

DIREÇÃO-GERAL DE POLÍTICA DO MAR

Blue Growth Programme

**Call for Expression of interest for in-person participation at
Business Cooperation on Blue Growth - Green Tech
innovative solutions in Oslo Innovation Week**

Oslo, Norway

27th September 2023

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1. Background

Innovation Norway is organizing a Conference and Matchmaking in the area of Business Development, Innovation and SMEs, to be held on 27th September 2023 in Oslo, as part of Oslo Innovation Week (25 to 29 September), with the aim of fostering partnerships and identifying business opportunities for Norwegian, Icelandic and beneficiary countries operating in the 2014-2021 European Economic Area Mechanism operating in the Blue Growth sector, focused on innovative Green Tech solutions: Portugal, Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Slovakia.

The *Networking Central/Southern Europe and Norway* event at Oslo Innovation Week aims to showcase the latest green technology solutions in the Central and Southern European markets, as well as opportunities in Norway. It will be an opportunity to meet some of the most innovative startups and scaleups in Central and Southern Europe and to experience the Norwegian innovation ecosystem.

For more information visit the website: [Networking Central/Southern Europe and Norway at Oslo Innovation Week - Info \(b2match.io\)](https://www.b2match.io/en/networking-central-southern-europe-and-norway-at-oslo-innovation-week)

2. Event Participation

The event will have a hybrid nature (online and in person).

To apply for in-person participation and application for travel expenses must be filled the form: [Oslo Relações Bilaterais \(123formbuilder.com\)](https://www.b2match.io/en/relacoes-bilaterais)

Registration for the event (online and in person) must be made through the website: <https://admin.b2match.com/e/10359/website/pages/page-4381/widgets/437>

3. Eligibility of applicants

Only SMEs from the private sector will be accepted (with less than 25% of public capital), established in Portugal, for at least one year, acting in the scope of the Blue Economy are accepted. Companies that do not meet these eligibility criteria will be excluded.

In addition to the above eligibility criteria, all companies must complete the following information in the application form on the B2Match platform until the deadline for submission of applications:

- Description of your company;
- Description of your product or project idea: the startup must be able to provide a clear and concise explanation of your company, product or project idea;
- Description of why you would like to attend Oslo Innovation Week and this networking event;

- Description of the partners you would like to meet at these events, plans for cooperation and what role a partner, would have in the development of your product or project idea.

4. Required documentation

- SME Certificate

5. Available Fund

The available fund for this notice is **EUR 15.000**.

6. Amount of support

For in-person participation, the non-reimbursable support from the Blue Growth Programme Bilateral Relations Fund to be granted within the scope of this initiative constitutes a travel subsidy, by way of reimbursement, through a **Lump Sum in the amount of 1.500 Euros**, under the “de minimis” State of Aid regime, provided in Commission Regulation (EU) n.º 1407/2013 of 18 December.

Travel support is assigned by entity.

The travel must be ensured by the entity to which the travel support is attributed, being subsequently reimbursed in the amount of the **lump sum**.

A **maximum of 10 entities** can be supported.

Registration and application for travel expenses must be done through the website:
<https://admin.b2match.com/e/10359/website/pages/page-4381/widgets/437>

7. Deadline for submission of applications

Deadline for submission of applications: **11th September 2023**

8. Application admission criteria

The allocation of travel support is defined according to the following eligibility criteria:

- Application submission within the stipulated period;
- SME status, proven by obtaining the SME certification;
- Development of an economic activity within the scope of the Blue Economy;
- Have registered on the B2Match platform, namely at the Networking Central/Southern Europe and Norway event at Oslo Innovation Week, at <https://admin.b2match.com/e/10359/website/pages/page-4381/widgets/437>

9. Selection Application process

In the selection of applications, the following selection criteria and weighting coefficients will be applied:

1. **Description of the product/service or project idea (30 %):** An innovative and sustainable Green Tech business solution must be presented under the Blue Growth;
2. **Participation in Oslo Innovation Week (40%):** the importance of participating in the event for the development of the business must be highlighted.
3. **International partner (30%):** the importance of an international partner in the development of the product/service or project idea must be demonstrated.

Each criterion should be scored from 0-100 as follows:

Score	Justification
0	The proposal does not meet the criteria under evaluation or cannot be judged due to missing or incomplete information.
1 - 20 (weak)	The criterion is handled inappropriately or there are serious inherent weaknesses.
21 - 40 (reasonable)	While the proposal broadly addresses the criterion, there are significant weaknesses.
41 - 60 (good)	The proposal addresses the criterion well, although improvements are needed.
61 - 80 (very good)	The proposal addresses the criterion very well, although some improvements are still possible.
81 - 100 (excellent)	The proposal successfully addresses all relevant aspects of the criterion in question. Any shortcomings are minimal.

In the event of a tie, the tiebreaker criteria will be applied in the following order:

1. Best classification in selection criteria 2, 3, and 1, successively;
2. Not having participated in business missions organized by the Blue Growth Programme.

Candidate entities are notified of the decision on the request for support by **15/09/2023**, by email.

The attribution of non-refundable support from the Blue Growth Programme Bilateral Relations Fund to be granted within the scope of this initiative requires, obligatorily, prior written approval by the Programme Operator.

10. Payment of financial support and report condition

Non-refundable support is awarded to applications that meet all eligibility requirements, in accordance with EEAGRANTS 2014-2021 Regulation, and other applicable legislation, up to the limit available in this notice.

The grant will be awarded as a lump sum of expenses already incurred. **The applicant must cover the expenses and request the reimbursement to the Directorate General for Maritime Policy, after the displacement.**

The refund request must be accompanied by the following documents:

1. Request for the travel support signed and dated (available at: [request-for-reimbursement-of-travel-expenses.docx \(live.com\)](#))
2. Proof of travel (e.g. copy of boarding pass)
3. Confirmation of participation in the event (signature on registration of entry to the event)
4. Presentation of the non-debit statements to the updated Tax and Social Security Authority.

The documents mentioned should be sent to the email: eeagrants@dgpm.mm.gov.pt **within one month after the event.**

Expenses are reimbursed to the entity that made them and not to an individual person.

11. Additional Information

Requests for clarification should be sent to: eeagrants@dgpm.mm.gov.pt

More information available at: [Conference and Matchmaking within the scope of the Blue Growth – Oslo 27 September 2023 \(eeagrants.gov.pt\)](#)