

Deadline extended to 5th October 2020

Call for Early Stage Technologies (EST) in the Blue Economy

Unique opportunity to get **FREE** expert support in developing your EST route to market!

Organised by the EU-funded **EMPORIA4KT** project, the "*Blue Economy Technology Transfer Programme*" will be implemented in France, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and the UK. The programme will focus on developing routes to market for selected Blue Economy Early Stage Technologies (EST), carried out by teams of researchers with the support of experienced technology transfer mentors and advisors.

Call for Technologies

Researchers resident in Ireland are invited to submit Early Stage Technologies (TRL 1-4) related to the Blue Economy to the programme.

Selected ESTs (15 in total, 3 per country) will be taken forward by national teams in the *Blue Economy Technology Transfer Programme* (see Call for Researchers for more information). Each team will spend 9 months (April – December 2021) developing a route to commercialisation for each selected EST, supported by experienced **EMPORIA4KT** project partners and mentors in academic and industry fields related to the Blue Economy. Results will provide information on best EST market fit, how to obtain funding, insights into the most cost-effective roadmap for development, and how to take industry standards and regulations into account.



At the end of the programme, each EST and associated route to market outcome will be represented at a brokerage event in Brussels to an international audience of Blue Economy industry, public bodies, private investors and peers. The **EMPORIA4KT** project will raise additional funding for proof-of-concept studies for the winning EST. In addition, the owners of all (15) selected ESTs will receive a detailed commercialisation strategy to develop their technology further, increasing the likelihood of transfer to market. The developed EST strategy will belong to the EST-owner.

Anyone can submit a technology for consideration, regardless of whether they also apply to the separate Call for Researchers. EST owners will be invited to participate in the programme as mentors to the research team that is working with their EST, but this is not obligatory.

Intellectual Property (IP): Confidentiality will be assured during the programme. The teams of researchers and experts will sign Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) for any EST that is not yet protected through IP rights. Researchers will also receive training in what information can and cannot be disclosed relating to non-IP protected ESTs. The route to commercialisation developed by each team will include a strategy for IP protection that can be used by the EST-owner. For any specific queries, please use the contact details below.

Requirements

Language requirements: meetings with the team developing the route to commercialisation for the EST will be in English. It is also beneficial to have a good level of spoken English for networking purposes.

Applicants' technologies must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- Technology developed at a Higher Education Institution or Research Organisation
- Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 1 to 4
- Technology included in, or with possible applications for, the fields identified below (with no special order or priority of interest):
 - Marine Aquaculture
 - Tourism and Leisure in Marine and Coastal Areas
 - Sea Fisheries and Seafood Processing
 - Seaweed Harvesting
 - Marine ICT & Biotechnology
 - Maritime Commerce & Innovation
 - Marine and Ocean Renewable Energy
 - Maritime Knowledge, Spatial Planning and Integrated Surveillance
 - Marine Manufacturing, Construction and Engineering

Costs: There are no fees for submitting your EST and being selected for the programme. If you are required to travel to national and/or international programme events, your costs will be covered by **EMPORIA4KT**.

Time commitment: If you are mentoring the team developing your EST, occasional meetings will be required (approximately one meeting per month, plus three in-person events). If you are mentoring a team that is selected for attendance at the Brussels international event, you will be expected to join this event.

How to apply? To find out more, or to submit your Blue Economy EST to the **EMPORIA4KT** programme, please visit: www.emporia4kt.com/ttprogramme

Deadline for applications: Deadline extended to 5th October 2020

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