



EUROPEAN CLIMATE, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT EXECUTIVE AGENCY (CINEA)

CINEA.C – Green research and innovation
C.1 – Horizon Europe Climate

GRANT AGREEMENT

Project 101112906 — SpongeBoost

PREAMBLE

This **Agreement** ('the Agreement') is **between** the following parties:

on the one part,

the **European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)** ('EU executive agency' or 'granting authority'), under the powers delegated by the European Commission ('European Commission'),

and

on the other part,

1. 'the coordinator':

HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FUR UMWELTFORSCHUNG GMBH - UFZ (UFZ), PIC 999994632, established in PERMOSERSTRASSE 15, LEIPZIG 04318, Germany,

and the following other beneficiaries, if they sign their 'accession form' (see Annex 3 and Article 40):

2. **PENSOFT PUBLISHERS (PENSOFT)**, PIC 998303631, established in UL. GEO MILEV 13A, SOFIA 1111, Bulgaria,

3. **WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL - EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION (WI-EA)**, PIC 928620965, established in HORAPARK 9, EDE 6717 LZ, Netherlands,

4. **TARTU ULIKOOL (UTARTU)**, PIC 999895013, established in ULIKOOLI 18, TARTU 50090, Estonia,

5. **UNIVERZITA JANA EVANGELISTY PURKYNE V USTI NAD LABEM (UJEP)**, PIC 973510431, established in PASTEUROVA 3544/1, USTI NAD LABEM 400 96, Czechia,

6. **CENTRO IBERICO DE RESTAURACION FLUVIAL (CIREF)**, PIC 892350725, established in CALLE PEDRO CERBUNA S/N, ZARAGOZA 50009, Spain,

7. **SOCIEDADE PORTUGUESA PARA O ESTUDODAS AVES (SPEA)**, PIC 941263848, established in AVENIDA COLUMBANO BORDALO PINHEIRO, 87 3 ANDAR, LISBOA 1070 062, Portugal,

8. **RHEINISCH-WESTFAELISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE AACHEN (RWTH AACHEN)**, PIC 999983962, established in TEMPLERGRABEN 55, AACHEN 52062, Germany,

9. **STROMING BV (STROMING BV)**, PIC 889371079, established in TOERNOOIVELD 300, NIJMEGEN 6525 EC, Netherlands,

10. **DEUTSCHE UMWELTHILFE EV (DUH)**, PIC 950599031, established in FRITZ REICHLER RING 4, RADOLFZELL 78315, Germany,

Unless otherwise specified, references to ‘beneficiary’ or ‘beneficiaries’ include the coordinator and affiliated entities (if any).

If only one beneficiary signs the grant agreement (‘mono-beneficiary grant’), all provisions referring to the ‘coordinator’ or the ‘beneficiaries’ will be considered — mutatis mutandis — as referring to the beneficiary.

The parties referred to above have agreed to enter into the Agreement.

By signing the Agreement and the accession forms, the beneficiaries accept the grant and agree to implement the action under their own responsibility and in accordance with the Agreement, with all the obligations and terms and conditions it sets out.

The Agreement is composed of:

Preamble

Terms and Conditions (including Data Sheet)

Annex 1 Description of the action¹

Annex 2 Estimated budget for the action

Annex 2a Additional information on unit costs and contributions (if applicable)

Annex 3 Accession forms (if applicable)²

Annex 3a Declaration on joint and several liability of affiliated entities (if applicable)³

Annex 4 Model for the financial statements

Annex 5 Specific rules (if applicable)

¹ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

² Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

³ Template published on [Portal Reference Documents](#).

DATA SHEET

1. General data

Project summary:

Project summary
<p>The project “SpongeBoost - upscaling the natural sponge functions of freshwater ecosystems to deliver multi-benefit Green Deal solutions” gathered a consortium of 10 partners from 7 European countries with interdisciplinary backgrounds in research, policy and management, to collect and recommend the best solutions for effectively increasing or restoring the natural water retention function of the landscape. By compiling available knowledge and best practice tools, combined with adapting and testing new innovative approaches, a roadmap will be developed to engage regions and communities in active implementing of transformative measures to improve resilience to extreme events. By synthesising knowledge for policy-making, hands-on restoration, and adaptive land-use planning, as well as showcasing successful examples of sponge restoration and the multifunctional benefits, stakeholders from the local to the European scale will be engaged and supported in implementing cost-effective and innovative solutions for restoring the sponge function of soils in wetlands and groundwater surface water systems. The active participation in development and testing ensures that innovative solutions are moved closer to the market. Thus, SpongeBoost will contribute to achieving the ambitious targets of the EU Climate Change Adaptation Mission and its Implementation Plan to maximize climate adaptation, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity and other societal benefits from nature-based solution. SpongeBoost consortium members are involved in various restoration projects and work closely with relevant actors promoting networking and knowledge exchange and creating synergies at regional level and across all regions of Europe. They contribute to SpongeBoost's overarching goal of making a lasting positive impact on sponge restoration for climate change adaptation.</p>

Keywords:

- Climate change adaptation
- sponge, water retention measures, peatland, floodplain, surface water, restoration, land-use change, ecosystem services, nature-based solutions, water management, networking, climate resilience

Project number: 101112906

Project name: Upscaling the natural sponge functions of freshwater ecosystems to deliver multi-benefit green deal solutions

Project acronym: SpongeBoost

Call: HORIZON-MISS-2022-CLIMA-01

Topic: HORIZON-MISS-2022-CLIMA-01-05

Type of action: HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions

Granting authority: European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency

Grant managed through EU Funding & Tenders Portal: Yes (eGrants)

Project starting date: fixed date: 1 January 2024

Project end date: 31 December 2027

Project duration: 48 months

Consortium agreement: Yes

2. Participants

List of participants:

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Max grant amount
1	COO	UFZ	HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FUR UMWELTFORSCHUNG GMBH - UFZ	DE	999994632	599 987.50	599 987.50
2	BEN	PENSOFT	PENSOFT PUBLISHERS	BG	998303631	242 750.00	242 750.00

N°	Role	Short name	Legal name	Ctry	PIC	Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Max grant amount
3	BEN	WI-EA	WETLANDS INTERNATIONAL - EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION	NL	928620965	327 077.50	327 077.50
4	BEN	UTARTU	TARTU ULKOOOL	EE	999895013	325 000.00	325 000.00
5	BEN	UJEP	UNIVERZITA JANA EVANGELISTY PURKYNE V USTI NAD LABEM	CZ	973510431	249 750.00	249 750.00
6	BEN	CIREF	CENTRO IBERICO DE RESTAURACION FLUVIAL	ES	892350725	325 500.00	325 500.00
7	BEN	SPEA	SOCIEDADE PORTUGUESA PARA O ESTUDODAS AVES	PT	941263848	164 640.00	164 640.00
8	BEN	RWTH AACHEN	RHEINISCH-WESTFAELISCHE TECHNISCHE HOCHSCHULE AACHEN	DE	999983962	232 018.75	232 018.75
9	BEN	STROMING BV	STROMING BV	NL	889371079	210 695.00	210 695.00
10	BEN	DUH	DEUTSCHE UMWELTHILFE EV	DE	950599031	322 500.00	322 500.00
Total						2 999 918.75	2 999 918.75

Coordinator:

- HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM FUR UMWELTFORSCHUNG GMBH - UFZ (UFZ)

3. Grant**Maximum grant amount, total estimated eligible costs and contributions and funding rate:**

Total eligible costs (BEN and AE)	Funding rate (%)	Maximum grant amount (Annex 2)	Maximum grant amount (award decision)
2 999 918.75	100	2 999 918.75	2 999 918.75

Grant form: Budget-based**Grant mode:** Action grant**Budget categories/activity types:**

- A. Personnel costs
 - A.1 Employees, A.2 Natural persons under direct contract, A.3 Seconded persons
 - A.4 SME owners and natural person beneficiaries
- B. Subcontracting costs
- C. Purchase costs
 - C.1 Travel and subsistence
 - C.2 Equipment
 - C.3 Other goods, works and services
- D. Other cost categories
 - D.2 Internally invoiced goods and services
- E. Indirect costs

Cost eligibility options:

- In-kind contributions eligible costs
- Parental leave