**5.2 PEACEPLUS, MARINE AND COASTAL MANAGEMENT**

**PRE-APPLICATION SUPPORT CONCEPT NOTE**

This concept note is a preliminary means for potential applicants to express an interest in Investment Area 5.2 of the EU PEACEPLUS Programme prior to the formal call for applications.

The key objective of Investment Area 5.2 is to: *“*Enable a cross border approach to the protection of the marine and coastal environment from potentially damaging human activities and support the development of climate change adaption plans which will increase the resilience of ecosystems, coastal communities, infrastructure and the marine economy. It will promote climate change adaptation and sustainable marine and coastal management.”

In submitting this concept note, potential applicants will receive guidance on their project proposal prior to submitting a formal application. Please provide as much detail as possible in the boxes below.

**Please note:** This concept note is not part of the formal application process. However, applicants are encouraged to avail of this service as it will offer valuable guidance in advance of the funding call opening which begins the formal application process.

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| 1. **Project details** | |
| **Project Name**  *(And acronym–if any)* |  |
| **Lead Partner** |  |
| **Project Overview**  (*Provide a brief description of your project) (200 words maximum)* |  |
| **Project Location**  (*Include full address and postcode/eircode where available)* |  |
| **Target Area**  (*Indicate the approximate geographical area which will benefit from the project)* |  |
| **Project Start Date** *(Estimated)* |  |
| **Project End Date**  *(Estimated)* |  |
| **Indicative Funding Request** *(in Euros)* | € |
| 1. **Partnership**   Please list all project partners and outline their role on the proposed project. Additional partner fields can be added as required. | |
| **Lead Partner** |  |
| **Partner 1** |  |
| **Partner 2** |  |
| 1. **The Project**   *(Please refer to guidance notes below before completing.)* | |
| **(i) Contribution to PEACEPLUS**  Tell us how the need for this project has been identified, how it aligns with the stated objective of Area 5.2 of PEACEPLUS, and how it will feed into the output and result indicators for Investment Area 5.2.  *(500 words maximum)* |  |
| **(ii) Quality of project design**  Tell us about the actions you’ll take to achieve your outputs and results.  *(500 words maximum)* |  |
| **(iii) Cross-border and cross-community collaboration**  Describe how your project is cross-border and cross-communuty  AND  How it has tackled duplication and/or displacement of existing provision.  (5*00 words maximum)* |  |
| **(iv) Quality of the proposed team, partnership and implementing arrangements**  Show how your project team has the right skills and experience to lead the project and will the project structure be able to deliver of the actions, outputs and results?  *(500 words maximum)* |  |
| **(v) Value for money**  Tell us about your budget and how the project offers value for money.  *(500 words maximum)* |  |
| **Budget required** | |  |  | | --- | --- | | Direct Staff Costs *(Include administrative, finance and communications positions)* | € | | Programme Costs | € | | Office and Administration Costs (overheads: funded at a flat rate of 15% of direct staff costs) | € | | Travel & Subsistence Costs (T&S: funded at a flat rate of 7% of direct staff costs) | € | | **Total Budget** | **€** | |

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| 1. **Contact details** | |
| **Name of Main Contact Person & Job Title/Organisation** |  |
| **Telephone** |  |
| **Email** |  |

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| **Any additional questions for SEUPB** | |
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| **FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY** | CN no:  Date received: |

**Thank you for telling us about your project idea, now what?**

Forms should be completed by 5pm on October 27th 2023,although the sooner you complete and return the form, the sooner you will be able to access further pre-application support.

Please email the completed form to: [eimear.bush@seupb.eu](mailto:eimear.bush@seupb.eu). Should you have any questions when completing the form, please contact Eimear at the email address above.

Your completed concept note will be reviewed, and a response provided in no less than **15 working days** from the date of submission. If the application shows promise, further meetings may be scheduled with you directly.

**Notes on Completing Section 3**

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| 1. **Tell us how the need for this project has been identified and how it aligns with the stated aims and objectives of Area 5.2 of PEACEPLUS.** |
| To demonstrate the need for your project and how it aligns with Area 5.2, please tell us:   * How your project’s overall objective clearly contributes to the achievement of the Investment Area (specific objective) and Theme (programme priority). * How your project builds on existing practises and contributes to wider strategies. The proposals must demonstrate alignment with: * EU Green infrastructure and territorial cohesion technical report * [NI Biodiversity Strategy](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/daera/Final%20Report%20-%20Northern%20Ireland%20Biodiversity%20Strategy%20to%202020.pdf) (under revision) * [Fourth National Biodiversity Action Plan](https://www.gov.ie/en/consultation/1566c-public-consultation-on-irelands-4th-national-biodiversity-action-plan/) * [Marine Strategy Framework Directive](https://ec.europa.eu/environment/marine/eu-coast-and-marine-policy/marine-strategy-framework-directive/index_en.htm) * UK Marine Strategy * [Northeast Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030](https://www.ospar.org/site/assets/files/1200/north-east_atlantic_environement_strategy_compiled.pdf) * Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaptation Programme * National Adaptation Framework * How your project shall directly contribute to peace and prosperity for the region.   Tell us how your proposed project will contribute to the output and result indicators for 5.2. At an investment area level, projects should (collectively) achieve the following:  Output Indictors:   * 17 x strategies and action plans jointly developed; * 10 x Pilot actions developed and jointly implemented in projects.   Result Indictors:   * 13 x Joint strategies and action plans taken up by organisations; * 8 x Solutions taken up or upscaled by organisations. |

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| 1. **Quality of Project Design** |
| The quality of the project design is about the actions you’ll take to achieve your outputs and results. Examples of actions might include:   1. **Coastal change**: Activities which develop *improved evidence bases* related to coastal change, *pilot programmes*, for example projects that provide modelling solutions or interventions for habitat recovering, activities leading to the *development of adaptation and resilience plans*, and the *development and implementation of teaching and awareness raising resources*. 2. **Climate and pelagic systems**: Activities contributing *to improved evidence bases* relating to oceanographic and hydrodynamic modelling, *enhanced monitoring/sampling* activities, *development of assessment and evaluation methods* for pelagic habitats and food webs, *improved evidence bases* for pelagic species protection, *development of transboundary action plans* on climate and pelagic systems. 3. **Natural capital, habitats and human behaviour:** Improved evidence bases on issues such as marine bird activities, scope for renewable energy and benthic habitat. *Mapping of existing services* *and action plans* across themes such as marine ecosystem services and geohazards, and surveys to *improve the evidence* base of underwater cultural heritage and historic environment records. Development of *strategies or protocols* relating to the circular economy with a view to reduce marine litter. 4. **Local action to protect marine biodiversity and coastal and marine heritage:** Activities which support *public engagement* and *community action* on related issues and themes, *network development and management* to support local adoption of marine biodiversity protection and coastal/marine heritage.   A quality project shall address aspects of the *Priority Habitats and Species and Associated Anticipated Actions* list available to download on the SEUPB website:  [Investment Area 5.2 Marine and Coastal Management | SEUPB](https://www.seupb.eu/current-programmes/peaceplus/themes-and-investment-areas/theme-5/52-marine-and-coastal-management) |

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| 1. **Describe how your project is cross-border/cross-community, and explain its added-value.** |
| To demonstrate the extent to which your project is cross-border, tell us:   1. What geographical area/s will your project cover? What is the proposed action for this cross-border area? 2. What added value the collaborative working brings - To what extent does cross-border cooperation and/or cross-community component add to the project? How is the project made better because of this collaboration? 3. How your project is cross-border on the basis of:  * How it has been developed and will be implemented. * Its use of staff from both sides of the border working together for a common goal. * Community focus on environmental learning from both sides of the border, inclusive of multiple communities. * Using a shared approach / design on both sides of the border. * Demonstrates collaboration as clear, measurable outcome.   In terms of added-value, tell us, for example;   1. Have issues of duplication and displacement been considered for your project? 2. What added-value EU funding would bring to this project? 3. Does your project show an evolution of ideas? 4. Is your project likely to impact upon and/or complement similar existing or planned provision? 5. How you will avoid/mitigate unintended consequences. |

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| 1. **Outline the quality of the proposed team, partnership and implementing arrangements.** |
| Tell us, for example:   1. About the team that will manage the project. 2. How they are suitably qualified and experienced to deliver on this project. 3. Has the Lead Partner and/or supporting partners the necessary organisational capacity to manage a multi-annual, large-scale EU project with multiple stakeholders? 4. Have the main project partners worked together in partnership on similar projects in the past? 5. How you will be accountable for the smooth project delivery in terms of: measuring, reviewing and evaluating implementation/action plans, and; adequately resourcing strategy development / allocating responsibility for each action. 6. What practical arrangements do you have in place to identify and manage risk? |

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| 1. **Tell us how your project offers value for money.** |
| Economy measures are concerned with showing that the appropriate inputs used in carrying out the project have been obtained at the least cost. In this context, tell us:   1. How staff positions are pitched at the appropriate grade. 2. When competitive tendering processes will be applied (if/where appropriate). 3. How each budget line has been arrived at. 4. How it demonstrates economical use of public resources. 5. What available, supporting information on assumptions applied. |