

## Open Call for Artists

**BlueMissionAA – Building a Coordination Hub to Support the Mission Implementation in the Atlantic and Arctic Basin** (<https://bluemissionaa.eu/> – Grant Agreement No. 101093962) is seeking a talented artist to lead a street art mural inspired by ocean restoration and protection. The mural will be exhibited at University College Cork (UCC) Campus, Ireland, as part of the Cork Harbour Festival (<https://corkharbourfestival.com/>) on **June 1st, 2025**. It will be displayed during the event and for a period of time after the event at UCC facilities.

The objective of this call is to select the most suitable service provider to design, and develop a mural that visually represents themes of marine biodiversity, sustainable water management, and human connection as well as impact on aquatic ecosystems. The mural will serve as a symbolic representation of BlueMissionAA's commitment to promoting marine restoration and protection, particularly among university students and attendees of the Cork Harbour Festival, in alignment with the European Mission "Restore Our Ocean and Waters" (<https://missionoceanwaters.eu>).

The activities supporting the mural's development will be carried out under the framework of *Task 5.2 - Citizen Engagement and cross-fertilisation with Lighthouse CSA's*, led by Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovação – Consultadoria Empresarial e Fomento da Inovação C.E.F.I., S.A. (SPI).

## Context

BlueMissionAA serves as the coordination hub supporting the implementation of the Mission Ocean in the Atlantic and Arctic basins, focusing on preserving and restoring marine and coastal ecosystems and biodiversity to increase climate resilience. Its key objectives include:

- **Building and mobilising** governance frameworks and networks through multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral cooperation.
- **Developing and deploying** a comprehensive monitoring and reporting framework to measure the progress of the Mission's implementation in the Atlantic and Arctic Sea basins.
- **Creating and maintaining a FAIR (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable) catalogue** of existing scientific and practical knowledge, as well as innovative solutions.
- **Fostering a dynamic entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem** in the Atlantic and Arctic basins, aligning with and building upon existing initiatives.
- **Engaging and empowering citizens** to contribute to the Mission and promote the societal adoption of new innovative solutions.

## Description of Services to be provided

The services to be provided under this Services Contract are described below:

**Type:** Portable Mural Painting

**Objective:** The selected artist will design and execute a freestanding mural focused on ocean restoration and conservation. The artwork should visually represent **at least one of the key themes** such as marine biodiversity, sustainable ocean management, and the human connection as well impact on aquatic ecosystems (with focus on oceans and seas). The selected artist should use eco-friendly paints and materials whenever possible to build the mural which will serve as both an artistic expression and an educational tool, encouraging long-term community engagement in environmental preservation.

### Project Requirements:

- **Date:** June 1st, 2025 (mural exhibition)
- **Development timeline:** the mural will be designed and painted before June 1st, 2025 (off-site in the selected artists premisses). The completed artwork must be delivered to the venue by **May 30th, 2025**, for final setup and exhibition.
- **Location of the exhibition:** University College Cork Campus, College Road, University College, Cork, Ireland
- **Wall specifications:**
  - **Type:** freestanding mural
  - **Dimension:** 2 m (height) x 3 m (width)
  - **Material:** The artist is responsible for selecting and providing the freestanding mural structure. Plywood-based materials are recommended due to their low cost and lightweight properties.
- **Equipment & Materials:** Artists should prioritise the use of eco-friendly paints and sustainable materials whenever possible.
- **Maximum Price:** 6,000 Euros (including VAT), covering artist fees, materials, and logistical expenses (e.g. Transport of the mural to the venue site).
- **Payment Terms:** The artist will receive payment in two instalments: 50% upon signing of the agreement and 50% upon successful delivery of the completed mural to the venue by May 30th, 2025. All payments will be processed via bank after invoice submission.
- **Copyright & Usage Rights:** The artist retains copyright of the mural. However, by participating in this call, the artist grants BlueMissionAA project the right to use images of the mural for promotional, educational, and project-related purposes, including marketing materials, websites, and social media. The artist will be credited as the creator. Any commercial use beyond these purposes requires the artist's prior consent. The work after the

exhibition will be further displayed at UCC premisses and other locations (if of interest the artists can request UCC to grant the opportunity for short term exposure of the artwork in the expo places where artist wants to bring the work on their own costs).

- **Deadlines:** The required materials must be developed in accordance with the below steps and timeline.

Step	Deadline
Call deadline	7 May 2025
Notification of the selected service provider	9 May 2025
Meeting with the selected service provider	12-15 May 2025
Service provider sends a mural design proposal	21 May 2025
Service provider delivers the artwork at the venue site	30 May 2025

It is to be noted that the steps identified above will be accompanied by comments provided by SPI. Comments on the versions sent by the contractor and the communication about the development of the work will be done on a regular basis via email/videocall.

## Eligibility

- Artists over the age of 18, based in Europe (priority given to artists based in Ireland).
- Applicants must have proven experience in mural creation and other street artworks, or public art installations.
- The selected artist must be available to develop the mural and ensure its delivery by the May 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- The selected artist must be available for the event when the art work is presented at UCC campus on June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.
- The artist's proposal must align with the themes of ocean conservation and demonstrate suitability for a community-driven project.

### Applications will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Experience and expertise in the field of mural creation, street art, or public art installations
- Quality of previously developed works in ocean and/or nature themes (portfolio review)
- Financial competitiveness

## How to submit your application

The applications should be sent to **SPI Porto** (spiporto@spi.pt), and **Diana Sousa** (dianasousa@spi.pt). Applicants should send a proposal, no more than 3-pages (in English) covering the following points:

- **Mural Concept:** a concept of the mural design that aligns with the project's theme and goals.
- **Background information:** one or two paragraphs description of the applicant's experiences in similar tasks.
- **Portfolio:** examples of previous works which have been developed by the applicant.
- **Budget:** the proposed fee for the mural creation, including materials and other associated costs.

The call is open from the day of publication until **7 May 2025 at 23:59 (CET)**. Applicants will receive a confirmation of receipt of their application by e-mail.

**Only the applications submitted on time will be accepted!**

**For additional information, please contact:**

**Douglas Thompson:** douglasthompson@spi.pt

**Diana Sousa:** dianasousa@spi.pt

**Septian Setiawan:** septiansetiawan@spi.pt