Enterprises	Large Enterprises	Research Organizations																
	Fundamental/ Basic Research	n/a	n/a	n/a	Up to 100%																
	Industrial Research	Up to 50+20+15 (max 80 %)	Up to 50+10+15 (max 75 %)	Up to 50+15 (max 65 %)	Up to 100 %																
Experimental development	Up to 25+20+15 (max 60 %)	Up to 25+10+15 (max 50 %)	Up to 25+15 (max 40 %)	Up to 100 %																	

<b>Relevant documents</b>	N/A
<b>Additional Information</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Applicant must conduct its business, R&amp;D or any other activity on the territory of the Republic of Poland, confirmed by an entry into the relevant register<sup>5</sup></li> <li>• For enterprises it is strongly advised to state in the Pre-proposal application form the KRS number of the enterprise and the size of the enterprise (micro/small, medium, large).</li> <li>• A condition for the participation of a group of entities as the Applicant in the call is its formal existence on the date of submission of the pre-proposal, confirmed by its members concluding, at least conditionally, agreement on the creation of a group of entities.</li> <li>• If more than one Polish entity participates in the project, the national application is submitted by a consortium (group of entities) of all Polish entities.</li> <li>• After international evaluation of full proposals and the selection of projects to be funded, Polish participants will be invited to submit a National Application Form (NAF). The NAFs will be examined for the appropriateness of funding requested. The Polish participants are obliged to use the rate of exchange of the European Central Bank dated on the day of opening of the call.</li> </ul>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>Detailed information about scope, financial rules, national procedure and national regulations is available on the NCBR's homepage:</p> <p><a href="https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy">https://www.gov.pl/web/ncbr/wniosek-krajowy</a></p>

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<sup>5</sup> if applicable

## 25. PORTUGAL – CCDRC



	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <u>CCDRC</u>	
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Jorge Brandão Teresa Jorge	<a href="mailto:jorge.brandao@ccdrc.pt">jorge.brandao@ccdrc.pt</a> +351 239 400 100  <a href="mailto:teresa.jorge@ccdrc.pt">teresa.jorge@ccdrc.pt</a> +351 239 400 134
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded per Project or Partner</b>
	250.000 €	Maximum of 3 Portuguese participating partners per awarded project. Maximum requested funding of 250.000€ for a Portuguese partner with a coordination role in an awarded project. Maximum requested funding of 150.000€ for a Portuguese partner participating in an awarded project.
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	



<p><b>Eligible Institutions</b></p>	<p><b>Non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional Research and Innovation System:</b> maximum funding rate – 85%</p> <p><b>SMEs:</b> micro and small enterprises – maximum funding rate 80%   medium enterprises – maximum funding rate 75%</p> <p><b>Other organisations:</b> maximum funding rate – 85%; can participate <b>only if partnering up</b> with one (or more) regional institutions from the typologies listed above</p> <p><b>ATTENTION:</b></p> <p>1) The funding rates presented are the maximum (possible) values. For projects led by companies, consult funding rates at article 71 of RECI. For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional Research and Innovation System, consult funding rates at article 110 of RECI.</p> <p>2) Industrial research activities have a maximum funding rate of 80%; experimental development activities have a maximum funding rate of 60%.</p>
<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p>Only entities from Centro (NUTS II) or those that ensure that the investment is to be carried out in this region are eligible for funding by CCDRC.</p> <p>The eligibility of partners, as beneficiary institutions, must be verified in article 5 of RECI. In addition:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For projects led by companies, consult articles 68 and 69 of RECI to have concrete information about the eligible beneficiaries and the eligibility criteria that must be fulfilled;</li> <li>• For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional Research and Innovation System, consult articles 105 and 106 of RECI to have concrete information about the eligible beneficiaries and the eligibility criteria that must be fulfilled.</li> </ul> <p><b>ATTENTION: non-SMEs will not be considered eligible in the context of this call.</b></p>
<p><b>Eligible Costs</b></p>	<p>For eligible costs verify article 7 of RECI. Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>For projects led by companies, articles 72 and 73 of RECI;</i></li> <li>• <i>For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional Research and Innovation System, articles 111 and 113 of RECI.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>Additional eligibility criteria</b></p>	<p>Before initiating a funding request, CCDRC strongly recommends that applicants contact CCDRC through the regional contact persons.</p> <p>Maximum 3 Portuguese participations per project.</p> <p>To all other criteria and conditions not explicit in this annex, please consult RECI.</p>

	<p>This regulatory framework was approved by Ordinance number 57-A/2015 of February 27th, for 2014-2020. Considering that the operations to be selected in this scope will be integrated into the Regional Programme Centro 2030, <b>the beneficiaries must explicitly acknowledge that the applicable regulatory framework will be the one for the 2021-2027 programming period.</b> [under development]</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RECI: <a href="https://dre.pt/dre/legislacao-consolidada/portaria/2015-70790258">https://dre.pt/dre/legislacao-consolidada/portaria/2015-70790258</a> [new Portuguese Specific Regulation for 2021-2027 under development, link to be added];</li> <li>• Memorandum of understanding among Portuguese funding institutions [under development, link to be added]</li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>The submission of a proposal at regional level will be mandatory – after the final decisions for approvals at transnational level. Stakeholders will receive instructions on this in due time.</p> <p>ATTENTION: When applying to the transnational call, all regional stakeholders must fill in and sign this Declaration:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- For projects led by companies: <a href="https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/sbep-declaracao-de-compromisso-saict/download">https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/sbep-declaracao-de-compromisso-saict/download</a>.</li> <li>- For projects led by non-entrepreneurial entities from the regional Research and Innovation System: <a href="https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/sbep-declaracao-de-compromisso-si-idt/download">https://ris3.ccdrc.pt/index.php/ris3-documentacao/sbep-declaracao-de-compromisso-si-idt/download</a>.</li> </ul> <p>The Declaration must be sent within 10 working days after the submission of the proposal to <a href="mailto:ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt">ccdrc.projects@ccdrc.pt</a>.</p> <p>The selection of the funding agencies by national stakeholders is indicative and funding agencies may move projects among themselves in order to maximise the number of approved national participations/projects, as established in the Memorandum of understanding among Portuguese funding institutions.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>Dedicated page for the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership within CCDRC portal</p>

## 26. PORTUGAL – FCT

	<p>Funding Organisation:</p> <p><a href="http://www.fct.pt">www.fct.pt</a></p>	<p>FCT</p>  <p>Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia</p>
<p>National Contact Point (NCP)</p>	<p>Name:</p>	<p>Email and Phone:</p>
	<p>Marta Norton Sofia Cordeiro</p>	<p><a href="mailto:marta.norton@fct.pt">marta.norton@fct.pt</a> + 351 21 391 1565 <a href="mailto:sofia.cordeiro@fct.pt">sofia.cordeiro@fct.pt</a> + 351 21 392 4495</p>
<p>Funding Commitment</p>	<p>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</p>	<p>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</p>
	<p>500.000 €</p>	<p>Maximum of <b>3 Portuguese participating partners</b> per awarded project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximum requested funding of <b>250.000,00€</b> for a Portuguese partner with a <b>coordination role</b> in an awarded project.</li> <li>• Maximum requested funding of <b>150.000,00€</b> for a Portuguese partner with a <b>participation role</b> in an awarded project.</li> </ul>
<p>Funded priority area (s)</p>	<p>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
	<p>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	
	<p>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/></p>	

	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> ☒
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> ☒
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	For eligible institutions please consult <b>Article 3</b> of <a href="#">FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds</a> .
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	All applicants applying on behalf of the eligible institutions listed above; <b>Note:</b> The percentage of time dedicated to transnational projects will not be added to the percentage of time dedicated to existing national projects.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	For eligible costs and non-eligible cost please consult <b>Articles 8 and 9</b> of <a href="#">FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds</a> ..
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	For additional eligibility criteria of beneficiaries and projects please consult <b>Articles 5 and 6</b> of <a href="#">FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds</a> .
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <a href="#">FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds</a></li> <li>• <a href="#">Financial execution rules</a></li> </ul>
<b>Additional Information:</b>	<p>For additional information please check <a href="#">FCT Regulation on projects funded solely by national funds</a>.</p> <p><b>Official Paperwork to complete and sign at national level is required!</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Up to 10 working days after the deadline for submission of pre-proposals, <b>Portuguese teams (coordinators and/or partners) must send the following <a href="#">Statement of Commitment to the National Contact Point for the call</a>, duly signed by the Researcher in Charge and by the legal representative of the proposing Institution, and stamped. The original must be kept, as it may be requested by the FCT.</b></li> </ul>
<b>Useful Links</b>	Dedicated website for the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership Call 2023 within FCT portal <a href="https://www.fct.pt/concursos/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-1-concurso-transnacional-conjunto">https://www.fct.pt/concursos/sustainable-blue-economy-partnership-sbep-1-concurso-transnacional-conjunto</a>



## 27. PORTUGAL – FRCT

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>  FRCT – Fundo Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia  Largo da Matriz 45-52, 9500-094 Ponta Delgada  Website: <a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/</a>  E-mail: <a href="mailto:info.frct@azores.gov.pt">info.frct@azores.gov.pt</a>	<b>Name of the funding organisation</b>   GOVERNO DOS AÇORES   <b>FRCT</b> <small>FUNDO REGIONAL DA CIÊNCIA E TECNOLOGIA</small>
<b>Regional Contact Point (RCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Renato Pires Project Manager  Carolina Torres Project Manager	<a href="mailto:renato.hm.pires@azores.gov.pt">renato.hm.pires@azores.gov.pt</a> +351 296 308 933  <a href="mailto:carolina.s.torres@azores.gov.pt">carolina.s.torres@azores.gov.pt</a> +351 296 241 870
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	100.000€ (indicative)	Maximum funding: 100.000€ (indicative)
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	The beneficiary institutions are: a) Higher education institutions, their institutes and R&D units; b) Private non-profit institutions whose main objective is R&D activities; (tbc) c) Other public and private non-profit institutions that carry out or participate in scientific research activities.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	The beneficiaries should be entities from the Scientific and Technological System of the Azores (SCTA) registered in the Azores.  For more information, please consult the SCTA regulation ( <a href="#">DLR n.º 10/2012/A, 26 March 2012</a> ).
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Please see the Guide for the participation of regional research teams in ERA-NETs financed by the FRCT: <a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/</a>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Please see the Guide for the participation of regional research teams in ERA-NETs financed by the FRCT: <a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/</a>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>Before initiating a funding request, FRCT strongly recommends that applicants contact FRCT through regional contact persons. Also, see the Guide for the participation of regional research teams in ERA-NETs financed by the FRCT at <a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/legislacao/</a></p> <p>The Declaration of Commitment must be signed by the beneficiary Institution's legal representative and the PI. The digital version of the Declaration must be sent by e-mail to the regional contact persons (the deadline is the same for pre-proposals submission).</p> <p>The original version of the Declaration must be sent by mail within 10 working days after pre-proposals submission. The address is: Fundo Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia (FRCT) Largo da Matriz 45-52, 9500-094 Ponta Delgada, Portugal – Açores.</p> <p>According to the contract between FRCT and the beneficiary, each PI must submit, at least, two financial</p>

	and progress reports (one mid-term report and one final report). In special cases, additional reporting can be requested from the PI.
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="http://frct.azores.gov.pt/">http://frct.azores.gov.pt/</a>



## 28. ROMANIA – MCID

	<a href="https://www.research.gov.ro/">https://www.research.gov.ro/</a>	 MINISTERUL CERCETĂRII, INOVĂRII ȘI DIGITALIZĂRII
National Contact Point (NCP)	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Domnica Cotet	<a href="mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro">domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro</a> +40-21 3023880
Funding Commitment	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.000.000€	250.000 max. if the consortium is coordinated by a Romanian applicant 200.000 max. for Romanian partners in the consortium
Funded priority area (s)	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at sub-sea-basin scale</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Eligible Institutions	The categories of institutions and units that can benefit from public funding for Horizon Europe projects are those established as components of the national research-development system, in accordance with the provisions of OG 57/2002, approved by Law 324/2003 with subsequent amendments and additions: educational institutions accredited public and private institutions, national research and development institutes, other public or private research organizations, economic agents (SMEs and large enterprises), local or central public administration units, non-governmental organizations.	



<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>The head of the research team from each participating institution has a PhD degree. This condition does not apply if the institution is an enterprise within the meaning of the State Aid legislation.</p> <p>A person in charge of the research team will participate in a single proposal from the trans-national call in this capacity.</p>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>a. Staff costs;</p> <p>b. Logistics expenses - Capital expenditure ; - Expenditure on stocks - supplies and inventory items;</p> <p>Expenditure on services performed by third parties cannot exceed 25% of the funding from the public budget. The subcontracted parts should not be core/substantial parts of the project work;</p> <p>c. Travel expenses;</p> <p>d. Overhead (indirect costs) is calculated as a percentage of direct costs: staff costs, logistics costs (excluding capital costs and cost for subcontracting) and travel expenses. Indirect costs will not exceed 20% of direct costs.</p> <p>The current guidelines for grants on an expenditure-cost basis and for allocations for administrative agreements apply.</p> <p>MCID will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.</p> <p>MCID will fund strategic (basic) research, applied/industrial research, experimental development implemented by research organisations and/or SMEs, according to the national rules and to the State Aid legislation.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>It is strongly advised to contact MCID before submission, in order to verify the eligibility of the researchers and avoid ineligible projects/research consortia.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p>The framework for this funding action is the National Plan for Research, Development and Innovation 2022-2027, Programme 5.8 European and international cooperation, 5.8.1 Horizon Europe Program</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p><a href="https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/p3-cooperare-europeana-si-internationala">https://uefiscdi.gov.ro/p3-cooperare-europeana-si-internationala</a></p>

## 29. SLOVENIA – MVZI

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <b>MVZI</b> <a href="https://www.gov.si/en/state-authorities/ministries/ministry-of-higher-education-science-and-innovation/">https://www.gov.si/en/state-authorities/ministries/ministry-of-higher-education-science-and-innovation/</a>	 <b>REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA</b> <b>MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION</b>
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Marta Šabec	<a href="mailto:marta.sabec@gov.si">marta.sabec@gov.si</a> T: +386 (0)1 478 47 39 M: +386 (0) 31 361 159
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	900.000 €	<b>300 k€</b> for all Slovenian partners within one consortium/ maximum requested budget per year: 100 k€
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	Research organizations as defined in the national <a href="#">Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act</a> (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti). All participating institutions have to be registered in the Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions ( <i>Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji - SICRIS</i> ). Organizations that fulfill this requirements may be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- universities,</li> <li>- public research institutes</li> <li>- private research institutes</li> <li>- non-governmental organisations</li> <li>- large, medium or small enterprises</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Eligible Applicants</b></p>	<p>All participating Slovenian researchers <u>have to be registered</u> in the Slovenian Research Agency register of researchers (SICRIS) and must have available research hours.</p> <p>The project activities of each Slovenian partner have to be under the supervision of the <u>primary investigator/primary researcher</u> who fulfills the requirements for project leader as defined in Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (<i>Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta</i>) and Methodology of Call proposal evaluation (<a href="#"><i>Metodologija ocenjevanja prijav na razpise</i></a>).</p>
<p><b>Eligible Costs</b></p>	<p>MVZI will fund all eligible costs of successful Slovenian transnational projects, recommended for funding, in accordance with the Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (<i>Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije</i>). Eligible costs are defined based on the FTE value according to the Slovenian Research Agency's research project categorization (A, B, C or D based on the research conducted).</p> <p>Eligible costs must be directly related to the research conducted and mandatory include all of the following categories as elements of the FTE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <u>personnel</u> (including social security, health, pension and other contributions according to national legislation);</li> <li>- <u>material</u> (travel and meetings costs, consumables, dissemination and knowledge exchange costs, other costs);</li> <li>- <u>depreciation</u> costs.</li> </ul> <p>Overhead or indirect costs are eligible. The value is calculated based on the FTE value of category A, B, C, or D research projects, under the condition that costs under each of the specific FTE elements are appropriately decreased (by a max. of 25% for indirect costs). Providing the stipulated conditions are met, the Public Procurement Act (<i>Zakon o javnem naročanju</i>) applies.</p> <p>Up to 100 % of eligible costs can be funded for research organisations (universities, public and private research institutes) whose financed activity is non-economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation. Wide dissemination of all research results on a non-exclusive and non-discriminatory basis is required.</p> <p>For research organizations whose financed activity is economic in accordance with the provisions of Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27.</p>

	<p>6. 2014) and the Program of collaborative Research and Development projects and other projects which are the subject of state aid (<i>Program sodelovalnih raziskovalno-razvojnih projektov in drugih projektov, ki so predmet državnih pomoči, Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport, 2022-2030, št. 440-4/2022/1 z dne 26.09.2022</i>) applies.</p> <p>Maximum funding percentages for Fundamental/basic &amp; Industrial/applied research:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Universities and research organisations 100 %</li> <li>- non-governmental organisations 100 %</li> <li>- Large enterprises 65 %,</li> <li>- Medium enterprises 75 %</li> <li>- Small Enterprises 80 %</li> </ul>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p><b>Eligible type of research and TRL:</b> basic/applied – for Slovenian partner TRL range: 2-6. The type of research conducted by Slovenian researchers must be defined and explained in the project proposal (e.g. in the Comments on budget section).</p> <p>- <b>Period of eligibility of expenditures on the project:</b> From the starting date of the transnational project stipulated in the consortium agreement for a period of 36 months, with a prescribed additional 30-day period for the payment of invoices related to the project costs. The period of eligibility of expenditures on the project can only start from the date the national contract enters into effect. The exact duration of the project will be defined in the contract between MVZI and the selected Slovenian partner.</p> <p>- <b>Period of eligibility of public expenditures:</b> Budgetary years 2025, 2026 and 2027.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p><b>Legal basis – National regulation:</b></p> <p>State Administration Act (Zakon o državni upravi (Uradni list RS, št. 153/22)) - Article 16 and 39; Public Finance Act (Zakon o javnih financah (Uradni list RS, št. 11/11 - uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 14/13, 101/13, 55/15 - ZFisP, 96/15 - ZIPRS1617, 13/18)) - Article 106. j; Regulation on the procedure of standards and manners to allocate means for the promotion of the evolutionary programme and the preferential tasks (Uredba o postopku, merilih in načinih dodeljevanja sredstev za spodbujanje razvojnih programov in prednostnih nalog (Uradni list RS, št. 56/11)); Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia's Budget for 2022 and 2023 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2022 in 2023 (Uradni list RS, št. 187/21, 206/21-ZDUPŠOP, 129/22, 140/22-ZSDH-1A in 150/22-ZIPRS2324)), Implementation of the Republic of Slovenia Budget for 2023 and 2024 Act (Zakon o izvrševanju proračunov Republike Slovenije za leti 2023 in 2024 (ZIPRS2324) (Uradni list RS, št. 150/2022)); Integrity and Prevention of Corruption Act (Zakon o integriteti in preprečevanju korupcije (Uradni list RS, št. št. 69/11 – uradno prečiščeno besedilo, 158/20 in 3/22 – ZDeb)); Resolution on the Slovenian Scientific Research and Innovation</p>



	<p>Strategy 2030 (Resolucija o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski strategiji Slovenije 2030 (Uradni list RS, št. 49/22)); Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia (Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 144/22)), Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 53/16 in 186/21 – ZZrID); Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation the provisions of the Community Framework for State Aid for Research and Development and Innovation (OJ EU C 198, 27. 6. 2014) (Okvir za državno pomoč za raziskave in razvoj ter inovacije (2014/C 198/01)); Program of collaborative Research and Development projects and other projects which are the subjects of state aid (Program sodelovalnih raziskovalno-razvojnih projektov in drugih projektov, ki so predmet državnih pomoči, Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport, 2022-2030, št. 440-4/2022/1 z dne 26.09.2022), National strategy of open access to scientific publications and research data in Slovenia 2015-2020 (Nacionalna strategije odprtega dostopa do znanstvenih objav in raziskovalnih podatkov v Sloveniji 2015-2020, št. 60300-5/2015/5 z dne 3. 9. 2015), Decision of the minister on means of financing the slovenian part of transnational research and development projects proposed for funding on the basis of a transnational public call in a project or partnership joined by the Ministry of education, science and sport (Sklep ministra o višini sredstev za sofinanciranje slovenskega dela večstranskih transnacionalnih raziskovalnih in razvojnih projektov, ki so predlagani v sofinanciranje na podlagi postopka transnacionalnega javnega razpisa v projektu ali partnerstvu, h kateremu je pristopilo Ministrstvo za izobraževanje, znanost in šport št. 92-15/2022/383 z dne 20. 12. 2022); Government of the Republic of Slovenia Act (Zakon o Vladi Republike Slovenije (Uradni list RS, št. 163/22)).</p>
<p><b>Additional Information</b></p>	<p><b>No submission of the pre- and full proposal at national level is needed.</b></p> <p><b>National contracting negotiations</b> will commence after the projects are selected for funding on the level of the transnational call. National documentation, including evidence of the starting date of the transnational project (in the form of a Consortia Agreement or statement on the starting date by the transnational project coordinator), will be a prerequisite for signing the contract at national level. The needed evidences on project expenses will be more precisely determined in the national contract.</p> <p>All Slovenian applicants are strongly advised to contact the Slovenian National Contact Person / NCP.</p>

	<p><b>Submission of financial and scientific reports at national level will be required three times:</b> each year after the end of the annual project implementation.</p>
Useful Links	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>More information about the call at national level:</b>  <a href="https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-visoko-solstvo-znanost-in-inovacije/javne-objave/">https://www.gov.si/drzavni-organi/ministrstva/ministrstvo-za-visoko-solstvo-znanost-in-inovacije/javne-objave/</a></li> <li>- <b>Scientific Research and Innovation Activities Act</b> (Zakon o znanstvenoraziskovalni in inovacijski dejavnosti, Uradni list RS, št. 186/21):  <a href="http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7733">http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7733</a></li> <li>- <b>Slovenian Research Agency register of research institutions</b> (Informacijski sistem o raziskovalni dejavnosti v Sloveniji - SICRIS): <a href="https://cris.cobiss.net/ecris/si/en">https://cris.cobiss.net/ecris/si/en</a></li> <li>- <b>Rules on criteria for establishing compliance with the conditions for being the head of a research project</b> (Pravilnik o kriterijih za ugotavljanje izpolnjevanja pogojev za vodjo raziskovalnega projekta, Uradni list RS št. 186/21-ZDeb):  <a href="http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV12558">http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=PRAV12558</a></li> <li>- <b>Methodology of Call proposal evaluation</b> (Metodologija ocenjevanja prijav na razpise):  <a href="https://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/metod-skupna-17-26.asp">https://www.arrs.si/sl/akti/metod-skupna-17-26.asp</a></li> <li>- <b>Decree on the scientific research funding from the budget of the Republic of Slovenia</b> (Uredba o financiranju znanstvenoraziskovalne dejavnosti iz Proračuna Republike Slovenije, Uradni list RS št. 35/22 in št. 144/22):  <a href="http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED8468">http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=URED8468</a></li> <li>- <b>FTE value according to the Slovenian Research Agency's research project categorization:</b>  <a href="https://www.arrs.si/sl/progproj/cena/index.asp">https://www.arrs.si/sl/progproj/cena/index.asp</a></li> <li>- <b>Public Procurement Act</b> (Zakon o javnem naročanju, Uradni list RS št. 91/15, 14/18, 121/21, 10/22, 74/22 – odl. US in 100/22):  <a href="http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7086">http://www.pisrs.si/Pis.web/pregledPredpisa?id=ZAKO7086</a></li> <li>- <b>Program of collaborative Research and Development projects and other projects which are the subjects of stat aid</b> (Program sodelovalnih raziskovalno-razvojnih projektov in drugih projektov, ki so predmet državnih pomoči Ministrstva za izobraževanje, znanost in šport 2022-2030, št. 440-4/2022/1 z dne 26.09.2022):  <a href="https://www.gov.si/assets/ministrstva/MIZS/Dokumenti/ZNANOST/PROGRAM_za_DP_MIZS_2022-2030_P.pdf">https://www.gov.si/assets/ministrstva/MIZS/Dokumenti/ZNANOST/PROGRAM_za_DP_MIZS_2022-2030_P.pdf</a></li> </ul>

Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation  
Dr. Igor Papič  
Minister



## 30. SPAIN – AEI

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>	<b><u>Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI)</u></b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Abraham Trujillo Quintela	<a href="mailto:oceans@aei.gob.es">oceans@aei.gob.es</a>
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	1.500.000 €	<p>The <u>following funding limits for direct costs</u> are considered eligibility criteria. Indirect costs (overheads) must be added to direct costs : 21% of direct costs. Proposals not respecting these limits could be declared ineligible.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If the consortium is NOT COORDINATED by an AEI-applicant and:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- there is only one AEI-applicant in the proposal: max. € 170.000</li> <li>- there are two AEI-applicants in the proposal, the amount for both Partners is: max. € 215.000</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If the consortium IS COORDINATED by an AEI-applicant and:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- there is only one AEI-applicant in the proposal acting as Coordinator: max. € 250.000</li> <li>- there are two AEI-applicants in the proposal and one of them is acting as Coordinator, the amount for both Partners is: max. € 295.000</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b></p>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a maximum of two AEI-applicants in the same proposal are allowed;</li> <li>• the direct costs in the application must be rounded to the thousands.</li> </ul>
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<p><b>Eligible entities</b> for the AEI funding are:</p> <p>Non-profit research organizations (such as universities, public research institutions, technological centres and other private non-profit institutions performing RDI activities in Spain), which must comply with the requirements established by this transnational call and with the rules on eligibility defined in the corresponding Spanish national funding instrument “Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional” (PCI) and <a href="#">the PCI Requirements document</a>.</p> <p>The entities must have been previously beneficiaries of any of the AEI calls. They have to ensure contractual relationship with the Principal Investigator (PI) during all the implementation of the project.</p>	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p><b>Principal Investigators (PIs) requesting funding to the AEI must:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Be eligible to the corresponding PCI call (see <a href="#">PCI2022-2</a> as an example) and the <a href="#">PCI Requirements document</a></li> <li>• Demonstrate experience as investigators in projects funded by the different Plan Estatal I+D+i: 2008-2011, 2013-2016, 2017-2020, 2021-2023, ERC Grants, European Framework Programmes or other relevant national or international programmes.</li> </ul>	





	<p><b>Incompatibilities:</b> These must be taken into account when participating in different ERA-Nets or other international initiatives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PIs <u>are not allowed</u> to apply for funding in (i) more than one proposal of this transnational call, (ii) in more than one proposal in the same PCI call and (iii) in PCI calls in consecutive years.</li> <li>PI must remain unchanged between the proposal to this transnational call and the corresponding PCI call should the proposal be recommended for funding</li> </ul> <p><b>Important:</b> The applicants should include the PI's full name and the full name of their institution in the original language in the application form.</p>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research and innovation activities are eligible. Mere dissemination, communication or other similar activities will not be eligible.</li> <li>Personnel costs for new temporary employment contracts are eligible. The costs of permanent staff linked to the beneficiary entity or members of the research team will not be considered eligible costs.</li> <li>Direct costs such as current costs, small scientific equipment, disposable materials, travelling expenses, coordination costs and other costs that can be justified as necessary to carry out the proposed activities.</li> <li>Overheads (21% of all direct costs, <u>including the subcontracting costs</u>).</li> </ul> <p>The AEI will avoid double funding (overlapping with other EU or National funding) and will not grant projects or parts of projects already funded.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Centres formed by different Spanish legal entities will be considered as a unique entity, and thus the maximum funding should not exceed the limits per proposal established above (for example, mixed centres).</p> <p><b>NEW!!</b> Two centres or institutions belonging to the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas (CSIC) will be treated as two separate partners one from another when one of them is acting as Coordinator of the proposal and their tasks and identity in the project are sufficiently separated and justified.</p>

	<p>The final funding will take into account the transnational evaluation of the collaborative proposal, the scientific quality of the Spanish group, the added value of the international collaboration, and the financial resources available.</p> <p>The Spanish industrial sector is strongly encouraged to participate in the transnational consortia, principally obtaining funds from the CDTI participating in this transnational call (see CDTI's requirements), from other innovation and technological development funding agencies, or using own funds. In case of an equal assessment of two proposals involving AEI recipients, AEI will prioritize the funding of the proposal that includes the Spanish industrial sector.</p>
<p><b>Relevant documents and information</b></p>	<p><b>Funding Programme:</b> The framework for this funding action is the <a href="#">Plan Estatal de Investigación Científica, Técnica e Innovación 2021-2023</a>. On a national level, the Call will be managed by the Subdivisión de <a href="#">Programas Científico-Técnicos Transversales, Fortalecimiento y Excelencia (STRAN)</a> of the AEI.</p> <p><b>Funding Instrument:</b> The instrument for funding the Spanish groups requesting funding to the AEI is the corresponding Spanish call "Proyectos de Colaboración Internacional" (PCI) (to be published in due time).</p> <p><b>IMPORTANT:</b> Proposals of projects that foresee the need to request research ship time must consult availability of research vessels and calendar of cruises and meet the requirements published in the COCSABO website: <a href="https://www.ciencia.gob.es/Ministerio/Mision-y-organizacion/Organismos-consultivos/COCSABO.html">https://www.ciencia.gob.es/Ministerio/Mision-y-organizacion/Organismos-consultivos/COCSABO.html</a></p> <p>Projects including research activities within the zone of the <a href="#">Antarctic Treaty</a> should consult the requirements of the Comité Polar Español <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p><b>Data Protection:</b> By submitting a grant application to the AEI, the applicants consent to communication of the data contained in the application to other public administrations, with the aim of further processing of the</p>

	<p>data for historical, statistical or scientific purposes, within the framework of the Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, on Personal Data Protection and Guarantee of Digital Rights.</p> <p><b>Do No Significant Harm (DNSH) principle:</b> The projects granted under this call must comply with the DNSH criteria (see <a href="#">Article 6.5 of the PCI 2022-2</a>).</p>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p><b>Acknowledgement:</b> Any publication or dissemination activity resulting from the granted projects must acknowledge the AEI funding: "Project (reference nº XX) funded by Agencia Estatal de Investigación (AEI) through the PCI (year) call".</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p><u>As a reference, the applicants <b>are strongly advised</b> to read the call text of <a href="#">the PCI 2022-2 ("Resolución de 14 de octubre de 2022")</a> and especially <a href="#">the PCI Requirements document</a> on the national call website as well as check their eligibility with the National Contact Point prior to the submission</u></p>




## 31. SPAIN – CDTI

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b>  <a href="https://www.cdti.es/">https://www.cdti.es/</a>	<b>CDTI, E.P.E.</b>  
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>  Héctor González	<b>Email:</b>  <a href="mailto:partenariadoshe@cdti.es">partenariadoshe@cdti.es</a>
	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>  400.000 €	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>  A minimum financeable budget of 175.000 € is recommended for each Spanish company.
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	For-profit enterprises (large or SMEs) established and carrying out RTDI activities in Spain. Other entities such as Universities, Public Research Institutions, Technological Centres, and other not-for-profit private institutions are not eligible.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	For-profit enterprises (large or SMEs) established and carrying out RTDI activities in Spain.	
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	Projects should support transnational collaboration; therefore, no single participant or country can exceed 70% of the total project costs. Eligible cost:	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff costs related to technical staff directly involved in the R&amp;D project. Project management costs, max. 58 hours per month (approximately 0,4PM)</li> <li>• Instrument and equipment costs</li> <li>• Implementation costs e.g., technical knowledge, patents, or consultancy services, intended exclusively for the research project and procured from external sources at market price.</li> <li>• Other costs including goods and services to be used exclusively for the research project e.g.: (national) audit costs max 2.000€ per year/beneficiary, travel costs associated with the implementation of the project, (8.000€ max. for the duration of the project). Overheads (indirect costs as a percentage of personnel costs) are calculated automatically by CDTI's electronic submission system.</li> </ul> <p>CDTI will only fund technology-based activities within industrial research and/or experimental development projects (in accordance with the definitions of the General Block Exemption Regulation, EC Regulation nº651/2014) representing outstanding scientific-technical quality and high innovative potential.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>Please note that non-technological activities e.g. developing new business models, are excluded from CDTI funding.</p> <p>R&amp;D activities to be financed must belong to TRL 4-7 range and be implemented in Spain.</p>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<p><b><u>Each Spanish company participating in a project and requesting funding from CDTI, must apply via CDTI's electronic submission system (<a href="https://sede.cdti.gob.es">https://sede.cdti.gob.es</a>).</u></b></p> <p>CDTI's application process consists of completing an online application form which is accompanied by a short technical report written in Spanish. The report must focus on the activities (and associated budget) that the company will assume in the project (please check <i>Type of research funded</i> and <i>Eligible costs</i> sections in this table).</p> <p><b><u>Deadline to complete CDTI's application process: The same end date as the first phase international application.</u></b></p>

	Applicants are strongly advised to check the detailed information available on CDTI website and to contact the NCP for advice about national funding rules, before submitting a proposal.
<b>Additional Information</b>	<b><u>Please note that failing to comply with the national application process by the deadline, will deem the company ineligible to participate in the call.</u></b>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://cdti.es">Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico Industrial / Internacionalización de la I+D+I / Partenariados Cofund Horizonte Europa (cdti.es)</a>



## 32. SWEDEN – FORMAS

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.formas.se">https://www.formas.se</a> 	<b>The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning</b> <b>FORMAS</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Osman Tikansak	<a href="mailto:osman.tikansak@formas.se">osman.tikansak@formas.se</a>
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	2.000.000 €	Maximum funding from FORMAS is 300.000 € per proposal, or a maximum of 500.000 € per proposal if the Swedish applicant is also the project coordinator (regardless of how many Swedish partners participate in the project).
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	FORMAS Grants for research projects can only be administered by a Swedish university or other research organizations that fulfil the grant administrating organization eligibility requirements of FORMAS, see: <a href="#">How it work - Formas</a>	

<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Principal applicants and co-applicants must have completed their PhD degree and be affiliated with a Swedish higher education institution, research institute or government agency with a research assignment that meets the FORMAS requirements for administrating organisations, see: <a href="#">How it works - Formas</a>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	FORMAS' standard eligibility criteria for research projects apply, please see Formas' general instructions: <a href="#">How it works - Formas</a> VAT should not be included in the budget figures.
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Swedish applicants in a consortium must apply to FORMAS (Prisma) under one single project application after they have been invited to step – 2 (full proposal). Project duration is 3 years.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<a href="#">Applying for funding - Formas</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>- Swedish applicants who have submitted a pre-proposal to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership (the international submission platform), will be contacted by FORMAS for further information on how to register their full proposals with FORMAS (Prisma). Reports are to be submitted according to the regulations of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and FORMAS.</p> <p>Formas is NOT funding priority area (5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean. Swedish applicants who are interested to submit a research proposal in this priority area should apply for funds to Rymdstyrelsen.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="#">Formas all calls</a>







### 33. SWEDEN – SNSA

	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.rymdstyrelsen.se/">https://www.rymdstyrelsen.se/</a> <a href="https://www.rymdstyrelsen.se/en/">https://www.rymdstyrelsen.se/en/</a>	<b>Swedish National Space Agency</b> <b>(Rymdstyrelsen)</b>  <b>Rymdstyrelsen</b> Swedish National Space Agency
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	Selima Ben Mustapha	<a href="mailto:selima.benmustapha@snsa.se">selima.benmustapha@snsa.se</a> +46724687773
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	650.000€	Maximum funding from SNSA is 200.000 € per proposal, or a maximum of 300.000 € per proposal if the Swedish applicant is also the project coordinator (regardless of how many Swedish partners participate in the project).
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	SNSA Grants for research projects can only be administered by a Swedish university or other research organizations that fulfil the grant administrating organization eligibility requirements of SNSA.	
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	Principal applicants and co-applicants must have completed their PhD degree and be affiliated with a Swedish higher education institution, research institute or government agency	

	with a research assignment that meets the SNSA requirements for administrating organisations.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	SNSA' standard eligibility criteria for research projects apply. VAT should not be included in the budget figures.
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	Swedish applicants in a consortium must apply to SNSA under one single project application. Project duration is 3 years.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	
<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>For Swedish applications to SNSA, both the pre- and full proposal for research projects must be submitted to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership. Swedish applicants who have submitted a pre-proposal will be contacted by SNSA for further information on how to register their proposals with SNSA. Reports are to be submitted according to the regulations of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and SNSA.</p> <p>SNSA is funding only priority area (5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean. Swedish applicants who are interested to submit a research proposal in the other priority areas should apply for funds to FORMAS.</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	

### 34. THE NETHERLANDS – LNV, IenW, NWO



	<a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en">https://www.nwo.nl/en</a>	<p>NWO, IenW, LNV</p>   <p>Ministerie van Infrastructuur en Waterstaat</p>  <p>Ministerie van Landbouw, Natuur en Voedselkwaliteit</p>
National Contact Point (NCP)	Name:	Email and Phone:
	Daan Blok, Peter Spierenburg	<a href="mailto:d.blok@nwo.nl">d.blok@nwo.nl</a> +31-(0)70 349 41 18 <a href="mailto:p.spierenburg@nwo.nl">p.spierenburg@nwo.nl</a> +31-(0)306001291
Funding Commitment	Funding contribution to the Call (in €)	Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner
	1.250.000€	Max 300 000€ per project
Funded priority area (s)	(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support blue economy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(3) Climate neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource efficient blue food and feed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(4) Green transition of Blue Food production <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at sub-sea-basin scale <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Eligible Institutions	Universities located in the Kingdom of the Netherlands; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University medical centres;</li> <li>• Institutes affiliated to the Royal Netherlands Academy of Arts and Sciences (KNAW) or NWO;</li> <li>• The Netherlands Cancer Institute;</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics in Nijmegen;</li> <li>• Naturalis Biodiversity Center;</li> <li>• Advanced Research Centre for NanoLithography (ARCNL);</li> <li>• Princess Máxima Center.</li> <li>• Universities of applied sciences</li> </ul> <p>Specifications : as referred to in Article 1.8 of the Dutch Higher Education and Research Act (Wet op het hoger onderwijs en wetenschappelijk onderzoek, WHW)</p>
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	<p>Full, associate and assistant professors, and other researchers with a comparable position* may submit an application (i.e. participate in a consortium and request NWO funding) if they have a tenured position (and therefore a paid position for an indefinite period) or a tenure track agreement at one of the eligible institutions (see above).</p> <p>*A comparable position refers to a researcher that has a demonstrable and comparable number of years of experience in carrying out scientific research and supervising other researchers as a full, associate or assistant professor.</p> <p>Persons with a zero-hour employment agreement or with a contract for a limited period of time (other than a tenure track appointment) may not submit a proposal.</p> <p>It could be the case that the applicant's tenure track agreement ends before the intended completion date of the project for which funding is applied for, or that before that date, the applicant's tenured contract ends due to the applicant reaching retirement age. In that case, the applicant needs to include a statement from their employer in which the organisation concerned guarantees that the project and all project members for whom funding has been requested will receive adequate supervision for the full duration of the project.</p> <p>Applicants with a part-time contract should guarantee adequate supervision of the project and all project members for whom funding is requested.</p>
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<p>The NWO budget modules (including the maximum amount) available for this Call for proposals are listed below. Apply only for funding that is vital to realise the project.</p> <p>Available budget modules</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Postdoc – at least 12 full months and at most 36 full-time months, according to UNL or NFU rates</i></li> <li>• <i>Research leave – max. 5 months, 1 fte, according to UNL or NFU rates</i></li> <li>• <i>Personnel at universities of applied sciences – rates according to the Hourly rate productive hours, excl. Dutch VAT' from the Handleiding Overheidstarieven [HOT- Manual Dutch Government rates]</i></li> <li>• <i>Material costs – max. EUR 15,000 per year per full-time scientific position (postdoc)</i></li> <li>• <i>Knowledge utilisation - max. EUR 25,000</i></li> <li>• <i>Internationalisation - max. EUR 25,000</i></li> </ul> <p>For the budget module "Postdoc", a one-off individual bench fee of EUR 5,000 is added on top of the salary costs to encourage the scientific career of the project employee funded by NWO.</p> <p>Note that PhD positions cannot be applied for in this call, due to the maximum project duration of 3 years.</p> <p>The budget items "overhead" and "subcontracting costs" in the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership format are not eligible for NWO funding. Please refer to the detailed explanation of NWO budget modules to see which costs are eligible: <a href="http://www.nwo.nl/sbep">www.nwo.nl/sbep</a></p> <p>At the full proposal phase, it is required to submit a financial details form separately to NWO. This form is available on: <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/">https://www.nwo.nl/en/calls/</a>.</p> <p>It is recommended to use the NWO financial details form already in the pre-proposal stage to confirm eligibility of budget items.</p> <p>Do not hesitate to contact the national contact person in case of questions.</p>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	<p>An application for NWO funding (i.e. the Dutch part of a European consortium) has a single main applicant (i.e. Dutch Partner or Coordinator in the European consortium), responsible for scientific and financial management.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An applicant may only request NWO funding as main applicant for one project (part of a European consortium) in this call of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership. Applicants may be involved in maximum two applications as co-applicant, or one as main applicant and one as co-applicant.</li> <li>• Applicants may not apply for a scientific position for themselves</li> </ul>
<b>Relevant documents</b>	

<b>Additional Information</b>	<p>The <a href="#">NWO grant rules 2017</a> are applicable.</p> <p>Under the Dutch General Administrative Law Act, any interested party has the right to lodge an objection to the decision taken by NWO within six weeks of the date of the decision letter. Further information about the objection procedure can be found on the NWO website: <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/lodging-objection">https://www.nwo.nl/en/lodging-objection</a></p> <p>Applicants are required to submit a mandatory NWO budget form in the Full Proposal stage.</p> <p>For full details of the general NWO funding process, please refer to <a href="https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained">https://www.nwo.nl/en/funding/funding+process+explained</a></p> <p>Submission of financial and scientific reports at national level is required in accordance with the rules of NWO</p>
<b>Useful Links</b>	<p>For more information on NWO, please refer to <a href="http://www.nwo.nl">www.nwo.nl</a></p>


## 35. TÜRKİYE – TÜBİTAK










	<b>Funding Organisation:</b> <a href="https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en">https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en</a>	<b>The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK)</b> 
<b>National Contact Point (NCP)</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Email and Phone:</b>
	ÇAĞLA AKAT KÖSE	<a href="mailto:sbep@tubitak.gov.tr">sbep@tubitak.gov.tr</a> <a href="mailto:cagla.akatkose@tubitak.gov.tr">cagla.akatkose@tubitak.gov.tr</a> +90 312 298 1783
<b>Funding Commitment</b>	<b>Funding contribution to the Call (in €)</b>	<b>Minimum/maximum funding per awarded project or Partner</b>
	400 000 €	The maximum amount of funding that can be given per project will be indicated in the national call text.
<b>Funded priority area (s)</b>	<b>(1) Planning and managing sea-uses at the regional level</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(2) Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(3) Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable, and resource-efficient blue food and feed</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(4) Green transition of Blue Food production</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
	<b>(5) Digital Twins of the Ocean (DTOs) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Eligible Institutions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Higher education institutions, training and research hospitals, public institutions and organizations (including public research centers, metropolitan/city municipalities), SMEs and large companies established in Türkiye are eligible to be supported.</li> <li>➤ Applications are <b>NOT</b> accepted from foundations; associations and their economic enterprises; cooperatives; unions; sole proprietorships and unincorporated associations.</li> </ul>	

	For further details please visit the national call text.
<b>Eligible Applicants</b>	➤ For details please visit the national call text.
<b>Eligible Costs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Personnel Expenses (For Private Sector only)</li> <li>- Scholarship expenses (For universities and public sector only)</li> <li>- Travel Expenses</li> <li>- Tools and Equipment Expenses.</li> <li>- Consumable Expenses.</li> <li>- Consultancy and Service Procurement Expenses (from international project partners are not supported).</li> <li>- Project Incentive Premium (PIP) and overhead (For universities and public sector only)</li> </ul>
<b>Additional eligibility criteria</b>	➤ The national call text needs to be followed.
<b>Relevant documents</b>	<a href="https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/yonetmelik_iii_2_0.pdf">https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/yonetmelik_iii_2_0.pdf</a> <a href="https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/41_YK_Islenm%C4%B1s_Hali_ARDEB_Idari_Mali_Esaslar.pdf">https://tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/41_YK_Islenm%C4%B1s_Hali_ARDEB_Idari_Mali_Esaslar.pdf</a> <a href="https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/242bk-ek2_0.pdf">https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/sites/default/files/242bk-ek2_0.pdf</a>
<b>Additional Information</b>	
<b>Useful Links</b>	<a href="https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en">https://www.tubitak.gov.tr/en</a>



## SUMMARY






An empty cell means that no specific rules apply to that criterion. ATTENTION! : means that you need to check the corresponding national/regional regulations available in the 2023 Joint Transnational Call website and/or on the FOs' website.











Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
BELGIUM	<b>BELSPo</b> <i>Belgian Science Policy Office</i>	Koen Lefever <a href="mailto:koen.lefever@belspo.be">koen.lefever@belspo.be</a> +32 2 238 35 51  David Cox <a href="mailto:david.cox@belspo.be">david.cox@belspo.be</a> +32 2 238 34 03					
BELGIUM	<b>FIO/VLAIO</b> <i>Fonds innoveren en ondernemen</i>	Jozef Ghijselen <a href="mailto:jozef.ghijselen@vlaio.be">jozef.ghijselen@vlaio.be</a> +32 2 432 42 40 <a href="http://www.vlaio.be">www.vlaio.be</a>					
BELGIUM	<b>F.R.S.-FNRS</b> <i>Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique</i>	Florence Quist <a href="mailto:international@frs-fnrs.be">international@frs-fnrs.be</a> +32 2 504 9351					

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
BELGIUM	<b>FWO</b> <i>The Research Foundation – Flanders</i>	Toon Monbaliu (general) Kristien Peeters (SBO) <a href="mailto:europa@fwo.be">europa@fwo.be</a>					
BRAZIL	<b>CONFAP</b> <i>Brazilian National Council of State Funding Agencies</i>	Elisa Natola <a href="mailto:elisa.confap@gmail.com">elisa.confap@gmail.com</a> +55 61 99613 8850					
CYPRUS	<b>RIF</b> <i>Research and Innovation Foundation</i>	Anna Maria Christoforou <a href="mailto:amchristoforou@research.org.cy">amchristoforou@research.org.cy</a> +357 22205043					
DENMARK	<b>IFD</b> <i>Innovation Fund Denmark</i>	Aila Lonka <a href="mailto:Aila.Lonka@Innofond.dk">Aila.Lonka@Innofond.dk</a> +45 6190 5036					













Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
ESTONIA	ETAG <i>Estonian Research Council</i>	Katrin Saar <a href="mailto:katrin.saar@etag.ee">katrin.saar@etag.ee</a> (+372) 7317386	!	!		!	!
ESTONIA	KEM <i>Estonian Ministry of the Environment</i>	Irja Truuma <a href="mailto:irja.truuma@envir.ee">irja.truuma@envir.ee</a>	!	!		!	!
ESTONIA	MEM <i>Ministry of Rural Affairs of the Republic of Estonia</i>	Maarja Malm <a href="mailto:maarja.malm@agri.ee">maarja.malm@agri.ee</a> ; (+372) 625 6250	!	!		!	!
FAROE ISLANDS	RCFI <i>Research Council Faroe Islands</i>	Maria Húsgarð <a href="mailto:maria@gransking.fo">maria@gransking.fo</a> +298 567802  Annika Sølvará <a href="mailto:annika@gransking.fo">annika@gransking.fo</a> +298 567803		!			!

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
FINLAND	<b>AKA</b> <i>Academy of Finland</i>	Jaana Lehtimäki <a href="mailto:jaana.lehtimaki@aka.fi">jaana.lehtimaki@aka.fi</a> +358295335060	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠
FINLAND	<b>MMM</b> <i>Ministry of agriculture and forestry</i>	Elina Nikkola <a href="mailto:elina.nikkola@gov.fi">elina.nikkola@gov.fi</a> +358505981626	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠	⚠
FRANCE	<b>ANR</b> <i>Agence nationale de la Recherche</i>	Claude Yven, Coraline Chapperon, Sylvain Pasquier <a href="mailto:sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr">sbep.call-secretariat@agencerecherche.fr</a>		⚠	⚠	⚠	











Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
GERMANY	BMBF/PTJ <i>Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) represented by Project Management Jülich, Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH</i>	Dr. Claudia Schultz <a href="mailto:c.schultz@fz-juelich.de">c.schultz@fz-juelich.de</a> +49 228 60884 212  Christin Lambertz <a href="mailto:c.lambertz@fz-juelich.de">c.lambertz@fz-juelich.de</a> +49 381 20356 284					
ICELAND	RANNIS <i>The Icelandic Centre for Research</i>	Sigurður Björnsson <a href="mailto:sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is">sigurdur.bjornsson@rannis.is</a>  Elísabet Andrésdóttir <a href="mailto:elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is">elisabet.m.andresdottir@rannis.is</a>  +354 515 5800					

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
IRELAND	MI <i>Marine Institute</i>	Veronica Cunningham <a href="mailto:Veronica.Cunningham@marine.ie">Veronica.Cunningham@marine.ie</a> +353 91 387532 or +353 91 387200					
ITALY	MIMIT <i>Ministry of Enterprises and Made in Italy</i>	Alessandra D'Ambrosio <a href="mailto:alessandra.dambrosio@mise.gov.it">alessandra.dambrosio@mise.gov.it</a>  Valentina Milazzo <a href="mailto:valentina.milazzo@mise.gov.it">valentina.milazzo@mise.gov.it</a> +39 06 5492 7928					
ITALY	MUR <i>Ministry of Universities and Research</i>	Aldo Covello: <a href="mailto:aldo.covello@mur.gov.it">aldo.covello@mur.gov.it</a>  Yasmine Iollo: <a href="mailto:yasmine.iollo@est.mur.gov.it">yasmine.iollo@est.mur.gov.it</a>					

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
LATVIA	LCS <i>The Latvian Council of Science</i>	Aiga Salmina <a href="mailto:aiga.salmina@lzp.gov.lv">aiga.salmina@lzp.gov.lv</a> Lāsma Brenča <a href="mailto:lasma.brenca@lzp.gov.lv">lasma.brenca@lzp.gov.lv</a> +37 126 686 000	!	!	!	!	!
LITHUANIA	LMT <i>Lietuvos mokslo taryba</i>	Viktoras Mongirdas <a href="mailto:viktoras.mongirdas@lmt.lt">viktoras.mongirdas@lmt.lt</a> +370 676 19613		!	!		!
MALTA	MCST <i>Malta Council for Science and Technology</i>	Maria Azzopardi <a href="mailto:maria.azzopard.2@gov.mt">maria.azzopard.2@gov.mt</a> +356 2360 2175 Martina Vella (Alternate)			!	!	!
NORWAY	RCN <i>The Research Council of Norway</i>	Jon Øygarden Flæten <a href="mailto:jof@forskningsradet.no">jof@forskningsradet.no</a> (+47) 99 53 54 75 (+32) 470 04 69 98 Anne Magnussøn <a href="mailto:anm@rcn.no">anm@rcn.no</a> +47 41517891		!	!	!	!

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
POLAND	<b>NCBR</b> <i>The National Centre for Research and Development</i>	Maciej Zdanowicz International Cooperation Department – Programme Section <a href="mailto:maciej.zdanowicz@ncbr.gov.pl">maciej.zdanowicz@ncbr.gov.pl</a> +48 504 785 616					
PORTUGAL	<b>CCDR</b> <i>Comissão de Coordenação e Desenvolvimento Regional do Centro</i>	Teresa Jorge <a href="mailto:teresa.jorge@ccdr.pt">teresa.jorge@ccdr.pt</a> ; Phone: +351 239 400 134 Jorge Brandão <a href="mailto:jorge.brandao@ccdr.pt">jorge.brandao@ccdr.pt</a> +351 239 400 100					
PORTUGAL	<b>FCT</b> <i>Fundação para a Ciência e a Tecnologia</i>	Sofia Cordeiro <a href="mailto:Sofia.cordeiro@fct.pt">Sofia.cordeiro@fct.pt</a> ; + 351 21 392 4495  Marta Norton <a href="mailto:Marta.norton@fct.pt">Marta.norton@fct.pt</a> ; + 351 21 391 1565					



Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
PORTUGAL	<b>FRCT</b> <i>Fundo Regional da Ciência e Tecnologia</i>	Renato Pires Project Manager <a href="mailto:renato.hm.pires@azores.gov.pt">renato.hm.pires@azores.gov.pt</a> +351 296 308 933  Carolina Torres Project Manager <a href="mailto:carolina.s.torres@azores.gov.pt">carolina.s.torres@azores.gov.pt</a> +351 296 241 870		 (indicative)			
ROMANIA	<b>MCID</b> <i>Ministerul Cercetării Inovării și Digitalizării</i>	Domnica Cotet <a href="mailto:domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro">domnica.cotet@uefiscdi.ro</a> +40-213023880					
SLOVENIA	<b>MVZI</b> <i>Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation</i>	Marta Šabec <a href="mailto:marta.sabec@gov.si">marta.sabec@gov.si</a> T: +386 (0)1 478 47 39 M: +386 (0) 31 361 159					

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
SPAIN	AEI <i>Agencia Estatal de Investigación</i>	Abraham Trujillo Quintela <a href="mailto:oceans@aei.gob.es">oceans@aei.gob.es</a>	!	!	!		
SPAIN	CDTI, E.P.E <i>Centro para el Desarrollo Tecnológico y la Innovación e.p.e.</i>	Héctor González <a href="mailto:partenariadoshe@cdti.es">partenariadoshe@cdti.es</a>		!	!		!

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
SWEDEN	<b>Formas</b> <i>The Swedish Research Council for Environment, Agricultural Sciences and Spatial Planning</i>	Osman Tikansak <a href="mailto:osman.tikansak@formas.se">osman.tikansak@formas.se</a>	!	!	!		!
SWEDEN	<b>SNSA</b> <i>Swedish National Space Agency</i>	Selima Ben Mustapha <a href="mailto:Selima.benmustapha@sn.sa.se">Selima.benmustapha@sn.sa.se</a>	!	!	!		!
THE NETHERLANDS	<b>LVN – IenW - NWO</b> <i>Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management Dutch Research Council</i>	Daan Blok <a href="mailto:d.blok@nwo.nl">d.blok@nwo.nl</a> +31 (0)70 349 4118  Peter Spierenburg <a href="mailto:p.spierenburg@nwo.nl">p.spierenburg@nwo.nl</a> +31 (0)30 600 1291		!	!	!	!

Country	Funding Organisation (FO)	National/Regional Contact Point (NCP)	NOT Funding All priority areas	Limits on Requested Budget per proposal	NOT all types of partners are eligible for funding	Different rules apply for different types of institutions	Partners need to submit documentation to their FO
TÜRKİYE	TÜBİTAK <i>The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye</i>	Çağla AKAT KÖSE <a href="mailto:sbep@tubitak.gov.tr">sbep@tubitak.gov.tr</a> <a href="mailto:cagla.akatkose@tubitak.gov.tr">cagla.akatkose@tubitak.gov.tr</a> +90 312 298 1783					

## ANNEX C – LIST OF THE BENEFICIARIES OF SUSTAINABLE BLUE ECONOMY PARTNERSHIP ALLOWED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE R&I PROJECTS' CONSORTIA

Country	Acronym organisation Name	Full organisation Name
Belgium	VLIZ	Vlaams Instituut Voor De Zee
Belgium	RBINS	Institut Royal Des Sciences Naturelles De Belgique
Bulgaria	BFU	Burgaski Svoboden Universitet
Ireland	MI	Marine Institute
Italy	CNR	Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche
Italy	INGV	Istituto Nazionale di Geofisica e Vulcanologia
Italy	IIM	Istituto Idrografico della Marina
Italy	OGS	Istituto Nazionale di Oceanografia e Geofisica Sperimentale
Italy	SZN	Stazione Zoologica Anton Dohrn
Portugal	AIR Centre	Associação para o Desenvolvimento do Atlantic International Research Centre
Spain	PLOCAN	Consortio para el diseño, construcción, equipamiento y explotación de la Plataforma Oceánica de Canarias
Spain	SOCIB	Consortio para la construcción, equipamiento y explotación del Sistema de Observación Costero de las Illes Balears
Türkiye	TÜBİTAK	Türkiye Bilimsel ve Teknolojik Araştırma Kurumu

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership consortium beneficiaries or specific research teams of a beneficiary where applicable, that might apply to the co-funded calls have been completely excluded from the work of call preparation and will be completely excluded from the work of selection and monitoring. In particular, for MI and TÜBİTAK,

individuals contributing to the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership activities, belonging to departments completely separate from research performers, will not be involved in any applications to the co-funded calls nor give any advantage to the research performers of the same institution.

## ANNEX D – PRE-PROPOSAL FORM

***This template is an indicative model of pre-proposal application form. All pre-proposals have to be submitted online via the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS). The format of the pre-proposal application form will be modified to fit the EPSS.***

### PRE-PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

First Joint Co-funded Call for transnational research projects on “The way forward: a thriving sustainable blue economy for a brighter future” (Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership).

CALL ID:	SBEP2023
<b>Proposal ID:</b>	automatically from EPSS (e.g. SBEP2023-1)
<b>Project title*</b> (max 255 characters including spaces)	
<b>Short name / Acronym*</b> (max 20 characters including spaces)	
<b>Project duration (project period)</b>	<b>36 months</b>
<b>Project total costs</b>	
<b>Total funds requested from funding organisations?</b>	

\* Please note that the project title and acronym should be considered as definitive

**Keywords:**

*(min 1 keyword, max 10 keywords)*

**General guidance for all applicants:**

- The proposal must be written in English;
- The different sections of the application should not exceed the prescribed maximum space;
- Any documents other than those requested as part of the proposal **will not be forwarded** to the International Evaluation Committee members.

## 1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

*Please note that some information will not be evaluated and is be collected by the European Commission for the purpose of doing anonymous statistics. This information will be indicated in the EPSS guidelines.*

*You will have to provide in this section information on the consortium coordinator and the Participants of the project, as well as the requested budget per Partner.*

*Here Participants refers to partner, self-funded partner and subcontractants.*

**What is a partner?**

*Note that depending on the Funding Organisation, a “Partner” can be:*

- **a researcher,**
- **an institution,**



- **a laboratory, a department of an institution.**
- **SME**
- **Company other than SME**

**Please make sure to respect the eligibility rules of the call.**

Please also consult Funding Organisations' rules advertised on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership website which are compulsory. **Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective Funding Organisations (National Contact Points list available in Annex B of the call text) and to confirm their eligibility with their Funding Organisations before submitting the pre-proposal.**

Please note that the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals. Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the relevant Funding Organisations. Any request for changes must be addressed by email to the JCS and the NCPs and will be reviewed by all funding organisations involved in the proposal.

- **Minor changes to the budget** must be allowed by the relevant funding organisation
- Regarding changes in the composition of the consortium: **no change will be allowed, except in case of force majeure** or if explicitly requested by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) for the particular cases of i) ineligibility of a partner or ii) invitation to add partner from a country with an undersubscription ratio; the list of the countries with undersubscription ratio will be provided to coordinators invited to submit a full proposal at the end of the first step selection process. The request for the change must be submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline set for the submission of full proposals, it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the call steering committee.

#### **ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING**

Please note that if you plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in your project, you will have to ascertain towards the

competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements<sup>1</sup>.

Please also note that if the utilisation of genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources takes place in an EU Member State, users in those states will have to comply with the general due diligence obligation under Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014, as well as the obligation to file due diligence declarations under Art. 7 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014<sup>2</sup>.

**For funding, there are 2 categories of Partners:**

1. Partners from countries (and organisations) eligible for direct funding (designated Partners 1, 2... N)
2. Fully self-financed Partners from any country who bring their own secured budget (designated Partner A, B)

**Others Participants: Subcontractants**

Subcontractants are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute.

Subcontractants of a Partner 1, 2...N are designated Subcontractant 1,2...N\_Partners 1, 2... N (e.g. Subcontractant 1\_Partners 1, is a subcontractant of Partner 1).

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<sup>1</sup> Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Consortium Coordinator (Partner 1) and all others Partners (2, 3, ...N).

Example: if your consortium is composed by 6 Partners, the following Table will have to be completed for each of the 6 Partners.

Consortium Coordinator – Partner 1 <i>(example)</i>			
Principal Investigator:		ORCID ID.	
Family name		First name	
Title		Gender	(F;M;X) – dropdown menu
Phone		E-mail	
Career Stage <sup>3</sup>	(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)	Nationality	
Website			
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	

<sup>3</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the ISCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm> (page 249).

Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation <sup>4</sup>					
Participant Organisation Type		(Choose between: HES, REC, PRC, PUB, OTH)			
Status: Private or public?			Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status)*: Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE) <sup>5</sup> ·:
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
Employment status information			<input type="checkbox"/> on permanent position		
			<input type="checkbox"/> on fixed-term position		

<sup>4</sup> A 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programmes / procurements. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available on <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search>

<sup>5</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)

	If on fixed term position:
	Duration of contract (in months):
	Funding body:
<b>Expertise and partners' role in the project?</b>	
Other team members involved in the project**	
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage  <i>** Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. Do not repeat the principal investigator here. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined (TBD)"</i>	

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by each Subcontractant for each Partner.

Example: if the Partner 1 has 2 subcontractants, the following Table will have to be completed twice; one Table per Subcontractants (subcontractant 1a, and subcontractant 1b).

Subcontractant 1a ( <u>example</u> : Subcontractant of Partner 1)			
Principal investigator:		ORCID ID:	
Family name		First name	
Title		Gender	
Phone		E-mail	

Career Stage <sup>6</sup>	(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)		Nationality		
Website					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:			
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE) <sup>7</sup> :	

<sup>6</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., "director of research" or "full professor".

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ♦Example: "senior researcher", "principal investigator" or "associate/assistant professor".

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm> (page 249).

<sup>7</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)

Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
<b>Expertise and role of the subcontractant in the project?</b>					
Other team members involved in the project**					
<p>Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p>Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality Career Stage</p> <p>Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p><i>**Please include all the teams members of the subcontractant to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".</i></p>					

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Self-financed Partner(s) (Partner A, B).

Example: if your consortium is composed by 2 Self-financed Partners, the following Table will have to be completed for each of the 2 Self-financed Partners.

Self-financed Partner A			
Principal Investigator:		ORCID ID:	
Family name		First name	
Title		Gender	
Phone		E-mail	
Career Stage <sup>8</sup>	(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)	Nationality	
Website			
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation*			

<sup>8</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in the Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm> (page 249).



Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)?:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
<b>Expertise and partners' role in the project?</b>					
Other team members involved in the project**					
<p>Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p>Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality Career Stage</p> <p>Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p>					

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<sup>9</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)

*\*\*Please include all the team members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".*

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

*(min 500 characters including spaces and max 3,000 characters including spaces)*

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

## 3.0 PRIORITY AREA, SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE(S) INVOLVED, AND SUB-BASINS/OCEAN) COVERED IN THE PROJECT

Please indicate the priority areas addressed by your project, its the scientific disciplines involved and the sea-basins/ocean covered by the project.

<b>Priority areas in the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership joint call 2023</b> <i>(Please choose one priority area for your project)</i>	
Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level	
Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy	
Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource-efficient blue food and feed	
Green transition of Blue Food production	

Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean	
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<p><b>Scientific disciplines involved</b></p> <p><i>Please indicate in this section the scientific disciplines mobilised in your project, depending on the expertise of the members of your consortium</i></p> <p>To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices</p>
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<p><b>Sea-basins/ocean covered by the project</b></p> <p><i>(multiple choice option)</i></p>	
Mediterranean sea	
Black Sea	
Baltic Sea	
North Sea	
Atlantic Ocean	
Others (to precise)	

## 4.0 SHORT PROJECT DESCRIPTION

NB: This part will have to be uploaded as a single pdf on the EPSS.

**Page limit:** The short project description should not be longer than 5 pages. All tables, figures, references, and any other element pertaining to this section must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against this page limit.

The page limit will be applied automatically. After the deadline, excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will be automatically made invisible and will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.

The proposal is a self-contained document. **Links and hyperlinks are not allowed** and experts will be instructed to ignore any information that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit.

The following **formatting conditions** apply.

- *The reference font for the body text of proposals is Arial. The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. Standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing is to be used. This applies to the body text, including text in tables.*
- *Text elements other than the body text, such as headers, foot/end notes, captions, formula's, may deviate, but must be legible (links and hyperlinks are not allowed).*
- *The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 1.27 cm (not including any footers or headers).*
- *A pre-proposal can be declared as ineligible if formatting conditions are not followed.*

**The project description should include the following elements:**

- *Fit to the scope and priority areas of the call*
- *Scientific objectives and main research questions: demonstrate how the activity advance the knowledge gaps and the understanding of its field and/or across different fields.*
- *Short description of the theoretical framework, research questions, and hypothesis to be tested. Explain to what extent the proposed work can lead to the purpose of the call.*
- *Explanation of the novelty of the research planned, the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, contributes to scientific excellence and goes beyond the state of the art. Explain to what extent the proposed work explores creative and original concepts and contributes to and/or increasing the advancement of its field across different fields*
- *Relevance for society and/ or policy and/or society: explain to what extent your project could lead to novel / original contribution for tackling societal and/or policy*

*challenges, including your approach/ambition towards stakeholder and/or end-user engagement<sup>10</sup> to achieve the expected societal and/or policy impact?*

- *Transnational added value of the research proposed from a societal/policy impact perspective.*

It is highly recommended to include a plan that describes what impact the research is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts. One way to make such a plan is to establish a methodology of Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) to describe the research process, mentioning well-specified outputs and outcomes. Please refer to the Annex C of the call text: Theory of Change, for more information on how to set up a Theory of Change.

**Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated based on their submitted content and written information only and following the assessment criteria defined in the call text.**

## 5.0 PRELIMINARY DATA MANAGEMENT INFORMATION

*(max 2,500 characters including spaces)*

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Please address the following questions:

- Who will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the DMP (role, position, and institution)? For collaborative projects, explain the coordination of data management responsibilities across partners
- What types of datasets of long-term value do you expect the project will produce or reuse?

“Long-term” means those data that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.

Data of long-term value should meet the FAIR principles; i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.

- How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

Please refer to the guidelines in Annex D – Open Access and Fair Data of the Call text, for more information on how to establish a Data Management Plan and the principles of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership regarding data management.

## 6.0 BRIEF CVS FOR THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF EACH PARTNER INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS, using the CV template below.

When relevant, please include the CVs of self-financed and subcontracted Partners.

When relevant, please specify in the CVs, the Partners' capacity to involve stakeholders.

<b>Participation status:</b> <Project Coordinator or principal investigator of a participant>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Nationality:</b>
<b>Institution, City, Country:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>
<b>URL / website</b> (including complete list of publications if any):
<b>Professional status:</b> <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist, Post-Doc, PhD-student, Other>

<b>Education:</b> <Year; type of education; organisation; country > <Year; type of education; organisation; country > ...
<b>Positions:</b> <Year; Position; organisation; country > <Year; Position; organisation; country > ...
<b>Awards received / other responsibilities</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces):
<b>General expertise and its relevance for the project</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces):
<b>Up to 5 most important achievements, publications, IP (e.g. patents) relevant to the proposal over 2017-2022, if any:</b> <...> <...> <...> <...> <...>

## 7.0 EXCLUSION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

List here potential reviewers who, you think, should not be asked to evaluate the project for reasons of direct competition and partiality (Table VI.a). Also provide the names of significant collaborators that should not be used as reviewers due to conflicts of interest (Table VI.b).

### VI.a. Potential competitors

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

#### **VI.b. Collaborators with conflict of interest**

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

## **8.0 SUGGESTION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)**

*Please indicate up to 4 experts who could review your proposal, including their field expertise. The rules on conflict of interest set forth in 4.5. 'Confidentiality and conflict of interests' in the Call Announcement apply to these suggestions.*

NB: *This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.*



	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Link to his/her website	Field of expertise
1							
2							
3							
4							

Please note that these are only suggestions for consideration by the International Evaluation Committee (IEC) and Call Steering Committee (CSC). The final attribution of reviewers to proposals is the responsibility of the IEC and CSC.

## 9.0 BUDGET

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

!! Please note that you should indicate in this table an indicative repartition between the different categories of costs, the total budget / total costs of the project and the budget requested to your Funding Organisation for this 2023 Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership call. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules. !! (see Annex B of the Call Text).

Please note that for each Partner you are requested to indicate both the total costs of the project and the requested funding budget:

- The total costs/expenses (column Total costs) comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules. You have to indicate here all the costs of the project (including personnel costs of permanent staff not eligible; etc.)
- Requested funding budget (column Funding request) comprises costs or expenses for personnel (including permanent salaries depending on Funding Organisations' rules),

travelling, consumables, overheads (if fundable), subcontracts etc. that you will request to your Funding Organisation.

For requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations' rules; for questions, please contact your Funding organisation Contact Point.

!! Please note that some Funding Organisations cannot provide 100% of eligible costs. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules!!

### **MANDATORY COSTS:**

The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which activities will be organised, namely a kick-off meeting, a mid-term meeting and a final meeting. These events will be possibly organised back-to-back with other workshops/events. At least the coordinators of funded projects should actively engage to these three joint activities. Accordingly, the cost for attendance to the physical meetings should be foreseen in their proposals' budget.

The indicated requested budget per Partner should be considered definitive, unless minor adjustment is requested by the Funding Organisations. Between pre-proposal and full proposal stage, change of budget can be allowed by the relevant Funding Organisation provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the Funding Organisations. The Funding Organisation can decide according to its own rules whether it needs a justification.

(Please insert as many lines in the table below as necessary for other Partners)

		Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding <sup>(1)</sup>	Total cost (in EURO, incl.	<b>Funding request</b> (in EURO, incl. VAT
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			VAT) (2)	depending on rules)
Partner 1  Name  Country	Salaries	Permanent		
		Non-permanent		
		Total		
	Travel			
	Participation to joint activities of the call			
	Consumables			
	Equipment			
	Other costs			
	Overheads			
	Subcontracting costs (2)			
	Total			
	Subcontractant 1a (3)  Name  Country	Salaries	Permanent	
Temporary				0 €
Total				0 €
Travel			0 €	
Consumables			0 €	
Equipment			0 €	
Other costs			0 €	
Overheads			0 €	

	Total				0 €
Partner 2 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>				
	Total				
Subcontractant 2a <sup>(3)</sup> Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Partner 3	Salaries	Permanent			

Name  Country		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>				
	Total				
Partner N  Name  Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>				
Total					
Self-financed <sup>(3)</sup>	Salaries	Permanent			0 €

Partner A  Name  Country		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
Total <sup>(4)</sup>					

<sup>(1)</sup> Please indicate to which Funding Organisation you are requesting funds. If more than one Funding Organisation from your country is participating in the call, please indicate which one should fund your project. It is not possible to indicate more than one Funding organisation per country.

<sup>(2)</sup> Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations' rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

Indicate here the total budget and requested budget for your subcontractants and/or any other subcontracting costs.

<sup>(3)</sup> Subcontractants and self-financed Partners have to indicate the total budget per cost category (column 'Total costs'). For subcontractants, each subcontracting Partner must fill out the information for each of its subcontractants. Please note that for a subcontractant, you should indicate 0€ in the column 'Funding request'. The share of their costs for which you will request funding from your Funding Organisation should be included in the 'Funding request' of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).

<sup>(4)</sup> The total for the column "total costs /expenses" should include the costs of subcontractants and self-financed Partners (Partners 1a, 1b, 2a, etc.); the total for the column "Funding request" should not include the costs of subcontractants and self-

financed Partners as they do not directly request funding. For subcontractants, when eligible, their budget should be included in the requested budget of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).

For self-financed Partners, please indicate shortly how their participation to the project will be funded.

Self-financed Partner A Name Country	The Partner will be funded through ...
--------------------------------------	--

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

## 10.0 DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE<sup>11</sup>

Does your project comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"? YES / NO

If no, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1000)

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<sup>11</sup> The Do no significant harm principle was introduced in the European Green Deal to ensure that the research and innovation activities do not make significant harm to any of the six following environmental objectives ([EU Taxonomy Regulation](#)): climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources, Pollution prevention & control, Transition to a circular economy and Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems. You can find more information on what is considered as doing significant harm to the above objectives in the following note: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021\\_1054\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021_1054_en.pdf) (section 1: what is do no significant harm).

## 11.0 CONFIRMATION OF SUBMISSION & USE OF DATA

For information: the data provided in this pre-proposal application form will be used to:

- *communicate with you about the call and application process*
- *allow the funding organisations to perform an eligibility check of the applicants*
- *assess the competencies and complementarities of your proposal and consortia by the IEC members*
- *award funding if your application is successful*
- *analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants is anonymised in our analysis)*
- *collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls*

Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained throughout processing of these data for the production of statistics. Protection of personal data and compliance with the [EU's General Data Protection Regulation \(2016/679\)](#) (GDPR) is however ensured.



## ANNEX E – FULL PROPOSAL FORM

***This template is an indicative model of full proposal application form. All proposals have to be submitted online via the electronic proposal submission system (EPSS). The format of the full proposal application form will be modified to fit the EPSS.***

### FULL PROPOSAL APPLICATION FORM

First Joint Co-funded Call for transnational research projects on “The way forward: a thriving sustainable blue economy for a brighter future” (Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership).

<b>CALL ID:</b>	SBEP2023
<b>Proposal ID:</b>	automatically from EPSS (e.g. SBEP2023-1)
<b>Project title*</b> (max 255 characters including spaces)	
<b>Short name / Acronym*</b> (max 20 characters including spaces)	
<b>Project duration</b> (project period)	36 months
<b>Project total costs</b>	
<b>Total funds requested from funding organisations?</b>	

\* Please note that the project title and acronym should be considered as definitive

NB: This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposals.

**Keywords:**

(min 1 keyword, max 10 keywords)

NB: This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposals.

**General guidance for all applicants:**

- The proposal must be written in English;
- The different sections of the application should not exceed the prescribed maximum space;
- Any documents other than those requested as part of the proposal **will not be forwarded** to the International Evaluation Committee members. This includes letter(s) of support, which are not expected (except for “Self-financed” Partners who must provide letter of commitment to demonstrate that their organisations will support their activities).

## 1.0 ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

Please note that some information will not be evaluated and is be collected by the European Commission for the purpose of doing anonymous statistics. This information will be indicated in the EPSS guidelines.

You will have to provide in this section information on the consortium coordinator and the Participants of the project, as well as the requested budget per Partner.

What is a Partner?

Note that depending on the Funding Organisation, a “Partner” can be:

- **a researcher,**
- **an institution,**
- **a laboratory, a department of an institution.**
- **SME**

## **- Company other than SME**

**Please make sure to respect the eligibility rules of the call.**

Please also consult Funding Organisations' rules advertised on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership website which are compulsory. **Applicants are strongly advised to contact their respective Funding Organisations (National Contact Points list available available in Annex B of the call text) and to confirm their eligibility with their Funding Organisations before submitting the pre-proposal.**

Please note that the information given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals. Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed, provided they are in line with the general rules of the call and the rules of the relevant Funding Organisations. Any request for changes must be addressed by email to the JCS and the NCPs and will be reviewed by all funding organisations involved in the proposal.

- **Minor changes to the budget** must be allowed by the relevant funding organisation
- - Regarding changes in the composition of the consortium: **no change will be allowed, except in case of force majeure** or if explicitly requested by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) for the particular cases of i) ineligibility of a partner or ii) invitation to add partner from a country with an undersubscription ratio; the list of the countries with undersubscription ratio will be provided to coordinators invited to submit a full proposal at the end of the first step selection process. The request for the change must be submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline set for the submission of full proposals, it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the call steering committee.

Please indicate the acronym of your project when you contact the Joint Call Secretariat and/or your NCP.

## **ACCESS AND BENEFIT SHARING**

Please note that if you plan to use genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources in your project, you will have to ascertain towards

the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually decided terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements<sup>1</sup>.

Please also note that if the utilisation of genetic resources or traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources takes place in an EU Member State, users in those states will have to comply with the general due diligence obligation under Art. 4 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014, as well as the obligation to file due diligence declarations under Art. 7 of Regulation (EU) No 511/2014<sup>2</sup>.

**For funding, there are 2 categories of Partners:**

1. Partners from countries (and organisations) eligible for direct funding (designated Partners 1, 2... N)
2. Fully self-financed Partners from any country who bring their own secured budget (designated Partner A, B)

**Others participants: Subcontractants**

Subcontractants are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute.

Subcontractants of a Partner 1, 2...N are designated Subcontractant 1,2...N\_Partners 1, 2... N (e.g. Subcontractant 1\_Partners 1, is a subcontractant of Partner 1).

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<sup>1</sup> Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation (ABS) to the Convention on Biological Diversity.

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 on compliance measures for users from the Nagoya Protocol on Access to Genetic Resources and the Fair and Equitable Sharing of Benefits Arising from their Utilisation in the Union

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Consortium Coordinator (Partner 1) and all others Partners (2, 3, ...N).

Example: if your consortium is composed by 6 Partners, the following Table will have to be completed for each of the 6 Partners.

<i>Consortium Coordinator – Partner 1 (example)</i>			
<i>Principal Investigator:</i>		<i>ORCID ID.</i>	
<i>Family name</i>		<i>First name</i>	
<i>Title</i>		<i>Gender</i>	<i>(F;M;X) – dropdown menu</i>
<i>Phone</i>		<i>E-mail</i>	
<i>Career Stage<sup>3</sup></i>	<i>(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)</i>	<i>Nationality</i>	
<i>Website</i>			
<i>Legal full name of the research organisation / Company</i>		<i>Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:</i>	

<sup>3</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm>(page 249).

Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation <sup>4</sup>					
Participant Organisation Type	(Choose between: HES, REC, PRC, PUB, OTH)				
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status)*: Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE) <sup>5</sup> :	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
Employment status information			<input type="checkbox"/> on permanent position		
			<input type="checkbox"/> on fixed-term position		
			If on fixed term position:		

<sup>4</sup> A 9-digit number serving as a unique identifier for organisations (legal entities) participating in EU funding programmes / procurements. A search tool for organisations and their PICs is available on <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/how-to-participate/participant-register-search>

<sup>5</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)

	Duration of contract (in months):
	Funding body:
<b>Expertise and partners' role in the project?</b>	
Other team members involved in the project**	
Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage	
Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage	
Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage	
<p><i>** Please include all the teams members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. Do not repeat the principal investigator here. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined (TBD)"</i></p>	

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by each Subcontractant for each Partner.

Example: if the Partner 1 has 2 subcontractants, the following Table will have to be completed twice; one Table per Subcontractants (subcontractant 1a, and subcontractant 1b).

Subcontractant 1a (example: Subcontractant of Partner 1)			
Principal investigator:		ORCID ID:	
Family name		First name	
Title		Gender	
Phone		E-mail	

Career Stage <sup>6</sup>	(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)		Nationality		
Website					
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:			
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation					
Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE) <sup>7</sup> :	

<sup>6</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., “director of research” or “full professor”.

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates ♦Example: “senior researcher”, “principal investigator” or “associate/assistant professor”.

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., “researcher”, “investigator” or “post-doctoral fellow”.

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., “Ph.D. students” or “junior researchers” (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm> (page 249).

<sup>7</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website:

<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)



Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
<b>Expertise and role of the subcontractant in the project?</b>					
Other team members involved in the project**					
<p>Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p>Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality Career Stage</p> <p>Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p><i>**Please include all the teams members of the subcontractant to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".</i></p>					

The Table below indicates the information that will have to be fill out by the Self-financed Partner(s) (Partner A, B).

Example: if your consortium is composed by 2 Self-financed Partners, the following Table will have to be completed for each of the 2 Self-financed Partners.

Self-financed Partner A			
Principal Investigator:		ORCID ID:	
Family name		First name	
Title		Gender	
Phone		E-mail	
Career Stage <sup>8</sup>	(Category A: Top grade researcher Category B: Senior researcher Category C: Recognised researcher Category D: First stage researcher N: Not applicable)	Nationality	
Website			
Legal full name of the research organisation / Company		Short name (acronym) of the research organisation/Company – if any:	
Participant Identification Code (PIC) number of the organisation*			

<sup>8</sup> Category A: the single highest grade/post at which research is normally conducted, e.g., "director of research" or "full professor".

Category B: Researchers working in positions not as senior as top position (a) but more senior than newly qualified doctoral graduates, e.g., "senior researcher", "principal investigator" or "associate/assistant professor".

Category C: the first grade/post into which a newly qualified doctoral graduate would normally be recruited, e.g., "researcher", "investigator" or "post-doctoral fellow".

Category D: Either doctoral students at the IsCED level 8 who are engaged as researchers or researchers working in posts that do not normally require a doctorate degree, e.g., "Ph.D. students" or "junior researchers" (without a Ph.D). These categories are defined in the Frascati manual from OECD <https://www.oecd.org/sti/inno/frascati-manual.htm> (page 249).

Status: Private or public?		Small or Medium-sized Enterprise (SME status): Yes/No		Statistical Classification of Economic Activities (NACE)?:	
Division / Department / Unit or Laboratory					
Street name and number					
PO Box (optional)		Postal code		Cedex (optional)	
Town			Country		
Address NUTS Code			Country Code	(dropdown menu with country codes)	
<b>Expertise and partners' role in the project?</b>					
Other team members involved in the project**					
<p>Team member 1: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p>Team member 2: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality Career Stage</p> <p>Team member N: Family name, First name, gender, title, email, ORCID id., Nationality, Career Stage</p> <p><i>**Please include all the team members to be involved in the project, would they be funded or not by your Funding Organisation. If you do not have yet this</i></p>					

<sup>9</sup> The NACE code is a Statistical Classification of the Economic Activities of the organisation. You can find further information about NACE at the Eurostat website: <https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/nace-rev2> and the classification can be downloaded at [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST\\_CLS\\_DLD&StrNom=NACE\\_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/ramon/nomenclatures/index.cfm?TargetUrl=LST_CLS_DLD&StrNom=NACE_REV2&StrLanguageCode=EN&IntCurrentPage=1&StrLayoutCode=LINEAR#)

information for one team member (e.g. for a postdoc), you can indicate "to be determined".

## 1.1 Time to be dedicated to the project per participant

In the following table, please specify the names and countries of each Participant

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

Participants	Team members*	Time to be dedicated to the project in person month (costs associated to the working time spent on the project can be covered either by the money requested in this call or as a self-contribution from the institution)
Partner 1 Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Subcontractant 1a Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Partner 2 Name Country	Member 1 Member 2 Member N	
Subcontractant 2a	Member 1	

Name	Member 2	
Country	Member N	
Partner 3	Member 1	
Name	Member 2	
Country	Member N	
...		
Partner N	Member 1	
Name	Member 2	
Country	Member N	
Self-financed Partner A	Member 1	
Name	Member 2	
country	Member N	

## 1.2 Declaration of parallel submissions of this proposal (whole or parts) to other funding programmes or to the same programme and currently under evaluation:

*Provide details of any proposal related to this one, which you or another project Partner have submitted to other funding opportunities, including title, funding source, extent of overlap and expected decision date.*

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

**Duplication of funding is not allowed for the same (whole or part) research project.**

**!!** Please note that some Funding Organisations have specific rules on the possibility to apply as applicant in different proposals. Make sure you comply with your Funding Organisations' rules. **!!**

## 2.0 SUMMARY OF THE PROJECT

*(min 500 and max 3,000 characters including spaces)*

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

Please note that this summary could be published online by the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership and/or your respective Funding Organisation, should you be selected for funding.

## 3.0 PRIORITY AREA, SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINE(S) INVOLVED, AND SUB-BASINS/OCEAN) COVERED IN THE PROJECT

Please indicate the priority area addressed by your project, the scientific disciplines involved and the sea-basins/ocean covered by the project.

<b>Priority areas in the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership joint call 2023</b> <i>(Please choose one priority area for your project)</i>	
Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level	
Development of offshore marine multi-use infrastructures to support the blue economy	
Climate-neutral, environmentally sustainable and resource-efficient blue food and feed	
Green transition of Blue Food production	
Digital Twin of the Ocean (DTO) test use cases at EU sea-basin scale and the Atlantic Ocean	

<b>Scientific disciplines involved</b>
--

*Please indicate the scientific disciplines mobilised in your project, depending on the expertise of the members of your consortium*

To be selected from a standardised list (available on the EPSS) – multiple choices

#### **Sea-basins/ocean covered by the project**

*(multiple choice option)*

Mediterranean sea	
Black Sea	
Baltic Sea	
North Sea	
Atlantic Ocean	
Others (to precise)	

**Study areas/countries covered by the project** (please do not indicate here the nationality of the members of the consortium but the areas and countries studied in your proposals (research scope, studied sites, etc.))

*(max 3,500 characters including spaces)*

## **4.0 WORKPACKAGES, DELIVERABLES AND MILESTONES**

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

**Work packages (WP)** - Title only, detailed descriptions should be included in the project description section

No. of WP	Responsible Partner(s)	Title
1		
2		
3		
N		

(Use as many lines as needed)

Estimated working time (in person/month) per work package <sup>1)</sup>						
No. of WP	Partner 1	Subcontractant1a	Partner 2	Partner 3	Partner N	Self-financed Partner A
1						
2						
3						
N						

(Expand this table [rows, columns] as required)

<sup>1)</sup> This estimation should include the estimated total working time of all the team members involved in the project (financed, subcontracted and self-financed Partners, permanent & non-permanent staff, etc.)

Deliverables			
No.	Title	Delivery date <sup>1)</sup>	Related No. of WPs



1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

<sup>1)</sup> Indicate month number from the start of the project, e.g. month 12, month 24...

Milestones			
No.	Title	Date <sup>1)</sup>	Related No. of WPs
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
N			

*(Use as many lines as needed)*

<sup>1)</sup> Indicate the month number from the start of the project, e.g. month 12, month 24...

## 5.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

NB: This part will have to be submitted as a single pdf in the EPSS.

**Page limit:** The short project description should not be longer than 16 pages. All tables, figures, references, and any other element pertaining to this section must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against this page limit.

The page limit will be applied automatically. After the deadline, excess pages (in over-long proposals/applications) will be automatically made invisible and will not be taken into consideration by the evaluators.

The proposal is a self-contained document. **Links and hyperlinks are not allowed** and experts will be instructed to ignore any information that is specifically designed to expand the proposal, thus circumventing the page limit.

The following **formatting conditions** apply.

- *The reference font for the body text of proposals is Arial. The minimum font size allowed is 11 points. Standard character spacing and a minimum of single line spacing is to be used. This applies to the body text, including text in tables.*
- *Text elements other than the body text, such as headers, foot/end notes, captions, formula's, may deviate, but must be legible (**links and hyperlinks are not allowed**).*
- *The page size is A4, and all margins (top, bottom, left, right) should be at least 1.27 cm (not including any footers or headers).*
- *A full proposal can be declared ineligible if formatting conditions are not followed.*

The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. It has been designed to ensure that the important aspects of your planned work are presented in a way that will enable the evaluators to make an effective assessment against the evaluation criteria.

**Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated based on their submitted content and written information only and following the assessment criteria defined in the Call Announcement.**

## **5.1 Detailed description of the research area and research plan and approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal and/or policy impact**

**This Part should include:**

- A short description of the hypothesis, theories and/or main research questions, and an explanation of the novelty of the research planned;
- Scientific objectives with a detailed account of their relationship to the priority area of the call and to ongoing relevant projects. Organise the objectives into a list so that each objective is accurately defined and quantified;
- Give a detailed description of the approach and methodology chosen to achieve the objectives. Highlight the particular advantages of the methodology chosen; quantify the expected project result(s);
- Break down the research program into individual tasks, showing the interrelationship between the tasks. Explain why there is synergy between different tasks of the project and how this is going to be exploited;
- Added-value – In instances where the proposed work builds on previous activities, describe how this collaborative proposal will complement or build on previous activities.
- Transnational added value of the proposed research (including overseas) and of the transnational collaboration: demonstrate how the project will increase synergy between teams across Partner countries and how transnational collaboration adds a particular value;
- Approach to stakeholder engagement and expected societal and/or policy impact, including:

Describe the relevance of your project for application to society and/or policy, and the importance of the research ....

Detail the proposed plan for the exploitation of results by end-users, as well as plans for knowledge and/or technology transfer to practitioners, policy makers, and/or other relevant end-users

Describe how you plan to engage stakeholders directly in your project and at which stage of the project; identify the stakeholders to be engaged in your project, describing their specific interest and/or contributions to the project and the status of their engagement at the proposal development stage.

*Please note that letters of support are NOT requested and will NOT be considered for the evaluation except for self-funded partners.*

## **5.2 Communication and outreach plan**

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

Describe how the consortium will deal with the transfer, dissemination, publication, and, protection of results generated in the project. Specify who will receive information on the project (scientists, non-scientific stakeholders, general public...). Describe what, why, when and how they will receive it. Specify planned project publications and outputs (scientific and other), and their expected exploitation and impact.

## **5.3 Description of project coordination and management**

*(max. 1,5 pages out of 16 pages)*

Describe how the overall coordination, monitoring and control of the project will be implemented. Outline the management processes foreseen in the project (decision boards, coordination meetings, etc.) and clearly indicate the distribution of tasks among the consortium members.

It is recommended that milestones be presented in a detailed diagram (e.g. PERT or Gantt charts) providing the time schedule of the tasks and marking their interrelationships; add when decisions on further approaches will have to be made; indicate a critical path marking those events which directly influence the overall time schedule in case of delays. *[Please note that the Pert or Gantt chart can be included in the part below "Time schedule and working programme"]*

Explain how information flow and communication will be managed and enhanced within the project (e.g. collaboration and task meetings, exchange of scientists, dissemination of results and engagement with stakeholders).

Risk management: Indicate where there are risks of not achieving the objectives and describe potential solutions, if appropriate.

## **5.4 Interconnection to national and transnational research projects and programmes**

*(max. 0,5 page out of 16 pages)*

Indicate here the interconnection to national and transnational research projects/ programmes/networks that are relevant to your project. This should include a description of the existing involvement of Partners in ongoing projects/ programmes/ networks, as well as cooperation you plan to develop during your project with national or transnational research projects/programmes/networks

## **5.5 Time schedule and working programme (use a Gantt chart or equivalent)**

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

## **5.6 Proposed Data Management Approach**

*(max.1 page out of 16 pages)*

For this section, we recommend you to consult ANNEX F of the Call text OPEN ACCESS AND FAIR DATA.

In the data management section (to be included in your single pdf to be uploaded on the EPSS), please address the following questions. Those that are repeated from the earlier stage should be elaborated on as appropriate:

1. What types of datasets of long-term value do you expect the project will produce or reuse?

“Long-term” means those data that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.

2. How do you intend to ensure that the data from your project complies with the FAIR principles (for instance, in terms of financial and time resources)?

3. Who will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the DMP (role, position, and institution)? For collaborative projects, explain the coordination of data management responsibilities across partners.

4. How do you intend to manage the data during the project and to ensure their long-term protection?

- *For example, where will the data be held during the project, who will have access, and will a specialised data manager be part of the project team?*

5. How and by whom will the data be managed after the project ends to ensure their long-term accessibility?

- *For example, will the outputs be published with a Persistent Unique and Resolvable Identifier (such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), Accession Number, Handle, etc.), and/or be placed in a recognised, trustworthy long-term domain or other repository or data centre. When will this occur? (Further information about repositories include, but is not limited to, the Re3data.org registry of research data repositories, CoreTrustSeal list of certified data repositories, etc.)*

6. What restrictions, if any, do you anticipate could be placed on how the data can be accessed, mined or reused? Are there possible restrictions to data sharing, and embargo retention?

- *Please explain the reason in case of restrictions (ex. intellectual property protection).*

7. What supporting documentation and other information (e.g. metadata) do you plan to make publicly accessible to support the longer-term re-use of the data and digital outputs?

8. How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

## **5.7 Impact**

*(max. 1 page out of 16 pages)*

Include a plan that describes what impact the research is expected to achieve in the long run and how it contributes to the overall impacts. One way to make such a plan

is to establish a methodology of Theory of Change (ToC) with a related Impact Pathway (IP) to describe the research process, mentioning well-specified outputs and outcomes.

Please refer to the Annex C of the call text: Theory of Change, for more information on how to set up a Theory of Change.

## 6.0 CVS FOR THE PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR OF EACH PARTNER INVOLVED IN THE PROJECT

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS using the CV template below. This section will be pre-filled with information submitted in the pre-proposal.

When relevant, please include the CVs of self-financed and subcontracted Partners.

When relevant, please specify in the CVs, the Partners' capacity to involve stakeholders.

<b>Participation status:</b> <Project Coordinator or principal investigator of a participant>
<b>Name:</b>
<b>Nationality:</b>
<b>Institution, City, Country:</b>
<b>E-mail:</b>
<b>URL / Website</b> (including complete list of publications – if any):
<b>Professional status:</b> <Professor, Assistant professor, Associate professor, Senior scientist, Post-Doc, PhD-student, other>
<b>Education</b> <Year; type of education; organisation; country > <Year; type of education; organisation; country > ...
<b>Positions:</b> <Year; Position; Organisation; Country>

<Year; Position; Organisation; Country >...
<b>Awards received / other responsibilities</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
<b>General expertise and its relevance for the project</b> (max 1,000 characters including spaces)
<b>Up to 5 most important achievements, publications, IP (e.g. patents) relevant to the proposal over 2017-2022</b> <...> <...> <...> <...> <...>
<b>Other relevant publications, achievements, IP (e.g. patents) from the consortium (max 15 references)</b>

## 7.0 BUDGET

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

### **Budget Instructions**

#### **FUNDING RULES:**

**Please note that each Partner will be funded by his own Funding Organisation.**

Please make sure to comply with the Funding Organisations' rules (e.g. subcontracts, overheads, the inclusion of VAT...). **Compliance with Funding Organisations' eligibility rules is mandatory. Funding Organisations' rules are indicated in Annex B, together with the list of the National Contact Points (NCPs), which should be contacted for further help on Funding Organisation eligibility rules.**

#### **MANDATORY COSTS:**



The funded projects are considered to form part of an international research programme for which activities will be organised, namely a kick-off meeting, a mid-term meeting and a final meeting. These events will be possibly organised back-to-back with other workshops/events. At least the coordinators of funded projects should participate in these joint activities. Accordingly, the cost for attendance to the physical meetings should be foreseen in their proposals' budget.

## PARTNERS INELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING

Partners from countries (and organisations) ineligible for direct funding under this call:

- Can be associated in the projects, **as NON-FUNDED PARTNERS, if they can bring a secured budget from a different source of funding (specify below in the first budget table); (= Self-financed Partners A, B...)**
- **CANNOT REQUEST FUNDING.** In Table 1, please do not request funding for countries ineligible for direct funding (**Self-financed Partners A, B**): indicate 0€ in the column "Funding request".

## Participants as subcontractants by Partners

Subcontractants are subject to the terms and conditions of each Funding Organisation and need to comply with their specific rules. Generally speaking, subcontracting is understood as the externalization of the execution of a (minor) project task that this partner cannot execute. Please, refer to the Funding Organisations' rules, as some Funding Organisations have specific restrictions about subcontracting costs and your proposal will be ineligible if you do not follow national rules. The list of Funding Organisations' rules is available on the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership website.

## Subcontractants CANNOT REQUEST FUNDING.

**When applicable, Partners will request funding for the subcontracting activities according to the Funding Organisations' rules.**

## Budget tables

Please provide clear evidence of how the funds requested will be used to fulfil the activities of each Partner and a clear justification that the requested funds are sufficient to achieve the work proposed.

**Table 1: Total costs per Partner<sup>10</sup> (in Euro, incl. VAT depending on national rules)**

Please note that for each Partner you are requested to **indicate both the total costs of the project and the requested funding budget**:

- The **total costs/expenses (column Total costs)** comprise all the costs related to the project independently of national funding rules. You have to indicate here all the costs of the project (including personnel costs of permanent staff even if not eligible; etc.)
- **Requested funding budget (column Funding request)** comprises costs or expenses for personnel (including permanent salaries depending on Funding Organisations' rules), travelling, consumables, overheads (if fundable), subcontracts etc. that you will request to your Funding Organisation. For the requested funding budget, the cost calculation has to be based for each Partner on its Funding Organisations' rules; for questions, please contact your Funding organisation's Contact Point.
- Please note that some Funding Organisations cannot provide 100% of eligible costs. Please make sure to follow your Funding Organisations' rules!

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<sup>10</sup> The total duration of projects is 36 months and starting dates shall be comprised between 1 February 2024 and 30 May 2027.

			Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding <sup>(1)</sup>	Total cost (in EURO, incl. VAT) <sup>(2)</sup>	Funding request (in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)
Partner 1 Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
		Travel			
		Participation to joint activities of the call			
		Consumables			
		Equipment			
		Other costs			
		Overheads			
		Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>			
		Total			
Subcontract		Permanent			0 €

Participant 1a (3)  Name  Country	Salaries	Temporary			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
	Partner 2  Name  Country	Salaries		Permanent	
Non-permanent					
Total					
Travel					
Consumables					
Equipment					
Other costs					
Overheads					
Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>					
Total					

Subcontractant 2a (3)  Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €
	Consumables				0 €
	Equipment				0 €
	Other costs				0 €
	Overheads				0 €
	Total				0 €
	Partner 3  Name Country	Salaries		Permanent	
Non-permanent					
Total					
Travel					
Consumables					
Equipment					
Other costs					
Overheads					

	Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>				
	Total				
Partner N Name Country	Salaries	Permanent			
		Non-permanent			
		Total			
	Travel				
	Consumables				
	Equipment				
	Other costs				
	Overheads				
	Subcontracting costs <sup>(2)</sup>				
	Total				
Self-financed <sup>(3)</sup> Partner A Name	Salaries	Permanent			0 €
		Non-permanent			0 €
		Total			0 €
	Travel				0 €

Country	Consumables			0 €
	Equipment			0 €
	Other costs			0 €
	Overheads			0 €
	Total			0 €
Total <sup>(4)</sup>				

<sup>(1)</sup> Please indicate to which Funding Organisation you are requesting funds. If more than one Funding Organisation from your country is participating in the call, please indicate which one should fund your project. It is not possible to indicate more than one funding organisation per country.

<sup>(2)</sup> Please make sure that VAT is eligible according to national/regional legal framework and Funding Organisations' rules. If not, please do not include VAT.

Indicate here the total budget and requested budget for your subcontractants and/or any other subcontracting costs.

<sup>(3)</sup> Subcontractants and self-financed Partners have to indicate the total budget per cost category (column 'Total costs'). For subcontractants, each subcontracting Partner must fill out the information for each of its subcontractants. Please note that for a subcontractant, you should indicate 0€ in the column 'Funding request'. The share of their costs for which you will request funding from your Funding Organisation should be included in the 'Funding request' of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).

<sup>(4)</sup> The total for the column "total costs /expenses" should include the costs of subcontractants and self-financed Partners (Partners 1a, 1b, 2a, etc.); the total for the column "Funding request" should not include the costs of subcontractants and self-financed Partners as they do not directly request funding. For subcontractants, when eligible, their budget should be included in the requested budget of the subcontracting Partner (Partner 1, 2, 3, etc.).

**Table 2: Costs per Partner and requested funding budget**

Please note that this table will be partly generated automatically in the EPSS, based on the information provided in table 1.

Partner	Funding organisation(s) to which you are applying for funding	A -Total costs/expenses <small>Including subcontracts</small> (in EURO, incl. VAT)	B – Total Funding request <small>Including subcontracts</small> (in EURO, incl. VAT depending on rules)	C – Total Funding request <small>Including subcontracts</small> (in national currency- when other than EURO if requested)	Funding rate (B/A)
Partner 1 Name / Country					
<i>Subcontractant 1a</i> <i>Name / Country</i>		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	
<i>Subcontractant 1b</i> <i>Name / Country</i>		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	
Partner 2 Name / Country					
<i>Subcontractant 2a</i> <i>Name / Country</i>		Subcontracting value	0 €	0 €	
Partner 3 Name / Country					
Partner N Name / Country					
<i>Self-financed Partner A</i>			0 €	0 €	
<i>Self-financed Partner B</i>			0 €	0 €	
Total					



**Explanation and/or remarks concerning the proposed budget (table 1 and 2):**

Please give explanation regarding your budget.

Please also indicate here the other sources of funding you have for your project (co-funding, self-funding, etc.) that will cover the costs for which you do not request funding.

Please note that Funding Organisations might ask for more details separately, if needed.

Partner 1 Name Country	
<i>Subcontractant 1a</i> Name Country	
Partner 2 Name Country	
<i>Subcontractant 2a</i> Name Country	
Partner 3 Name Country	
Partner N Name Country	
<i>Self-financed Partner A</i> Name Country	

## 8.0 EXCLUSION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

List here potential reviewers who, you think, should not be asked to evaluate the project for reasons of direct competition and partiality (Table VIII.a). Also, provide the names of significant collaborators that should not be used as reviewers due to conflicts of interest (Table VIII.b).

**Table VIII.a. Potential competitors**

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

**Table VIII.b. Collaborators with conflict of interest**

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Rationale for excluding the reviewer
1						
2						
3						
N						

*Insert as many lines as needed*

## 9.0 SUGGESTION OF POTENTIAL REVIEWERS (OPTIONAL)

Please indicate up to 4 experts who could review your proposal, including their field expertise. The rules on conflict of interest set forth in in 4.5. 'Confidentiality and conflict of interests' in the Call Announcement apply to these suggestions.

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

	First Name	Last Name	Organisation	Country	E-mail address	Field of expertise	Link to his/her website
1							
2							
3							
4							

Please note that these are only suggestions for consideration by the International Evaluation Committee (IEC)) and Call Steering Committee (CSC). The final attribution of reviewers to proposals is the responsibility of the IEC and CSC.

## 10.0 ETHICS SELF-ASSESSMENT AND DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE

NB: This part will have to be filled in directly in the EPSS.

**Please go through the table below and indicate which elements concern your proposal by answering 'Yes' or 'No'. If you answer 'Yes' to any of the questions, please detail how you plan to deal with the mentioned ethical issue.**

*For more information on each of the ethical issues and how to address them, including detailed legal references, please consult the Horizon Europe Programme Guidelines "How to complete your ethics self-assessment"<sup>11</sup>.*

<b>1. HUMAN EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS AND HUMAN EMBRYOS</b>		<b>If yes, please detail and indicate how you plan to deal with this ethic issue.</b>
Does this activity involve Human Embryonic Stem Cells (hESCs)?	Y/N	
If yes, will they be directly derived from embryos within this project?	Y/N	
If yes, are they previously established cells lines?	Y/N	
If yes, are the cell lines registered in the European registry for human embryonic stem cell lines?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve the use of human embryos?	Y/N	
If yes, will the activity lead to their destruction?	Y/N	
<b>2. HUMANS</b>		
Does your research involve human participants?	Y/N	
If yes, are they volunteers for nonmedical studies (e.g. social or human sciences research)?	Y/N	

<sup>11</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/how-to-complete-your-ethics-self-assessment_en.pdf)

If yes, are they healthy volunteers or medical studies?	Y/N	
If yes, are they patients for medical studies?	Y/N	
If yes, are they potentially vulnerable individuals or groups?	Y/N	
If yes, are they children / minors?	Y/N	
If yes, are they other persons unable to give informed consent?	Y/N	
Does your research involve physical interventions on the study participants?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve invasive techniques?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve collection of biological samples?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve conducting a clinical study as defined by the Clinical Trial <a href="#">Regulation (EU 536/2014)</a> ? (using pharmaceuticals, biologicals, radiopharmaceuticals, or advanced therapy medicinal products).	Y/N	
If yes, is it a clinical trial?	Y/N	
If yes, is it a low-intervention clinical trial?	Y/N	
<b>3. HUMAN CELLS / TISSUES</b>		
Does this activity involve the use of human cells or tissues?	Y/N	
If yes, are they human embryonic or foetal cells or tissues?	Y/N	
If yes, are they available commercially?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained within this project?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained from another project, laboratory or institution?	Y/N	
If yes, are they obtained from biobank?	Y/N	
<b>4. PERSONAL DATA</b>		

Does this activity involve the processing of personal data?	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve the processing of special categories of personal data (e.g.: sexual lifestyle, ethnicity, genetic, biometric and health data, political opinion, religious or philosophical	Y/N	
If yes, does it involve profiling, systematic monitoring of individuals, or processing of large scale of special categories of data or intrusive methods of data processing (such as surveillance, geolocation tracking etc.)?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve further processing of previously collected personal data (including the use of pre-existing data sets or sources, and merging existing data sets)?	Y/N	
Is it planned to export personal data from the EU to non-EU countries?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
Is it planned to import personal data from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the type of personal data and countries involved:		
<b>5. ANIMALS</b>		
Does your research involve animals?	Y/N	
If yes, are they vertebrates?	Y/N	
If yes, are they non-human primates (NHP)?	Y/N	
If yes, are they genetically modified?	Y/N	
If yes, are they cloned farm animals?	Y/N	
If yes, are they endangered species?	Y/N	
<b>6. NON-EU COUNTRIES</b>		

Will some of the activities be carried out in non-EU countries?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
In case non-EU countries are involved, do the activities undertaken in these countries raise potential ethical issues?	Y/N	
If yes, specify the countries		
Is it planned to use local resources (e.g., animal and/or human tissue samples, genetic material, live animals, human remains, materials of historical value, endangered fauna or flora samples, etc.)? <sup>12</sup>	Y/N	
Is it planned to import any material (other than data) from non-EU countries into the EU or from a non-EU country to another non-EU country? For data imports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Is it planned to export any material (other than data) from the EU to non-EU countries? For data exports, see section 4.	Y/N	
If yes, specify material and countries involved:		
Does this activity involve <a href="#">low and/or lower-middle income countries?</a> (if yes, detail the benefit-sharing actions planned in the self-assessment)	Y/N	
Could the situation in the country put the individuals taking part in the activity at risk?	Y/N	

<sup>12</sup> Please note that for access to genetic resources, you must also comply with the Nagoya Protocol on Access and Benefit Sharing and EU Regulation (EU) No 511/2014 which implements this Protocol. You will also have to ascertain towards the competent authorities and focal point that these used genetic resources and traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources have been accessed in accordance with applicable access and benefit-sharing legislation or regulatory requirements, and that benefits are fairly and equitably shared upon mutually agreed terms, in accordance with any applicable legislation or regulatory requirements.

<b>7. ENVIRONMENT &amp; HEALTH and SAFETY</b>		
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to the environment, animals or plants (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?	Y/N	
Does this activity deal with endangered fauna and/or flora / protected areas?	Y/N	
Does this activity involve the use of substances or processes that may cause harm to humans, including those performing the activity (during the implementation of the activity or further to the use of the results, as a possible impact)?	Y/N	
<b>8. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</b>		
Does this activity involve the development, deployment and/or use of Artificial Intelligence? (if yes, detail in the self-assessment whether that could raise ethical concerns related to human rights and values and detail how this will be addressed).	Y/N	
<b>9. OTHER ETHICS ISSUES</b>		
Are there any other ethics issues that should be taken into consideration?	Y/N	
Please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1,000)		
<b>10. DO NO SIGNIFICANT HARM PRINCIPLE<sup>13</sup></b>		

<sup>13</sup> The Do no significant harm principle was introduced in the European Green Deal to ensure that the research and innovation activities do not make a significant harm to any of the six following environmental objectives ([EU Taxonomy Regulation](#)): climate change mitigation, climate change adaptation, sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources, Pollution prevention & control, Transition to a circular economy and Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems. You can find more information on what is considered as doing significant harm to the above objectives in the following note: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021\\_1054\\_en.pdf](https://ec.europa.eu/info/sites/default/files/c2021_1054_en.pdf) (section 1: what is do no significant harm).



Does your project comply with the "Do no significant harm principle"	Y/N
If no, please specify: (Maximum number of characters allowed: 1,000)	

## 11.0 DECLARATION OF CHANGES BETWEEN PRE-PROPOSALS AND FULL PROPOSALS

**REMINDER:** the information that was given in the pre-proposals is binding. No major changes regarding the proposals' content will be allowed by the CSC between the pre-proposals and full proposals.

However, applicants still have the possibility to make minor changes to improve their proposals as long as the objectives remain unchanged. The changes have to be declared in this section.

- **Information on the core data (e.g. funding requested or institutions) cannot be changed in full proposals**, unless explicitly requested by evaluators, by a funding organisation or by the Call Steering Committee (CSC)

- **Regarding the administrative details, a limited number of changes may be allowed.** They, however, must comply with the general rules of the call and the rules of the relevant funding organisations. Any request for changes must be addressed by email to the JCS and the NCPs and will be reviewed by all funding organisations involved in the proposal;

- **Minor changes to the budget** must be allowed by the relevant funding organisation;

- Regarding changes in the composition of the consortium: **no change will be allowed, except in case of force majeure** or if explicitly requested by the Call Steering Committee (CSC) for the particular cases of i) ineligibility of a partner or ii) invitation to add partner from a country with an undersubscription ratio; the list of the countries with undersubscription ratio will be provided to coordinators invited to submit a full proposal at the end of the first step selection process. The request for the change must be submitted to the Joint Call Secretariat, at least one week before the deadline set for the

submission of full proposals, it will be discussed on a case-by-case basis by the call steering committee.

Please indicate the acronym of your project when you contact the Joint Call Secretariat and/or your NCP. In this section, please declare also the changes which are explicitly requested by a Funding Organisation after the eligibility decision at Step 1.

- Was there any change made regarding the **total budget requested to a funding organisation** between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?

☐ YES

☐ NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country of the Partner(s) concerned by the change*  For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- Was there any change made regarding **the project coordinator and/or the Partner(s)** between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage? (This question does not apply to "team members").

☐ YES

☐ NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country	Has the Funding Organisation(s)	Has the Call Secretariat	Detail the change
--	---------------------------------	--------------------------	-------------------

of the Partner(s) concerned by the change *	already approved the change?	already approved the change?	and give rationales for such change
For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)			
	Yes/No/Decision still pending	Yes/No/Decision still pending	

- Would you like to declare any other changes between the pre-proposal and full proposal stage?

☐ YES

☐ NO

*Insert as many lines as needed*

Give the name of the principal investigator/organisation/country of the Partner(s) concerned by the change *	Has the Funding Organisation(s) already approved the change?	Has the Call Secretariat already approved the change?	Detail the change and give rationales for such change
For example: Anna Dupont (Institute of applied ecology in Paris, France)			
	Yes/No/Decision still pending/ No approval needed	Yes/No/Decision still pending/ No approval needed	

## 12.0 CONFIRMATION OF SUBMISSION

1. **Each Partner MUST carefully read the documents** and – in case of any questions or doubts – contact his Funding Organisation Contact Point (FCP) regarding any original official paperwork required by his Funding Organisation.

This must be submitted in accordance with Funding Organisations' rules and in any case as soon as possible. **You will NOT be funded without the fulfilment of requirements of each relevant Funding Organisation.**

Further information is available on the ANNEX B: National contact points and national/regional funding regulations of the Call Pre-announcement.

2. **“Self-financed” Partners must provide evidence that their organisations will support their activities.** They should upload a signed official letter of commitment from their Head of Department or Financial administrator (as appropriate) on the EPSS (.pdf). The letter of commitment should be maximum 1 page for each self-financed partner and should be written in English. It is the responsibility of the project coordinator to compile the letters of all self-financed partners. The letters of commitment are only requested for self-financed partners. Any other letters of support WILL NOT be considered for the evaluation.

As consortium coordinator:

- 1. Please ask all of your self-financed partners to send such letters of commitment to you;*
- 2. Combine the letters (in case there are several self-financed partners) into one PDF document;*
- 3. Upload a single PDF file containing all the letters of commitment of all self-financed partners on the EPSS*

3. **Use of data:**

For information: the data provided in this full proposal application form will be used to:

- *communicate with you about the call and application process*
- *allow the Joint Call Secretariat and funding organisations to perform an eligibility check of the applicants*
- *assess the competencies and complementarities of your proposal and consortia by the IEC members*
- *award funding if your application is successful*
- *analyse and describe our applicant pool (the name of applicants are anonymised in our analysis)*
- *collect your feedbacks and improve our communications with potential future applicants in future Joint Calls*

Anonymity and confidentiality will be maintained throughout processing of these data for the production of statistics. Please note that these data will be accessible to Funding Organisations participating to the call.

*Retention of personal data shall take an end in accordance with the EPSS General Data Protection Policy.*

## ANNEX F – OPEN ACCESS AND FAIR DATA

The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership supports a sustainable transformation of the blue economy which relies on wide and immediate access to quality data, across a range of marine and maritime disciplines and human activities. Better access to ocean data can support innovation, advance our understanding of marine ecosystems and the (cumulative) impacts of human activities, reduce costs and risks for maritime operators, inform decision-making, enable good governance, and increase Ocean Literacy. These issues are central in the five priority areas of the first call of the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership, including, for instance, the priority area namely 'Planning and managing sea uses at the regional level', with MSP socio-economic data needs for the management of sea-uses MSP.

To meet this challenge, The Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership strongly supports Open Science principles, including the open sharing of research data to stimulate novel approaches to the collection, reuse, analysis, validation, and management of data and information. In accordance with the FAIR principles for data management (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), data generated by Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership-funded R&I projects, including metadata and raw data (for data analysis across different datasets), should thus be made publicly available, possibly after a short period of exclusivity. This principle prevails as long as there are no legitimate reasons to constrain access, such as risks to the privacy of individuals that may arise from personally identifiable data or the need to protect commercial potential. The sharing of research data is made with a balanced approach towards openness, according to the principle "as open as possible, as closed as necessary". In order to support the funded projects in this process, a Data Management Plan will be requested from all projects in the development phase (proposal phase) and throughout the lifecycle of the research project (see below). Please note that the respective Funding Organisation may also have specific requirements in terms of open access to data. Applicants are thus encouraged to plan resources to ensure data open access and comply with the requirements of their Funding Organisations (if any).

Projects funded under the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership calls also have to comply with full and immediate Open Access principles for scientific publications. This includes publishing in full and immediate Open Access journals or publishing platforms, or full and immediate open access via a trusted Open Access Repository. The open-access publishing platform [Open Research Europe](#), which makes it easy for Horizon Europe beneficiaries to comply with the open-access terms, can especially be used. When using the repository option, partners should ensure that electronic copies of published articles are machine-readable and openly licensed, including bibliographic metadata. Information should be provided about all the other scholarly objects, tools and instruments that are needed to validate the conclusions of the publication.

### Data Management Plans (DMPs)

The following guide presents the core requirements for the establishment of their own DMP throughout the lifecycle of the project (pre-proposal, full-proposal, awarded project – see the planning process further below). Its content has been developed to support researchers in ensuring that data are FAIR, where appropriate, *i.e.* Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable.

A training session will be organised at the beginning of the funded projects (back-to-back with the Sustainable Blue Economy Partnership kick-off meeting of the funded projects) to exchange best practices related to data management, present hands-on advice, and work with the funded projects on how they can improve their data management plans (DMPs) and practices related to FAIR data.

Also, for assistance in developing DMPs, project leaders are encouraged to first consult with relevant domain repositories, librarians, and information specialists at their respective institutions. When appropriate repositories have been identified for depositing and sharing data and digital outputs, staff at these repositories can provide additional guidance on the preparation of data and digital outputs management plans, as well as processes for fulfilling specific requirements for organising and formatting data and metadata.

Research data and digital outputs include, but are not limited to:

- *Data generated by research activities such as experiments, analysis, surveys, measurements, instrumentation and observations, video, audio, and computer simulations.*
- *All metadata describing the data and digital outputs, their acquisition (including model description and related metadata for simulations and workflows), and other details for the use and reuse of the data.*
- *Secondary data resulting from automated or manual data reduction, transformation, analyses, and results, together with the associated code, software, workflows, and provenance information.*
- *Stakeholder-oriented digital outputs such as maps (including GIS layers), decision support tools, tutorials, videos, local language resources, lesson plans, curricula, policy memos, and whitepapers.*
- *Descriptions of (and metadata relating to) physical samples connected with the call - but not the actual physical samples.*

Project-specific DMPs should adhere to relevant standards and community best practices, which may vary by subject and disciplinary area. DMPs should also comply with public access policies and applicable national laws for the respective Funding Organisations supporting this call. Data sharing should follow a balanced approach towards openness, according to the principle “as open as possible, as closed as necessary”. Shared data must be discoverable through machine-readable catalogues, information systems and search engines. Sufficient metadata must be provided and made openly accessible to enable data (including models, workflows, software, methods, etc.) to be discoverable, accessible, understandable, interoperable and effectively reused by others, including those outside the discipline of origin and the context of acquisition. Data must be curated, including maintaining integrity, quality and veracity, using internationally or community-agreed standards and protocols. Data must be preserved, protected from loss and remain accessible and usable for future research in sustainable and trustworthy repositories.

Resulting publications must list where or how to locate the underlying supporting data and other research materials, including agreed persistent identifiers, processing details and any workflows, software, and code. Academic journals may also set specific requirements for Data Accessibility Statements to be included within published research results (primary research articles). Researchers should ensure that metadata created to



support research datasets and other digital outputs retained for the long term is sufficient to allow other researchers a reasonable understanding and trust of those materials, thereby minimising unintentional misuse, misinterpretation or confusion.

In the development of data infrastructures, it is important to leverage existing resources, platforms, standards, and recognised practices together with a clear sustainability plan. Projects that propose to develop data infrastructures are asked to work closely with and support relevant international networks, infrastructures, and standards organisations. They should make as much use as possible of existing certified domains, and national or international data repositories (for further information, possible resources include, but are not limited to [re3data.org](https://re3data.org), Core Trust Seal, Group on Earth Observations (GEO) [FAIRsharing.org](https://FAIRsharing.org), etc). Projects should also coordinate with, and make use of, the products and practices developed by recognised research and operational data policy and sharing organisations such as the Committee on Data for Science and Technology (CODATA), the Research Data Alliance (RDA), the ICSU-World Data System (WDS), and the European marine data networks and services: European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet), Pan-European Infrastructure for Ocean & Marine Data Management (SeaDataNet) and Copernicus Marine Environment Monitoring Service (CMEMS). More information on these important components of Marine data management, along with other initiatives, are described in the European Open Science platform [Blue-Cloud](#) (a component of the European Open Science Cloud for the marine domain).

### Data Management Planning Process

This section presents the expectations for DMPs at the stages of pre-proposals, full proposals, and Awarded Projects. Complementary to the set of questions provided below, it is recommended to consult the document [Practical Guide to the International Alignment of Research Data Management - Extended Edition](#) from Science Europe. It includes additional guidance and explanations to respond to the questions.

### **Pre-proposals - Preliminary Data Management Information**

In the data management section of pre-proposals, please address the following questions:

- *Who on your team will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing and updating the data management plan?*
- *What data sets of long-term value do you expect that the project will produce? “Long-term” means those data sets that, over time, will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research and innovation community. Data of long-term value should meet the FAIR principles; i.e. they should be findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable.*
- *How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and other materials to ensure long-term availability?*

### **Full proposals - Proposed Data Management Plan Approach**

In the data management section (to be included in your single pdf to be uploaded on the EPSS), please address the following questions (those that are repeated from the earlier stage should be elaborated on as appropriate):

What types of datasets of long-term value do you expect the project will produce or reuse?

1. “Long-term” means those data that will or may be of value to others within your research community and/or the wider research, innovation and stakeholder communities.
2. How do you intend to ensure that the data from your project complies with the FAIR principles (for instance, in terms of financial and time resources)?
3. Who will be responsible for developing, implementing, overseeing, and updating the DMP (role, position, and institution)? For collaborative projects, explain the coordination of data management responsibilities across partners.
4. How do you intend to manage the data during the project and to ensure their long-term protection?
  - *For example, where will the data be held during the project, who will have access, and will a specialised data manager be part of the project team?*
5. How and by whom will the data be managed after the project ends to ensure their long-term accessibility?

- *For example, will the outputs be published with a Persistent Unique and Resolvable Identifier (such as a Digital Object Identifier (DOI), Accession Number, Handle, etc.), and/or be placed in a recognised, trustworthy long-term domain or other repository or data centre. When will this occur? (Further information about repositories include, but is not limited to, the Re3data.org registry of research data repositories, CoreTrustSeal list of certified data repositories, etc.)*

6. What restrictions, if any, do you anticipate could be placed on how the data can be accessed, mined or reused? Are there possible restrictions to data sharing, and embargo retention?

- *Please explain the reason in case of restrictions (ex. intellectual property protection).*

7. What supporting documentation and other information (e.g. metadata) do you plan to make publicly accessible to support the longer-term re-use of the data and digital outputs?

8. How have you accounted for the costs required to manage the data and digital outputs to ensure long-term accessibility?

### **Awarded Projects - Full Data Management Plan**

Awarded projects will be requested to provide a DMP at the beginning of their project. They'll also have to report on updates made in their DMP in their mid-term and final reports.

A full DMP for an awarded project is a living, actively updated document that describes the data management life cycle for the data and other digital outputs to be collected, reused, processed and/or generated. As part of making research data findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR), the DMP for a funded project should elaborate on the information provided at the **Full proposal stage**, and include the following additional information:

1. Agreed standards to be used for data and metadata format and content (where existing standards are absent or deemed inadequate, this should be documented along with any proposed solutions or remedies);
2. Policies for broad access and sharing including provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, intellectual property, or other rights or requirements;

3. Policies and provisions for mining, reuse, re-distribution, and the production of derivatives;
4. Contact information for the person(s) responsible for updating the DMP as needed to comply with these guidelines;
5. A list of anticipated trustworthy, long-term repositories or data centres that will be used to ensure the preservation of access to data and digital outputs following the completion of the project.

Applicants are advised to include the full costs of implementing the data management plan in their proposed project budget.

**Links for further information and documentation:**

- Open Research Europe platform

<https://open-research-europe.ec.europa.eu/>

- Practical Guide to the International Alignment of Research Data Management - Extended Edition from Science Europe

<https://scienceeurope.org/our-resources/practical-guide-to-the-international-alignment-of-research-data-management/>

- Research Data Alliance (RDA)

<https://www.rd-alliance.org/>

- Blue Cloud platform

<https://blue-cloud.org/>

- European Marine Observation and Data Network

<https://emodnet.ec.europa.eu/en>

- SeaDataNet

<https://www.seadatanet.org/>

- Copernicus Marine Service

<https://marine.copernicus.eu/>