



# STEERER

STRUCTURING TOWARDS ZERO EMISSION  
WATERBORNE TRANSPORT

**CALL for EXPRESSION of INTEREST  
for PARTICIPATION in the GREEN  
SHIPPING EXPERT GROUP**



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## 1. SUMMARY

A call for expressions of interest to participate within an expert group which will focus on establishing the knowledge gaps, R&I needs, scheduling a prioritisation of actions towards achieving clean climate neutral shipping, is now open in the framework of the Horizon 2020 project STEERER.

Activities of the expert group will contribute to the objectives of the Waterborne technology Platform, the possibility of a “Zero Emission Waterborne Transport” Co-Programme Partnership within Horizon Europe, the European Sustainable shipping Forum as well as other relevant fora, such as within the IMO.

**Participation is open to all experts and stakeholders without a clear conflict of interest, including private entities, NGO’s, research bodies, classification societies, shippers, and universities.**

The members of the expert group are expected to participate to four meetings in Brussels between 2020 and 2022, and to online consultations with a broader group of stakeholders.

Selection will be made on the basis of the criteria described in point 4 so as to ensure a broad and balanced composition.

Travel and accommodation costs to attend face-to-face meetings might be reimbursed.

Your interest is welcome and you are encouraged to apply.



## 2. BACKGROUND

Amid growing global and European societal pressure to address climate change, air pollution and the degradation of the world's oceans, political and regulatory attention has been increasingly directed towards waterborne transport, due to its high environmental and climate impact. A number of major developments are illustrative in this respect:

- “The European Green Deal” (December 2019<sup>1</sup>), to ensure that Europe will be the first climate-neutral continent as envisaged in the Commission Communication “A Clean Planet for All”: A European strategic long-term vision for a prosperous, modern, competitive and climate neutral economy” (November 2018<sup>2</sup>);
- The IMO’s Initial Strategy on the reduction of GHG emissions from international shipping (April 2018<sup>3</sup>), the EU and global sulphur cap<sup>4</sup> as of 1 January 2020, the Central Commission for Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR)’s Ministerial Mannheim declaration<sup>5</sup> (October 2018) and the calls from the European Council<sup>6</sup> and European Parliament<sup>7</sup> to enhance the environmental track record of inland waterway transport;
- The Paris Agreement Objectives (COP21<sup>8</sup>);
- The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) of the United Nations’ Development Programme (UNDP), particular SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure); SDG 13 (Climate Action) and SDG 14 (Life Below Water)<sup>9</sup>.

The European Commission has awarded SEA Europe, acting as the Secretariat of the Waterborne Technology Platform, the coordination of the STEERER - Structuring Towards Zero Emission Waterborne Transport –project, leading an international consortium consisting of a total of seven partners from six EU countries<sup>10</sup>, hereinafter the ‘STEERER Consortium’.

The STEERER project will coordinate the establishment and communication of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and an Implementation Plan towards zero emission waterborne transport, in cooperation with all key experts and stakeholders needed to facilitate the transformation to clean waterborne transport. In the definition of STEERER, besides cutting greenhouse gas emissions, all harmful environmental emissions, water pollution and noise emissions have to be eliminated. STEERER’s mission is to bring the various initiatives and sectors’ experts and stakeholders together to join forces for a combined effort with the maximum impact for the climate, people’s health and Europe’s economy.

<sup>1</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip\\_19\\_6691](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_19_6691)

<sup>2</sup> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52018DC0773&from=EN>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/PressBriefings/Pages/06GHGinitialstrategy.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP\\_19\\_6837](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/IP_19_6837)

<sup>5</sup> [https://www.ccr-zkr.org/files/documents/dmannheim/Mannheimer\\_Erklaerung\\_en.pdf](https://www.ccr-zkr.org/files/documents/dmannheim/Mannheimer_Erklaerung_en.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <http://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-13745-2018-INIT/en/pdf>

<sup>7</sup> [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/B-8-2019-0079\\_EN.html?redirect](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/doceo/document/B-8-2019-0079_EN.html?redirect)

<sup>8</sup> <https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/>

<sup>10</sup> The STEERER Consortium consists of: SEA Europe, acting as the Secretariat of the Waterborne Technology Platform, (BE); Magellan (PT); Isinnova (IT); Stichting Projecten Binnenvaart – SPB (NL); Balance (DE); Pro Danube (AT); and the Royal Belgian Shipowners association (BE).

In this framework, the STEERER project is tasked with the creation of:

a. The "Green Shipping Expert Group" (the GSEG).

The GSEG is the key consultation body created by the STEERER project. The group will be at the core of the experts and stakeholders' consultation process during the project's duration (December 2019 –May 2022) and will remain as a legacy of the project after its end.

The GSEG will consist of a limited number of key experts (up to 40 individuals) representing the broader waterborne transport sector, EU Member States and representatives of the European Commission. National and European relevant initiatives as well as a number of sector frontrunners combined with the organisations needed to get the broader sector involved will be part of the GSEG.

The GSEG will follow the goals of reaching joint commitment on the emission targets in 2025, 2030 and 2050, developing a joint agenda building upon the current state-of-play leading to prioritisation of areas with the most potential per segment of the waterborne transport sector.

The GSEG will provide recommendations to the European Commission regarding the pathways towards zero-emission waterborne transport, in terms of defining R&I priorities, necessary policies, regulations as well as investment priorities. Thereby, the members of the GSEG will pave the way towards zero-emission Waterborne Transport for Europe.

b. The "Scientific Committee"

The Scientific Committee will act as a sounding board to the STEERER Consortium during the project's duration (December 2019 –May 2022) supporting project partners in the consolidation of various inputs and in the preparation of agendas and meeting documents for the Green Shipping Expert Group.

The Scientific Committee will consist of senior experts (max 10 individuals) from the following fields: maritime applied research & development institutes, shipyards and maritime equipment suppliers, refineries, ports, class societies, the Waterborne Technology Platform as well as a non-governmental environmental institute.

The Scientific Committee will provide views and recommendations to support the decision making of the GSEG and will support the STEERER Consortium with regard to the specific expertise of the segment of waterborne transport they represent. Members of the Scientific Committee are experts in "their" field of expertise, know the challenges and opportunities and are able to contribute objectively to the elaboration of the Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda (the 'STEERER Agenda') and Implementation Plan from a technical/scientific point of view. They will assist to advocate targets, actions, interventions, etc. within their segment of expertise, thus play an important role in preparing the discussion at the GSEG as well as reaching consensus.

An interconnected effort between the STEERER Consortium, the Scientific Committee and the Green Shipping Expert Group will lead to the establishment of the STEERER Agenda and its subsequent Implementation Plan

**The STEERER Consortium is hereby calling for experts to set up the Green Shipping Expert Group.**

*The members of the Scientific Committee will be pre-selected from the best applications received under this call and will be invited to respond to a restricted call.*

## **2. WORK OF THE THE GREEN SHIPPING EXPERT GROUP**

The Green Shipping Expert Group overall mission is to develop a common view on achieving zero-emission waterborne transport and defining the actions needed to provide the required framework conditions. The GSEG will agree upon possible emission targets in 2025, 2030 and 2050. Based on the analysis of the state-of play and the identification of the key drivers for change within the current sector as well as global trend developments, the members of this group will prioritise research and innovation needs per segment of the waterborne transport sector, as well as on the possible elements of the implementation plan. The GSEG will agree upon the STEERER Agenda and Implementation Plan.

The GSEG is beneficial in exchanging opinions, experiences, best practices and other relevant issues between the different segments of the waterborne transport.

The **GSEG** main tasks shall be:

- Participating in four face-to-face meetings and on-line surveys;
- Providing inputs to online consultations to a broader group of stakeholders, which will include on-line questionnaires.

**Important:** The four face-to-face meetings will take place between April 2020 and April 2022.

The workshops will cover the following topics:

- (1) Presentation of the state-of-play in waterborne transport and discussions about potential drivers of change that would enable to move towards zero-emission waterborne transport by 2050;
- (2) Discussion about possible future scenarios at different time-horizons (25-30-50), potentially reaching consensus over the definition and quantification of the respective targets to be achieved;
- (3) Work on a common vision, identifying areas of intervention and priorities to achieve the targets as well as threats and opportunities for the waterborne transport sector;
- (4) Discussion on a draft version of the STEERER Agenda and Implementation Plan to amend them as appropriate and reach consensus.

**The first meeting of the GSEG will be organised on 23 April 2020 in Brussels**

### **2.1. COMPOSITION**

The GSEG shall consist of up to 40 individuals, i.e. experts, representing a well-balanced mix of different sectors of the broader waterborne transport sector (applicants complying with the requirements referred to in chapter 4 of this call). Reasonable geographic balance will be also ensured.

Members who are no longer capable of contributing effectively to GSEG's deliberations shall no longer be invited to participate in any meetings of the group and may be replaced.

## 2.2 RULES OF ENGAGEMENT AND OPERATION OF THE GSEG

The GSEG shall be chaired by the Waterborne Technology Platform.

The GSEG shall act at the request of the STEERER Consortium.

Members of the GSEG should be prepared to attend meetings systematically, contribute actively to discussions and could be asked to act, as appropriate, as 'rapporteurs' on ad hoc basis.

The members of the GSEG shall adopt opinions, recommendations or reports by consensus. In the event of a vote, the outcome of the vote shall be decided by a simple majority of the members. The members that voted against or abstained shall have the right to have a document summarising the reasons for their position annexed to the opinions, recommendations or reports.

Participants in the activities of the GSEG shall not be remunerated for the services they offer. Travel and subsistence expenses incurred by participants in the activities of the GSEG may be reimbursed by the STEERER project.

The STEERER Consortium may invite experts with specific expertise with respect to a subject matter on the agenda to take part in the work of the GSEG on an ad hoc basis.

The STEERER Consortium may set up sub-groups of the GSEG for the purpose of examining specific questions on the basis of the terms of reference defined by the STEERER Consortium.

Working documents will be drafted in English and meetings will be also conducted in English.

The four face-to-face meetings will be organised in Brussels, unless indicated otherwise, and will have a duration of one working day maximum. **The first meeting is scheduled for 23 April 2020.**

## 2.3. TRANSPARENCY

The STEERER Consortium will make all relevant documents available, including the agendas, the minutes and the participants' contributions via the project's website. Access to the dedicated website shall not be subject to user registration or any other restriction. In particular, the STEERER Consortium shall ensure publication of the agenda and other relevant background documents in due time ahead of the meeting, followed by timely publication of minutes.

### 3. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application procedure is based on the following terms:

- Applications shall be sent to the following e-mail address: [jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu](mailto:jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu), the subject of the email shall mention the following: 'Application for the STEERER GSEG';
- The date of sending of the email will be the date of submission;
- Applications must be completed in English;
- An application will be deemed admissible only if it is sent by the deadline and includes the completed application form and signed informed consent as made reference to below;
- All documents submitted by the applicants should be duly completed, legible, signed and numbered sequentially;
- Each application shall complete the Application Form (Annex I) and the Informed Consent (Annex II). Please note that both attachments are available in word format as well;
- Additional supporting documents (e.g. CVs) may be requested at a later stage.

Application and the Informed Consent forms should be sent **by 27 March 2020 at the latest**.

## 4. SELECTION CRITERIA

The STEERER Consortium will take the following criteria into account when assessing applications for the GSEG to establish a qualified and balanced group of experts:

- Proven and relevant competence and experience obtained by exercising activities that are directly associated with (the greening of) different segments of the waterborne transport sector (maritime shipping and/or inland navigation), including at European and/or international level;
- Capacity to participate effectively within the group and as an individual represent the expertise shared by stakeholders in their category of profiles;
- Ensuring European added value;
- Hierarchical level in the organisation and/or capacity to undertake the expected duties.

## 5. SELECTION PROCEDURE

The selection procedure shall consist of an assessment of the applications performed by the STEERER Consortium against the selection criteria listed in Chapter 4 of this call, followed by the establishment of a list of the most suitable applicants.

The final composition of the GSEG will be decided upon in cooperation with the relevant Commission Services, to ensure a balanced group, generally in line with the table above.

When defining the composition of the GSEG, the STEERER Consortium shall aim at ensuring a high level of expertise, broad stakeholder engagement, including, academia, NGO's and authorities, as well as a balanced representation of relevant fields, while taking into account the specific tasks of the group, the type of expertise required, the relevance of the applications received and broad geographic balance.

For any further information please contact [jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu](mailto:jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu) mentioning in the subject of the email 'Call for applications for the STEERER GSEG'.

### ANNEXES:

- |          |                  |
|----------|------------------|
| Annex I  | Application Form |
| Annex II | Informed Consent |



## Annex I: Application form

This form **must** be filled in, signed and returned to [jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu](mailto:jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu)

### 1. Contact Details

Surname of the Expert: \_\_\_\_\_  
First name of the Expert: \_\_\_\_\_  
Current working position: \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of the organisation: \_\_\_\_\_  
Country: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. Years of experience in the activities that are directly associated with (greening of) the different segments of the waterborne transport sector, maritime and/or inland navigation

- 5-10
- 10-15
- 15-20
- More than 20

### 3. Type of experience in the activities that are directly associated with (greening of) the different segments of the waterborne transport sector, maritime and/or inland navigation

- International
- European
- Regional

### 4. Educational background: please describe your education, training or academic background that is relevant to this application

*Maximum 250 words*

5. Professional experience: please, list the organisations you have worked in and your role, as well as key projects, studies, developments related to (greening of) waterborne transport (alternatively, CV can be attached).

*Maximum 250 words*

6. Motivation: please provide a text indicating your understanding of the STEERER objectives, and expressing reasons for your interest in being part of the GSEG

*Maximum 500 words*

7. Please indicate for which type(s) of organisation in which you are currently working ?:

- Academia, Research Institutes and Think Tanks
- Authorities
- Banks/ Financial offices
- Classification societies
- Engine manufacturers
- Maritime equipment supplier
- National authority
- NGOs
- Ports
- Professional Consultancies
- Professionals Associations
- Service suppliers
- Shipyard
- Ship operator
- Ship owner (both maritime and inland navigation)
- Trade Unions
- Other (please specify):

Nota bene:

- I am keen to be shortlisted and invited to be part of the STEERER Scientific Committee.

Date:

Signature .....

## **ANNEX II: INFORMED CONSENT to participate in the Green Shipping Expert Group (GSEG) of the STEERER project**

### **INTRODUCTION**

You are being selected to take part in the GSEG because we feel that your expertise can contribute much to improve our study and outcomes. If you accept, you will be asked to participate in the consultation process of the study, including attending face-to-face meetings and taking part in on-line surveys.

Before making a decision on whether you want to participate or not, please read this document carefully. Please ask all the questions you may have so you can be completely sure to understand all the proceedings of the study and the consultation process, including risks and benefits. At all times, we assure the compliance with the current legislation.

### **OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE**

The STEERER project will coordinate the establishment and communication of a Strategic Research and Innovation Agenda and an Implementation Plan towards zero-emission waterborne transport, in cooperation with all key experts and stakeholders needed to facilitate the transformation to clean waterborne transport. In this framework, the STEERER project is tasked with the creation of a "Green Shipping Expert Group" (the GSEG).

The primary objective of the GSEG is to gather the input of key opinion leaders to develop a common view on achieving zero-emission waterborne transport and defining the actions needed to provide the required framework conditions.

The group will be tasked with reviewing and commenting documents, participating to the Strategy evaluation meetings and contributing by presenting pre-competitive developments regarding zero-emission transport at the level of their organisation. Although the GSEG will be installed in the framework of the project, the activities will continue after the project lifetime, by monitoring and assessing the implementation of the Strategy defined and adapting where necessary.

### **DURATION**

The STEERER project started on 1 December 2019 and has a duration of 30 months. During the project's lifetime, the GSEG will be gathered in four face-to-face meetings which are planned to be organised in Brussels, unless indicated otherwise. The meetings will have a duration of one working day maximum.

### **RISKS OR INCONVENIENCES**

No risk is foreseen. You are only requested to be available to participate and share with STEERER your professional experience and opinions. You do not have to answer any question if you don't wish to do so. You do not have to give us any reason for not responding to any question.

### **PRIVACY AND CONFIDENTIALITY**

Responses you give in the workshops and in questionnaires will be recorded. Your recorded data will not include any personal identification; hence it will not be possible to identify you afterwards. Information will be processed during the phase of data analysis and will be shown in project

reports. It will not be possible to identify the source of the information. The results of this investigation may be published in scientific journals or conferences and may be used in further studies. Nothing of the provided personal data will be handled out to third parties.

The authorization for the use and access to this information is valid until the end of the study unless you decide to cancel it before. If you should decide to deny your consent, please contact the Project Coordinator and let him know of your intention of leaving the consultation process. Your decision to whether or not give your authorization for the use and diffusion of the information provided by you is completely voluntary.

### SHARING THE RESULTS

STEERER will publicly share the results of the consultation process. The related scientific information will be easily accessible, free of charge, to the end-user. The project will follow H2020's guidelines for data management and open access meticulously, for their compliance regarding data quality, sharing and security.

### WHO TO CONTACT

In case of questions, Project Coordinator: Jaap Gebraad, Executive director Waterborne TP, [jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu](mailto:jaap.gebraad@waterborne.eu).

### CERTIFICATE OF CONSENT

Your participation in this expert group is only possible with the following consent

- I have been fully informed about the aims and purposes of the STEERER Project. I understand that there is no compulsion to participate in the STEERER Green Shipping Expert Group and, if I choose to participate, I may at any stage withdraw my participation;
- I have read, or had read to me, a document providing information about this project and this consent form. I have had the opportunity to ask questions and all my questions have been answered to my satisfaction and understand the description of the consultation process that is being provided to me;
- I agree that my data (collected by workshops and questionnaires) is used for scientific purposes and I have no objection that my data is published in scientific publications in a way that does not reveal my identity;
- I understand that, subject to the constraints above, no recordings will be replayed in any public forum or made available to any audience other than the current project partners;
- I freely and voluntarily agree to be part of this consultation process, though without prejudice to my legal and ethical rights;

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

