



Brussels, 15<sup>th</sup> May 2017

## **TENDER SPECIFICATIONS**

**For the EU co-funded action**

### **“THE PILLARS OF THE SEA: JOINT ACTION OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIAL PARTNERS OF THE SEA-FISHING SECTOR”**

**Grant agreement N°VP/2016/001/0047**

#### **Pillar 2: Analysis on gross tonnage and propulsion power ceilings**

##### **1. Background**

The regulatory context: The Common Fisheries Policy basic Regulation (n°1380/2013, Article 22, paragraph 7) states that *“Member States shall seek to achieve a stable and enduring balance between the fishing capacity of their fleet and their fishing opportunities. To this end, Member States must ensure that the fishing capacity of their fleet does not exceed the ceilings given in Annex II of the regulation.”* Annex II of the Regulation sets, for each Member State, fishing capacity ceilings in terms of Gross tonnage (volume) and in terms of KW (vessel engine propulsion power) of its fishing fleet. In the merchant navy, historically, the volume of a vessel has always represented the measurement of its capacity. As a result, all the Member States had a tonnage register for vessels including, generally speaking, the tonnage of fishing vessels. And since it was the only indicator available, European deciders chose it in the '80's, as an indicator to define the fishing capacity of the fishing fleet.

Even though there may be a direct link between the propulsion power and a vessel's fishing capacity, propulsion power is strongly related to fishing vessel safety, especially in bad weather conditions. There is no direct link between gross tonnage and a vessel's catching capacity. Decent working and living conditions rely on available gross tonnage and propulsion power. Regardless of the vessel size, the effect of volume ceilings (GT) is to block the adaptation of the vessels to the discard ban rule and to obstruct any measure to enhance crew safety and comfort. The discard ban rule will lead to more unwanted catches to be stored on board or processed on board. Likewise, the evolution to covered-deck vessels to enhance crew safety and protection is hindered by the tonnage ceiling. The evolution to more crew comfort (accommodation on board, cabins for 2 instead of 4, or 6, etc.) is hindered by the volume ceiling on vessels.

However, this evolution is a reality, reinforced by the Work in Fishing Convention C188) being transposed into EU law. Concretely, the impact of the ceiling of gross tonnage and the discard ban rule mean: building, for unchanged volume, a vessel with a smaller storage capacity. Assuming unchanged catch, the vessel will need to make more journeys between the fishing grounds and unloading ports and back to the fishing grounds, using more fuel, increasing the carbon footprint. More time lost in travel.



European social partners of the sea fishing sector believe that an increase in volume should be justified for the improvement of working and living conditions and fishing vessel safety. The latter for instance in relation to the discard ban in order to avoid stability problems because fish is stored in unsafe places because of the ban.

## **2. Purpose of the contract**

The contract is aimed at producing a study with a view to analyse the different EU directives and regulations related to the gross tonnage ceilings, propulsion power and limitation of fishing capacity, such as the discard ban rule for instance which implies additional storage space or processing space but no additional gross tonnage allowed. The contractor shall assess the impact of these rules on the productivity of fishing enterprises as well as on the health and safety of workers.

## **3. Tasks to be performed by the contractor**

### **3.1 Description of tasks**

The contractor should perform the following tasks:

- Gather and analyse the existing legislation relevant for the drafting of the study
- Update the steering group on the progress made in the analysis of the EU legislation
- Suggest alternatives for expressing fishing capacity to propulsion power and gross tonnage in terms of recommendations for the EU institutions
- Finalise the study on the basis of the comments received by the steering group
- Liaise with the translators in order to ensure coherence in the different languages

### **3.2 Expected results**

Study on the impact of the GT and propulsion power ceilings on working and living conditions, fishing vessel safety and productivity of the enterprises. Suggest if possible alternatives to the GT and propulsion power to express fishing capacity. Arguments to make the EU legislation move forward.

### **3.3 Guidance and indications on tasks execution and methodology**

The contractor will work under the guidance of the project's steering group and of the Europêche and ETF Secretariats. The deadlines for deliverables will be set jointly by the contractor and the project partners according to the project's timeline.

## **4. Expertise required**

Candidates should meet the following criteria:



- Relevant knowledge in order to carry out the tasks described, particularly in naval architecture and/or engineering as well as in EU legislation
- Previous experience in drafting similar tools is highly desirable
- Excellent command of written and spoken English, other languages would be an asset
- Previous experience in drafting documents and report
- Respect of budgetary constraints
- Knowledge of the fisheries sector and/or of safety-related issues is desirable

#### **5. Time schedule and reporting**

The contractor will be required to work for a total of 36 days, including the participation to steering group meetings and to the final conference. Travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses related to the participation in the project's meeting will be covered by the project budget. The time schedule for deliverables and reports will be established jointly by the contractor and the project partners according to the project's timeline and will be indicated in the contract signed by the two parties.

#### **6. Payments and standard contract**

The contractor will receive an advance and a final payment according to the time and modalities that will be indicated in the contract between the parties. The project promoter will draft a contract which will be submitted to the contractor.

#### **7. Price**

The maximum budget available is EUR 18.000 VAT included (without travel, accommodation and subsistence expenses related to the attendance of meetings).

#### **8. Selection criteria**

Only applicants able to prove the required expertise indicated above may be awarded the contract.

#### **9. Award criteria**

The contract will be awarded to the tenderer whose offer represents the best value for money—taking into account the evidence provided to prove their expertise in the fields indicated under point 4. The respect of the principles of transparency and equal treatment with a view to avoid any conflict of interest will be undertaken. It should be noted that the contract will not be awarded to a tenderer that receives less than 70 % of the award criteria.



## **10. Content and presentation of the bids**

### **10.1 Content of the bids**

The bids must indicate how candidates meet the criteria listed above, present a draft working plan, a schedule for the tasks to be performed and indicate the total price of the consultancy.

In case of bids submitted by individual candidates, a CV should be attached. This should include a list of publications and works done by the applicant in the fields relevant for the tasks to be performed.

References should also be provided.

In case of bids submitted by organisations, a list of the organisation's activities in fields relevant for the tasks to be performed should be attached as well as the CVs of the people who will be involved in the project. Organisations should also indicate a contact person who will be responsible for the supervision of the tasks and who will report to the project promoters.

Only bids in English will be considered.

### **10.1 Presentation of the bids**

Bids must be submitted by the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2017 by email to: [daniel.voces@europeche.org](mailto:daniel.voces@europeche.org)

The title of the task for which the candidate applies must be specified in the bid.