Brussels, 4 December 2012

<u>EFIP Memo 69 : Multiannual and annual TEN-T calls out: large opportunities</u> for inland ports confirmed

As already announced some weeks ago (EFIP MEMO 67), the European Commission finally launched its two calls under the current TEN-T programme:

- the Annual Call for 2012
- the Multi-Annual Call under 2012 Work Programme.

The following general conditions apply to both calls:

- Only written applications are considered
- Applications submitted by:
 - One or more Member States and/ or
 - o <u>With the agreement of the Member States concerned</u>, by international organisations, joint undertakings, or <u>public or private undertakings</u>.
- Proposals being <u>either</u> works <u>or</u> studies. One cannot combine both in the project proposal.
- Even if certain inland port projects could in theory be introduced both under the annual and the multi-annual TEN-T call, you have to choose one of the calls. You can not submit your project under two calls at the same time. At the TEN-T info day it was stated that, if you can submit a project under the multi-annual call you should give preference to this call than to the annual call.

Why is it important to participate now? These are calls that both in budget and in content, are a real unique opportunity for inland ports to participate. There is still more than 1 billion remaining in the current TEN-T budget until 2014. This money has to be spent. Big infrastructure projects cannot be submitted since the works have to be finished by end 2015. The big infrastructure projects are now planning to submit projects when the new financing period starts. It is thus clear that these call offers a unique opportunity for smaller projects (which are mature) to get some funding that you will not easily get in the beginning of a financing period. Then you will be in competition with the huge infrastructure projects, which will probably get priority then. The content of the calls confirms this, since these calls are clearly geared towards smaller ports and give priority to inland port projects.

I refer to the different official call documents (see link in the frames below). I suggest you read these in detail. In this memo, I am just pointing out the elements that are of importance for inland ports.

<u>Important:</u> if you consider participating in one of these calls, please do not hesitate to contact the agency for answers to your questions. Please inform us as well. This will allow EFIP to spread the news and make your project already known.

The Annual Call 2012

Full text of the call:

In English:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/ap wp/comm native c 2012 8510 com mission implementing decision en v7 p1 710590.PDF

In French:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/ap wp/comm native c 2012 8510 com mission implementing decision fr v2 p1 710590.PDF

In German:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/ap wp/comm native c 2012 8510 com mission implementing decision de v2 p1 710590.PDF

The budget available for this Annual Call will be €250 million EUR.

This call for proposal will give priority to mature and sustainable projects.

There are 4 priorities:

<u>Priority 1:</u> acceleration / facilitation of the implementation of TEN-T projects (€150 million)

Work Projects under this priority should be completed by end 2015 (mature projects). Studies should be done in preparation of works to be done as from 2014.

 This priority will only focus on rail, road, ports and inland waterways, of combinations of these modes. Of particularly interest of us is the sub-priority *Inland* Waterways.

Eligible projects could fall under one of the following categories:

- establishment of stable fairway conditions
- upgrade and modernisation of locks on the TEN-T inland waterway network
- the increase of under bridge clearance
- LNG bunkering facilities

- ports access and hinterland connections
- port facilities: reception facilities for oil and other waste to meet environmental requirements
- ICT applications
- Basic port infrastructure: quay walls, jetties, backfills and land reclamation, etc...

Where possible, connections to other transport modes shall be a part of the project.

- Looking at the "maritime part" of this priority, it is also important to know that priority will be given to projects addressing TEN-T hinterland connections (locks, inland waterway or rail connections) and to inland waterway-friendly access, design, facilities and operations, with a view to achieving seamless interconnectivity with the hinterland through inland waterways. The developed of LNG facilities, including for barges in sea ports are also covered by this priority.
- Furthermore, priority 1 will also focus on the "integrated and multi-modal transport system". Here freight terminals and logistic platforms (min threshold to participate is transhipment volume of 500.000 tonnes/year) and the interconnection nodes of different modes of transport (ports, inland ports, rail terminals and airports) are envisaged. The objective of such activities should be to increase the contribution that 'low carbon' transport modes (i.e. rail, inland navigation and shipping) can make to freight transport at the European level, through improving the efficiency and capacity of inter-modal freight transfer nodes.
 - => Eligible works under this priority refer to the establishment of transfer nodes between at least one "low carbon" mode and another mode (ex. IWT-road). Priority will be given to transfer nodes implying two "low carbon modes" (ex. IWT to rail).
 - => Eligible studies are those which increase the maturity of implementation plans in view of starting the construction works in the period 2014-2020.

<u>Priority 4:</u> Support to the long term implementation of the TEN-T network, in particular development of corridors that shall enable a coordinated implementation of the network (€35 million)

Here the focus is on projects that prepare for the implementation of the new guidelines. In essence all projects that fit in the corridor approach as foreseen in the new guidelines are of interest. Only studies are to be financed under this priority. These studies could look into multimodal aspects, establish key performance indicators for developing green corridors, study integration between infrastructure, facilities and operations of various modes of transport. The implementation of the rail freight corridors is also one of the objectives under this priority.

Levels of co-financing

For the projects falling under the scope of the Annual Call, the amount of Union financial aid shall not exceed the following rates:

- studies: 50 % of the eligible cost of studies
- works:
 - o a maximum of 10% for projects of common interest
 - o a maximum of 20% of the eligible cost of the works for priority projects
 - o a maximum of 30% for cross-border sections of priority projects provided that the Member States concerned have given the Commission all the necessary guarantees regarding the financial viability of the project and the timetable for carrying it out.

<u>Important:</u> Taking into account the co-financing rates mentioned above, the EU contribution should not be less than 500.000 EUR. So very small projects cannot be submitted (ex. studies of less than 1 million EUR will in principle not be eligible).

<u>Deadline for submitting a project</u>: the deadline for submitting projects under this call is 28 February 2013

The Multi-Annual Call

The full text of the call:

in English:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/map wp/comm native c 2012 8508 co mmission implementing decision en v4 p1 711047.PDF

in French:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/map wp/comm native c 2012 8508 commission implementing decision fr v3 p1 711047.PDF

In German:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/download/calls2012/map wp/comm native c 2012 8508 co mmission implementing decision de v3 p1 711047.PDF

1.015 billion EUR is foreseen for the forthcoming multi-annual call.

Under this call, projects of common interest in the field of the TEN-T can be submitted in six field. Two areas are of importance for inland ports:

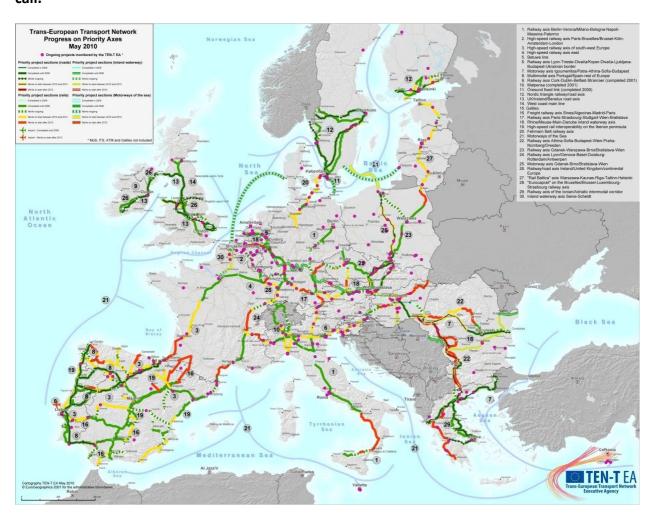
- the 30 Priority Projects of the current guidelines (750 million EUR)
- River information Services (10 million EUR)

Priority project calls

Aim: to promote and accelerate the implementation of sections of the 30 priority projects, which are most critical to the success of the priority axis as a whole, i.e. cross-border sections and the removal of bottlenecks

Both studies and work projects can be submitted.

One of the preliminary conditions is that your inland port is on one of the 30 priority projects. not only the inland waterway projects are considered in that respect. Inland ports that are situated on a rail priority project can also apply under this Priority project call.



To see this map of the 30 priority projects in detail:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/images/maps/progress report may2010ongoing projects 20 100527_big.jpg

Intermodality is defined as one of the specific objectives under this priority. concretely, EU support can go to projects that facilitate intermodality by interconnecting the axis with other modes of transport.

Co-funding rates

As for the Annual Call, the amount of EU financial aid shall not exceed the following rates:

- studies: 50 % of the eligible cost of studies
- works as defined in Article 2.9 of the TEN Regulation:
 - o a maximum of 20 % of the eligible cost of the works for priority projects
 - o a maximum of 30 % for cross-border sections of priority projects provided that the Member States concerned have given the Commission all the necessary guarantees regarding the financial viability of the project and the timetable for carrying it out
- road, rail, air, inland waterway, maritime traffic and coastal traffic management systems and ITS (including EETS): a maximum of 20% of the eligible cost of works

<u>Important:</u> Taking into account the co-financing rates mentioned above, the EU contribution should not be less than 500.000 EUR. So very small projects cannot be submitted.

What can you submit under the Multi-Annual Call?

- **Studies** that lead to implementation, e.g. design studies.
- **Studies** that lead to implementation of innovation and new technologies for transport infrastructure and facilities that are contributing to decarbonisation or to the reduction of external costs in general. The final aim of the study is to develop the necessary TEN-T infrastructure and facilities that will support the use of alternative fuels and propulsion replacing fossil fuels, including, electric batteries (charging & swapping), hydrogen, CNG, LNG, including LNG bunkering vessels and biofuels as well as any combination thereof. Facilities may include also emission reduction technologies and energy storage equipment installed in the vehicles.
- New works in the area of 30 Priority Projects of the current TEN-T Guidelines, which are sufficiently mature and which can clearly demonstrate that the TEN-T aid will facilitate their implementation. The works co-financed under the this priority are to be finalised by end 2015.
- Ongoing works projects in the area of 30 Priority Projects of the current TEN-T guidelines. These refers to projects which benefit from an ongoing financial aid through TEN-T calls for proposals, for which the implementation up to the end of 2015 can be accelerated or further facilitated through the injection of additional funding. The additional funding results in that case from the higher co-financing rates that are applicable under this call. If approved the higher co-financing can be applied to your project retroactively as from 1/1/2012.

River information Services

The objective of funding RIS projects under this call is to foster the development of RIS enabling intelligent infrastructure and the provision of RIS both in a harmonised and interoperable way.

Maximum level of co-financing for works is 20%

Of particular interest to inland ports can be the facilitation of interfaces with other modes of transport and implementation of new services, e.g. for transport management purposes.

Deadline for submitting projects: 28 February 2013

On the website of the TEN-T info day, you find some useful presentations made on these TEN-T calls:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/news events/events/2012 tent calls for proposals info day.htm

There is also a Frequently asked question session which will be set up and gather all questions received. You can subscribe this section, in order to be informed of very update (new question) that is added.

FAQ Annual call:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/apply for funding/follow the funding process/faq - calls for proposals 2012.htm

FAQ MAP - Priority projects call:

http://tentea.ec.europa.eu/en/apply for funding/follow the funding process/2012 map t en-t priority projects call faq.htm