

ICES participation/lead on future Coordination and Support Action (CSA) projects

The Council is asked to approve an ICES pro-active pursuance of participation or lead in future Coordinated and Support Action (CSA) projects. This request is based on the value added of previous and current engagements in CSAs projects and the possibility of further international science cooperation enhancement.

1) Existing projects with ICES involvement

Acronym	Title	Duration
AORAC-SA	Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance Coordination and Support Action	2015-2020
AtlantOS	Optimizing and Enhancing the Integrated Atlantic Ocean Observing System	2015-2019
BlueBRIDGE	Building Research environments for fostering Innovation, Decision making, Governance and Education to support Blue growth	2015-2017
ClimeFish	Co-creating a decision support framework to ensure sustainable fish production in Europe under climate change	2016-2019
COFASP	Strengthening cooperation in European research on sustainable exploitation of marine resources in the seafood chains	2013-2016
COLUMBUS	Monitoring, Managing and Transferring Marine and Maritime Knowledge for Sustainable Blue Growth	2015-2018
BalticBOOST	Best practices for action plans to develop integrated, regional monitoring programmes, coordinated programmes of measures and assessing data and knowledge gaps in coastal and marine waters	2015-2017
DG MARE	Strengthening regional cooperation in the area of fisheries data collection in the North Sea and Eastern Arctic	2015-2016
EMODnet Biology II	European Marine Observation and Data Network	2013-2016
EMODnet Chemistry II	European Marine Observation and Data Network	2013-2016
EMODnet INGESTION	European Marine Observation and Data Network	2016-2019
ETC ICM	The European Topic Centre on Inland, Coastal and Marine waters	2014-2018
GEF LME COP	Strengthening Global Governance of Large Marine Ecosystems and Their Coasts through Enhanced Sharing and Application of LME/ICM/MPA Knowledge and Information Tools	2016-2019
HELCOM TAPAS	Development of HELCOM tools and approaches for the Second Holistic Assessment of the Ecosystem Health of the Baltic Sea	2016-2017
MareFrame	Co-creating Ecosystem-based Fisheries Management Solutions	2014-2017
SeaDataCloud	Further developing the pan-European infrastructure for marine and ocean data management	2016-2020

2) Upcoming possibilities in H2020 2016-2017 Work Programme

No.	Title
SFS-20-2017	Towards a science-based regionalisation of the Common Fisheries Policy
SFS-21-2017	Advancing basic biological knowledge and improving management tools for commercially important fish and other seafood species
SFS-22-2017	Smart fisheries technologies for an efficient, compliant and environmentally friendly fishing sector
SFS-32-2017	Promoting and supporting the eco-intensification of aquaculture production systems: inland (including freshwater), coastal zone and offshore
BG-1-2016	Large-scale algae biomass integrated biorefineries
BG-2-2016-2017	High value-added specialised vessel concepts enabling more efficient servicing of emerging coastal and offshore activities
BG-3-2016*	Multi-use of the oceans marine space, offshore and near-shore: compatibility, regulations, environmental and legal issues
BG-4-2017	Multi-use of the oceans' marine space, offshore and near-shore: enabling technologies
BG-5-2016	ERANET Cofund on marine technologies
BG-6-2017*	Interaction between people, oceans and seas: a strategic approach towards healthcare and wellbeing

*Coordination and Support Action

3) Discussion on ICES pro-active participation in CSAs

During the Statutory Meeting in October 2015, the Council Working Group ICES Business Model (CWGIBM) recommended that ICES and the Secretariat should have a proactive participation role in Coordination and Support Action (CSA) projects that are aligned with the ICES Science Plan (ISP). The basis for this recommendation is that previous participation has been proven positive in e.g. FP7 MARCOM (integration of marine and maritime research stakeholder organizations) and the Atlantic Ocean Research Alliance (where ICES supports the Commission, NOAA and the DFO in transatlantic and Arctic research programming).

Following the recommendations by Council, the Secretariat explored the possibility to participate in EU Coordination and Support Actions, and found that in the short-term the potential to lead a project was not possible, due to already established consortia. The Bureau (2016) noticed that in the longer-run ICES could have more impact on call texts and coordination of research programming and could increase its effort in the H2020 and its successor programme. Proactive project participation should consider running processes that assure information exchange between ICES member countries but also respecting confidentiality. This should be part of the mandate of the new SCICOM Chair.

4) Conclusion

Coordination and Support Actions are usually addressed to international organizations, rather than individual institutes. Their focus is placed on science support, e.g. coordination of research, transfer of knowledge, science communication and creation of multi-stakeholder fora. All the above mentioned BG calls include training / education components. The next H2020 work programme (2018-2020) and its successor programme is likely to include more marine-related CSAs, including those of ICES strategic importance, like coordination of research programming and multi-sectoral contribution to strategic research agendas in the Baltic and the North Seas.

The Council is asked to approve an ICES pro-active pursuance of participation or lead in future Coordinated and Support Action (CSA) projects. This request is based on the value added of previous and current engagements in CSAs projects and the possibility of further international science cooperation enhancement.