



Brussels, 18.6.2014
C(2014) 3975 final

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

of 18.6.2014

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2014 in the framework of the
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for the use of the operational technical
assistance, serving as financing decision**

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concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2014 in the framework of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for the use of the operational technical assistance, serving as financing decision

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

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

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 861/2006 and No 791/2007 and Regulation No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and Council¹, and in particular Articles 23 and 91 thereof,

Having regard to the Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, and in particular Article 58 thereof,

Having regard to Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 25 October 2012 on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union², and in particular Article 84(2) thereof,

Having regard to Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 of 29 October 2012 on the rules of application of Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 966/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union³, and in particular Article 94 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) In order to ensure implementation of the work programme for 2014 in the framework of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for the use of technical assistance, it is necessary to adopt a financing decision for 2014. Article 94 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012 establishes detailed rules on financing decisions.
- (2) This Decision should allow for the payment of interest due for late payment on the basis of Article 92 of the Financial Regulation and Article 111(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.

¹ OJ L 149, 20.05.2014, p. 1.

² OJ L 298, 26.10.2012, p. 1.

³ OJ L 362, 31.12.2002, p. 1.

- (3) For the application of this Decision, it is appropriate to define the term 'substantial change' within the meaning of Article 94(4) of Delegated Regulation (EU, Euratom) No 1268/2012.

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

Article 1
The Work programme

The annual work programme for the implementation of the operational technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission in the framework of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014, as set out in Annex, is adopted.

The work programme constitutes a financing decision within the meaning of Article 84 of the Financial Regulation for actions funded from appropriations of 2014.

Article 2
Union contribution

The maximum contribution for the implementation of the operational technical assistance for the year 2014 is set at EUR 2 556 500, and shall be financed from the following line of the general budget of the European Union for 2014:

- (a) 11 06 63 EMFF operational technical assistance EUR 2 556 500

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

Article 3
Flexibility clause

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

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

Done at Brussels, 18.6.2014

For the Commission
Maria DAMANAKI
Member of the Commission



EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

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ANNEX 1

ANNEX

to the

COMMISSION IMPLEMENTING DECISION

**concerning the adoption of the work programme for 2014 in the framework of the
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assistance, serving as financing decision**

Annex

1. PROCUREMENT

1.1. Budget heading 11 06 63

- Operational technical assistance at the initiative of the Commission

Legal basis:

- Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC), No 791/2007 and Regulation No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and Council¹, and in particular Articles 23 and 91 thereof,
- Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and Council 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006, and in particular Article 58 thereof.

1.1.1. FAME: Help Desk for the EMFF monitoring and evaluation network

Type	Service contract (1- year contract, renewable 6 times)
Budget	€0 in 2014
Subject	<p>The ESI funds foster a stronger "result-orientation". In the case of the EMFF, this should be supported by a new Common Monitoring and Evaluation System and new evaluations functions and tasks are required. It is important that the right evaluation capacity is in place at the right time, both in the MS and in the Commission to support this new approach.</p> <p>This will require a long-term effort to build progressively the capacity to effectively address this challenge. This effort should be undertaken collectively with the MS in order to foster a reinforced evaluation culture in both Member States and DG MARE. A network of evaluators would be an effective way to reach that objective.</p> <p>The service contract foresees setting-up an external "Help-desk" to support this new dimension of the financial support for maritime affairs and fisheries. The tasks of the Help-Desk will be variable along the years, which indicates that yearly service contract would be an appropriate mean to deliver this support.</p>
Implementing modalities	Call for tenders
Approximate timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 rd quarter of 2014. Service contract to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2015.

¹ OJ L 149, 20.05.2014, p. 1.

1.1.2. *Support Unit for the European Fisheries Areas Network (FARNET II)*

Type	Service contract (1-year contract, renewable 6 times)
Budget	€0 in 2014
Subject	The service contract for FARNET I (MARE/2008/09) expires on 19.05.2015. A new Support Unit for the European Fisheries Areas Network (FARNET II) will need to be set up. It will be in charge of supporting the implementation of community-led local development in fisheries areas. Its task will be to provide capacity building to FLAGs and managing authorities, to disseminate information, exchange experience and good practice and to support cooperation between the local partnerships. The network will cooperate with the networking and technical support bodies for local development set up by the ERDF, the ESF and the EAFRD as regards their local development activities and transnational co-operation.
Implementing modalities	Call for tenders
Approximate timetable	Call for tenders to be published in the 3 rd quarter of 2014. Service contract to be concluded in the 1 st quarter of 2015.

1.1.3. *Support Unit for the European Fisheries Areas Network (FARNET I)*

Type	Renewal of the existing service contract.
Budget	€1 126 500
Subject	The Support Unit for the European Fisheries Areas Network is in charge of supporting the implementation of community-led local development in fisheries areas. Its tasks are to provide capacity building to FLAGs and managing authorities, to disseminate information, exchange experience and good practice and to support cooperation between the local partnerships. To ensure the continuity of the support provided under this contract, it is essential to extend its duration pending the award of a new contract.
Implementing modalities	Service contract (MARE/2008/09) to be renewed for a period of 5 months from 20.12.2014 to 19.05.2015
Approximate timetable	Contract renewal to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2014.

1.1.4. *IT services and supplies*

Type	Specific service and supply contracts linked to existing framework contracts.
Budget	€710 000
Subject	Development, maintenance, support and training of IT applications required for the implementation of the EMFF, and supply of the hardware required for these applications.
Implementing modalities	About 15 specific contracts will be awarded in accordance with the framework agreement with Directorate-General for informatics

	(DIGIT). Part of the appropriations will be managed via a cross sub-delegation granted to DG Employment and DG Regional Policy to fund the implementation of SFC2007, SFC2014, SFC2014 back-office, and WAVE.
Approximate timetable	Specific contracts to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2014.

1.1.5. Feasibility study on options for an eco-label scheme for fisheries and aquaculture products

Type	Specific service contract linked to an existing or new framework contract.
Budget	€70 000
Subject	Prospective evaluation on the opportunity and feasibility of the establishment of an eco-labelling scheme for fisheries and aquaculture products Union-wide.
Implementing modalities	Specific contract under the framework contract "Retrospective and prospective evaluations on the CFP, excluding its international dimension." (MARE/2011/01/Lot 2) or under a new or existing framework contract suitable for the purpose of the action.
Approximate timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2014.

1.1.6. Interim evaluation of regulation on autonomous tariffs quotas

Type	Specific service contract linked to an existing or new framework contract.
Budget	€70 000
Subject	Interim evaluation of regulation 1220/2012, which provides for the reduction or elimination of the tariffs duties applicable to certain specific fisheries products imported into the EU. This evaluation should be conducted in order to analyse the effectiveness, efficiency and relevance of the regulation regarding its objective of improving the competitiveness of the EU processing sector, its impact on the added-value created by the EU processing sector, on the trade flows of the fisheries products concerned, on EU employment, assess possible areas open to abuse or practices not in line with the principal objective of the said regulation, and assess possible impact on EU production, including impact on first sale prices as well as possible substitution effects. The evaluation is required in view of the drafting of new regulation (from 2015).
Implementing modalities	Specific contract under the framework contract "Retrospective and prospective evaluations on the CFP, excluding its international dimension." (MARE/2011/01/Lot 2) or under a new or existing framework contract suitable for the purpose of the action.
Approximate timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2014.

1.1.7. Technical Assistance Platform (TAP)

Type	Memorandum of understanding with EIB
Budget	€180 000

Subject	DG MARE contribution to a Technical Assistance Platform to be delivered by the European Investment Bank for the provision of a single technical assistance and advisory services framework for ESIF Financial Instruments in cohesion policy 2014-2020.
Implementing modalities	Framework agreement to be concluded between DG REGIO and EIB for the programming period plus yearly service contract. MARE financial contribution to be implemented by means of a sub-delegation to DG REGIO.
Approximate timetable	Memorandum of understanding with EIB to be signed in the first half of 2014 with suspensive clause for the adoption of the EMFF Regulation.

1.1.8. *Ex post evaluation on establishing Community financial measures for the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy and in the area of the Law of the Sea 2007-2013 (2nd financial instrument)*

Type	Specific service contract linked to an existing Framework Contract
Budget	€400 000
Subject	<p>Council Regulation (EC) No 861/2006 provides the legal basis for a series of EU financial measures for the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and in the area of the Law of the Sea for the period from 2007 to 2013, covering the following four thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Control and enforcement – Conservation, data collection and scientific advice – Fisheries governance – International fisheries relations, including Law of the Sea matters <p>In line with the relevant legal requirements, the purpose of this evaluation is to assess the results obtained by the different measures that were financed and to verify that they were consistent with the objectives set, and to thereby facilitate better informed decision making in fisheries resource management and utilisation.</p>
Implementing modalities	One specific contract linked to the Framework Contract MARE/2011/01 - Lot 2. "Retrospective and prospective evaluations on the common fisheries policy, excluding its international dimension".
Approximate timetable	Specific contract to be concluded in the 3 rd quarter of 2014.