BS-CBE March reporting CBE 10

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| **Title** | **BS Report CBE 10: Potential funding opportunities to address identified needs BSC (Task 1.2)** |
| **Date** | 28 March 2014 |
| **Location** | Brussels (Belgium) |
| **Attendees** | See participants list |
| **Reporter name** | Volckaert Annemie, Durinck Riet (ARCADIS Belgium), Jeroen Klooster (ARCADIS Netherlands) |
| **Subject** | Potential MSFD funding opportunities. |
| **Objective** | Link to the contract: Task 1.2 |
|  | Link to the MSFD implementation stage: All (basis for funding of action points related to MSFD implementation) |
| **Results** | Main EU co-funding opportunities were discussed.Special attention will go to the EMFF, as this is specifically related to marine topics. For Regional Funds, competition is high between the different ministries. LIFE and Horizon2020 also involve more competition, as open to all MS via direct application.For both EMFF and the Regional Funds the Operational Programmes should adequately address MSFD actions/measures and intended funding. |
| **Issues discussed** | Presentation funding opportunities* EMFF: important that there is no competition (only key per member state). Specific budget is foreseen for the protection of the marine environment/ reduction of the impact of fisheries. Funding for monitoring (related to identifying pressures) is also possible under EMFF. Co-funding by EMFF up to 75%. Operational Programmes for EMFF need to be finished by autumn.
* ERDF/CF (regional funds / cohesion policy funds): a lot of competition exists within MS (different ministries) 🡪 will potentially be difficult to raise funding for the marine environment.
* LIFE: scientific institutes are very interested, but co-funding (previous LIFE+) was limited to 50%. Note: in the new LIFE programme co-financing rates vary between 55-100% depending on (sub) programme. LIFE is very competitive.
* Horizon 2020: focuses on research and development. Intended to support innovative research, not the purchase of missing material (maybe unless it is very specialized equipment). This fund covers a lot, but there is also a special allocation of the budget dedicated to the maritime environment (Blue Growth).
* ESF: relevant for capacity building. Being one of the Cohesion Policy Funds, the same warning applies concerning the competition between ministries in MS.

There are also other funds, non-EU: not the main focus of this support project, but also to be considered! A combination of different funds is also possible. BG presented a spreadsheet with funding opportunities and their timeline, related to the relevant descriptors. This can also be used as a basis for a similar exercise by RO. There are a lot of needs concerning permitting, monitoring, capacity of institutes, drafting the POM.BG & RO state the lack of capacity of the institutes, next to the mandatory issues.A template will be drafted, to provide an overview of the needs. A second template will go in further detail into EMFF.  |
| **Actions** | WHO | WHAT | BY WHEN |
| **1** | Georgi | Exchange of presented spreadsheet funding opportunities BG | 10/04/2014 |
| **2** | ARC BE | Template action plan (needs) | 15/04/2014 |
| **3** | ARC NL | Template structuring funding (in general) + detailed template EMFF funding | 15/04/2014 |
| **4** | NFCP | Overview current status of funding used in the operational plans (based on templates provided by ARC NL) | 15/05/2014 |
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| **Follow-up events/activities related to CBE** | * Operational programmes to finalise by the BG & RO authorities (outside scope project)
* CBE: Draft work plan needs (to be linked to financing)
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| **Annex** | PREP: EMFF background doc |
|  | PRES: Funding opportunities |
|  | RES: Funding scan Black Sea countries |