

January 2017

Submit your projects and ideas related to the Blue Economy and get supported by the NEPTUNE Blue Growth accelerator

A call for Expression of Interest to support the development of innovative technologies, services and products in the Blue Growth sector has been published on January 13, 2017. With an Indicative budget of more than 3M€, it constitutes a unique opportunity to finance innovative projects and large-scale demonstrators for the **European Blue Economy**.

Small and Medium Enterprises and would-be-entrepreneurs have the opportunity to get direct financial support of vouchers up to €60,000 and an access to a wide range of professional coaching and mentoring services to tackle significant societal and economic challenges in the following sectors:

- Water management in rural environments
- Water management in urban environments
- Port logistics
- Fluvial and maritime transport
- Environment
- Marine/Water renewable energy

The calls document detailing the eligibility and admissibility criteria, the topics and challenges looking for solutions, the vouchers and services offered, the application and evaluation process, as well as the electronic submission service <https://portal-neptune.selfpoint.se> and the model contract <http://www.neptune-project.eu/Neptune-Accelerator/Call-for-Interest-SMEs-and-would-be-entrepreneurs> are now available. The call has two cut-off dates with deadlines on *15 March 2017 @17:00 CET* and *15 September 2017 @17:00 CET*.

Additionally, NEPTUNE has also launched a **call for interest to establish a list of experts** (technical and consultancy service providers) to support the beneficiaries to implement their projects in one of the following topics: Intellectual Property Rights Management, Technology Development/Transfer, Overcoming non-technical barriers, Scalability and Internationalization, Incubation and Prototyping and Large scale Demonstration Deployment. Selected experts will be included in the official Neptune handbook. This call document is also available at <http://www.neptune-project.eu/Neptune-Accelerator/Call-for-Interest-SMEs-and-would-be-entrepreneurs>. Applications will be accepted until *15 September 2017 @17:00 CET*.



About NEPTUNE

Coordinated by Aerospace Valley, **NEPTUNE** which stands for *New Cross Sectoral Value Chains Creation across Europe Facilitated By Clusters for SMEs' Innovation in Blue Growth* is a European Union funded innovation action financed by the INNOSUP component of the HORIZON 2020 programme. It brings together 15 of Europe's leading clusters, 3 Science Parks/Technology/Research Centres, 2 regional development Agencies and 2 Innovation/Cluster expert organisations from 7 EU countries (France, Greece, Italy, Poland, Romania, Spain and Sweden). NEPTUNE targets the support of 100 European SMEs (individual or in groups) and the creation of 10 new companies in 15-20 new or reconfigured cross-sectoral/-cluster/-border value chains for the development of around 40 impactful and innovative solutions to improve existing or develop new technologies, services or products, improve production processes replacing or reducing the use of critical resources and deploy large scale demonstrators. It is driven by the integration of new technologies and know-how, facilitated by clusters in Water, Maritime, Aerospace, ICT, Microelectronics, Agrifood, Logistics, Creative Industries, Energy, and Mobility to foster the development of Blue Growth industries in Europe.

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NEPTUNE_BGrowth



Neptune Blue Growth Accelerator group

Neptune consortium



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