

## Currently open EU co-funding calls for the maritime cluster 12/2019

### 1. [Horizon 2020](#)

Horizon 2020 is the biggest EU Research and Innovation programme ever with nearly EUR 80 billion of funding available over 7 years (2014-2020). Horizon 2020 couples research and innovation with emphasis on excellent science, industrial leadership and tackling societal challenges. The goal is to ensure Europe produces world-class science, removes barriers to innovation and makes it easier for the public and private sectors to work together in delivering innovation. Project consortium requires at least three legal entities from three different EU member states or [associated countries](#). All three legal entities must be independent of each other. In practice, a large consortium is needed for a successful application. Costs are eligible from the signature of a grant agreement. The evaluation of the applications takes max 5 months after the deadline of a call. [Business Finland](#) gives national guidance for Finnish applicants.

In the current [H2020 Work Programme](#), there are two suitable calls for the maritime cluster under smart, green and integrated transport:

[Decarbonising long distance shipping](#) aims to reduce GHG emission in shipping in line with the targets of the International Maritime Organization (IMO). This is a two-stage call with 1<sup>st</sup> stage deadline on 9 January 2020 and 2<sup>nd</sup> stage deadline on 8 September 2020. The co-funding rate is 100 % and the total call budget is EUR 20 million. The expected project budget is between EUR 5-10 million. The required aspects to be addressed and the expected impact are listed in the call webpage.

[Reducing the cost of large batteries for waterborne transport](#) aims to improve the efficiency and to eliminate emissions from waterborne transport. The challenge is to substantially reduce the cost of large waterborne transport battery systems and cells for both marine and inland waterway transport applications. Proposals can address either the battery cell or the battery system (racks, battery management system, fault detection and any integrated fire suppression) or both the cell and battery system. The deadline is on 21 April 2020. The co-funding rate is 100 %. The call budget is EUR 20 million. The Commission considers that proposals requesting a contribution from the EU of between EUR 8 and 12 million would allow the specific challenge to be addressed appropriately. The required aspects to be addressed and the expected impact are listed in the call webpage. This is more targeted to the technology providers and manufacturing.

### 2. [Connecting Europe Facility](#)

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) is a key EU funding instrument to promote growth, jobs and competitiveness through targeted infrastructure investment at European level. It supports the development of high performing, sustainable and efficiently interconnected trans-European networks in the fields of transport, energy and digital services.



There are currently two relevant CEF Transport calls open for the maritime sector:

[2019 CEF Transport MAP call](#) aims to support a robust and resource efficient Trans-European Transport Network (TEN-T). The call has seven different priorities. Maritime core ports and projects related to inland navigation could apply from the Core Network priority with a co-funding rate of 20 % for investments and 50 % for studies. Under the priority of Motorways of the Sea, maritime ports could apply co-funding to upgrade or establish a maritime link with a co-funding rate of 30 % for investments and 50 % for studies. Hinterland connections, port access, basic infrastructure investments, reception facilities, capital dredging, alternative fuels (e.g. LNG and on-shore power) are supported. The call deadline is on 26 February 2020. The member states need to sign the relevant applications and the national deadlines are earlier than the deadline to submit the application to the Commission.

[2019 CEF Transport Blending Facility call](#) aims to support the deployment of alternative fuels including investments related to vessels. This is a rolling call with multiple deadlines. The first cut-off date is 14 February 2020 and followed quarterly until March 2021 or as long as there is budget available. The co-funding rates for vessel investments related to LNG is 15 % (20 % for inland navigation), electricity 20 % and hydrogen 20 %.

### 3. [European Maritime and Fisheries Fund \(EMFF\)](#)

The EMFF is the fund for the EU's maritime and fisheries policies for 2014-2020. It is one of the five European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds which complement each other and seek to promote a growth and job-based recovery in Europe. Under the current Work programme EMFF-2019, there is one call open relevant for SMEs of the maritime cluster:

[Investing in Blue Innovation](#) addresses the challenge of developing and bringing to market new products, services, and business models for [SMEs](#) that could ultimately create profitable activities. These grants will support projects that accelerate innovation in the blue economy, demonstrate high potential in terms of company competitiveness and growth underpinned by a strategic business plan and which aim to create and maintain high quality jobs in the blue economy. Projects need to involve in particular the sustainable use of marine resources for innovative and/or circular economic activities and contribute to healthy oceans and Europe's 'Green Deal'. They may include deploying, demonstrating, or scaling-up new solutions for the blue economy including technologies, service applications. E.g. renewable energy and cleaner shipping listed as relevant areas of the project proposals. The deadline of the call is 27 February 2020. Proposals requesting a contribution in the range between EUR 700 000 and EUR 2 500 000 would allow the specific objectives of the Call topic to be addressed appropriately. The co-funding rate is 70 %.

EU instrument	Open call		Max. co-funding	Deadline	Comment
Horizon 2020	<a href="#">LC-MG-1-13-2020</a>	Decarbonising long distance shipping	100 %	1st stage 9.1.2020 2nd stage 8.9.2020	At least three legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State. E.g. Research will address the development of technologies combined with operational practices to substantially reduce GHG emissions from long distance shipping in line with the IMO target and without increasing other forms of pollution. In practice, a larger consortium will be needed.
	<a href="#">LC-BAT-11-2020</a>	Reducing the cost of large batteries for waterborne transport	100 %	21.4.2020	At least three legal entities, each established in a different EU Member State. E.g. With respect to waterborne transport, research and develop a large battery system and/or specific battery cells that are substantially cheaper on a total cost basis with respect to existing system. Prove the technology and manufacturing processes through system trials and testing. In practice, a larger consortium will be needed.
CEF Transport	<a href="#">2019 CEF Transport MAP Call</a>	Motorways of the Sea	studies 50 %, works 30%	26.2.2020	Establishment or upgrade of the maritime link. Need to involve at least two EU ports (two core ports or one core and one comprehensive port) from at least two EU Member States. Hinterland connections, port access, basic infrastructure investments, reception facilities, capital dredging, alternative fuels (e.g. LNG and on-shore power). Maritime vessels are not eligible under this call.
		Pre-identified projects on the Core Network	studies 50 %, works 20 %	26.2.2020	Maritime core ports: hinterland connections, port access, basic infrastructure investments, reception facilities, capital dredging, alternative fuels (e.g. LNG and on-shore power). A core port could apply alone.
	<a href="#">2019 CEF Transport Blending Facility call</a>	Deployment of Alternative Fuels	vessels: LNG 15 %, electricity 20 %, hydrogen 20 %; LNG bunkering barges 10 %; vessels inland: LNG 20 %; OPS 15 %	1. cut-off 14.2.2020, 2. 15.5.2020, 3. 28.8.2020, 4. 13.11.2020, 5. 15.2.2021	For investments combining the use of grants from the EU budget and financing from the Implementing Partners. The difference between the conventional and new solution is eligible.
	2020 CEF Transport MAP Call				Probably opening in autumn 2020
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)	BlueInvest Grants	<a href="#">Investing in Blue Innovation</a>	70 %	27.2.2020	These grants will support SME projects that accelerate innovation in the blue economy, demonstrate high potential in terms of company competitiveness and growth underpinned by a strategic business plan and which aim to create and maintain high quality jobs in the blue economy. Projects need to involve in particular the sustainable use of marine resources for innovative and/or circular economic activities and contribute to healthy oceans and Europe's 'Green Deal'. They may include deploying, demonstrating, or scaling-up new solutions for the blue economy including technologies, service applications.