

Guidance for project ideas discussions
Constanta, Hotel Ibis 09 October 2019

39B-41 Bvd. Mircea cel Batran, Ovidiu Conference Room

The workshops discussions will be focused on:

1. The **business indicators** of the programme which targets a positive change in the applicant annual turnover and net operational profit with the aim of the project application.
2. The applicants' **main activities** and their potential relation with future project ideas
3. **State aid** provision relevant for Blue Growth focus area

Programme requirements/ particularities:

- **Online application** accessible on the programme webpage when the call is open;
- **4 months** to find a partner, establish a project and apply;
- **3 year** minimum of business activity under Green Industry Innovation and Blue Growth;
- **1 year** minimum of business activity under ICT;
- **200 000 EUR** minimum amount to apply -> maximum **2 mln EUR** in grant;
- Cash **co-financing** (bank loan, own funds) ;
- **Final date** of project eligible expenses - 30 April 2022;
- The **grant rate** is important: go for the one which is in tune with the financial status of the company. If you have a turnover of 10 000 EUR and ask for 1 mln EUR then this is not feasible;
- **hourly rate** policy will be followed both for partner and applicant – usual policy.
- The **Standard Terms and Condition** guide offers further replies related to: purchasing land, equipment, etc;
- Familiarity with EC **Regulation 651/2014** is important to understand as it describes the type of eligible expenses you could consider when selecting a state aid article indicated in the call text;
- For **Research & Development** project we will consider the Frascati Manual from 2015.

Example of possible projects:

- Coastal tourism (Extending the production or service capacity at the level of inland waters or black sea);
- Modernisation of existing boats to render them more friendly with the environment and reduced carbon footprint. Provisions on aid for environment should be considered here;
- Development of monitoring equipment to monitor, for instance, but not limited to, oil spills;
- Development of maritime equipment;
- Innovation and development of equipment for aquaculture and fisheries.

Example of NOT possible project ideas:

- Buying a boat to start a tourism activity: transport sector is excluded from the EC Regulation;
- Purchase of pure boat equipment's is not an eligible activity;
- Investments in aquaculture and fisheries.