

## **Eco-incentivo marittimo: approfondimento Watson Farley & Williams sul “Marebonus” spagnolo – Domande fino al 30.6.2023**

The Ministry of Transport, Mobility and Urban Agenda (*Ministerio de Transportes, Movilidad y Agenda Urbana (MITMA)*) launched on 2022 the first phase of the maritime Eco-incentive programme with the publication in the Official State Gazette (BOE) ([https://boe.es/diario\\_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2022-7384](https://boe.es/diario_boe/txt.php?id=BOE-A-2022-7384)) of the Ministerial Order approving the regulatory bases for the granting of subsidies and the 2022 call to choose the collaborating entities (shipping companies) that will participate in the management. This programme is intended to have an initial duration of 3 years.

### **Who has access to the subsidies?**

In general terms, the scope of application of subsidies in simple or non-competitive competition is international road freight traffic using maritime transport. The transport sector is encouraged to opt for maritime transport to move goods from one country to another in the European Union rather than road transport.

Thus, companies or self-employed people who pay the freight, as long as a trailer, a semi-trailer or a rigid heavy vehicle is loaded, will be able to apply for subsidies. For example, shippers, carriers and transport or logistics operators are all potential beneficiaries of the maritime Eco-incentive if they pay for the shipment of a rigid lorry, semi-trailer or trailer.

The maritime Eco-incentive programme thus focuses on subsidising the decision-maker of the type of transport to be carried out, regardless of whether it is an individual or a legal entity and regardless of the turnover of the latter. In other words, SMEs and the self-employed are potential beneficiaries of the aid under the same conditions as larger companies, since there is no limitation in terms of traffic or the amount of aid to be applied for.

The Eco-incentive is pre-fixed for each eligible maritime service and the user generates the right to apply for it for each trip made during the indicated period.

The eligible cost will be that corresponding to the reduction of external costs on national territory when carrying out the eligible activity. In other words, if a haulier chooses to use the maritime mode to move a semi-trailer from the port of Valencia to the port of Civitavecchia, instead of going by road, he will be entitled to receive a subsidy proportional to the savings in external costs generated within Spain. Thus, of the almost 1,710 kilometres of road that separate the two ports, the haulier will receive incentives for the 520 km to the French border, going along the coast.

### **Collaborating entities and Eligible services:**

In order to be a collaborating entity of the programme, shipping companies must fulfil a series of conditions, such as, for example:

- Be established in an EU country. For example, it must have its tax domicile in a Member State.
- Be legally authorised to carry out maritime transport of goods within the EU.
- Have at least one eligible service already operational.

Eligible services, which will be determined once the shipping company is selected, must meet the following requirements:

- They must connect a Spanish port and a port in another EU Member State.
- The service must have two or more weekly frequencies. The door is open to the exceptional and justified development of a weekly frequency.
- There must be an alternative road transport route for the line.

## **Selection of the Collaborating entities:**

There has been two calls for proposals for the selection of collaborating entities:

- **1<sup>st</sup> selection of collaborating entities:**

In the first selection of collaborating entities, after the Order was published, on 27 May, the deadline for shipping companies to submit applications to obtain the status of collaborating entities was 27 May.

On 26 August, [Order TMA/821/2022 was published on the granting of the status of collaborating entity, which resolves the granting of the status of collaborating entity within the eco-incentive programme for the promotion of maritime freight transport based on environmental and socio-economic merit within the framework of the Recovery, Transformation and Resilience Plan - financed by the European Union - NextGenerationEU.](#)

- **2<sup>nd</sup> selection of collaborating entities:**

On 27 January 2023, the deadline for the submission of applications by shipping companies to obtain the status of collaborating entities closed, and those that already had a collaboration agreement in force were able to incorporate new services or modify those already included until that date.

On 29 March 2023, a [Ministerial Order resolved the second selection process for collaborating entities, on a non-competitive basis, which will participate in the management of the eco-incentive subsidies.](#) The list of collaborating entities admitted and selected in this second selection process can be found in Annex I of the Order. Annex II contains the complete list of collaborating entities currently in force.

## **First call for beneficiaries:**

Article 6 of the Order TMA/391/2022, 26 April, lists some of the conditions that the beneficiaries of this subsidy must fulfil.

The first call for subsidies was published in the Official State Gazette (BOE) on 20 September 2022, and comprises the subsidy on the traffic carried out from 20 September 2022 to 31 March 2023. **The deadline to apply for this subsidy will be from 1 April to 30 June 2023 at 12:00 noon.**

All individuals or legal persons established in a EU Member State who have paid the sea freight for the eligible activity, whether they are the shipper, the carrier or the transport operator, shall be eligible.

The documentation to be filed for the request of the subsidy is detailed in the following link:

[https://sede.mitma.gob.es/SEDE\\_ELECTRONICA/LANG\\_CASTELLANO/OFICINAS\\_SECTORIALES/SUB\\_PRTR/E\\_COINCETIVO\\_MARITIMO/doc-solicitud.htm](https://sede.mitma.gob.es/SEDE_ELECTRONICA/LANG_CASTELLANO/OFICINAS_SECTORIALES/SUB_PRTR/E_COINCETIVO_MARITIMO/doc-solicitud.htm)

## **Where to apply:**

You can apply for the subsidies through the Electronic Office by accessing the following link:

[https://sede.mitma.gob.es/SEDE\\_ELECTRONICA/LANG\\_CASTELLANO/OFICINAS\\_SECTORIALES/SUB\\_PRTR/E\\_COINCETIVO\\_MARITIMO/](https://sede.mitma.gob.es/SEDE_ELECTRONICA/LANG_CASTELLANO/OFICINAS_SECTORIALES/SUB_PRTR/E_COINCETIVO_MARITIMO/)

All the information related to the maritime eco-incentive application (requirements of the application, documents to be submitted and all kind of information) is available in the following document "note for the application procedure" in the following link:

[https://www.mitma.gob.es/recursos\\_mfom/paginabasica/recursos/nota\\_admisibilidad\\_1oconvocatoria.pdf](https://www.mitma.gob.es/recursos_mfom/paginabasica/recursos/nota_admisibilidad_1oconvocatoria.pdf)