

1. Ongoing call :

At its General Assembly in June 2018, the Atlantic Cities association decided to open a call for proposals for a prospective study on the future of the "Atlantic Cities" after 2020, in order to redefine the strategies and scope of action of the Association and its members. The call (attached) proposed three differentiated axes: the European context, the internal context of the association and the context of the Atlantic cities themselves. In the case of an incomplete or non-existent response, the association reserved the right to reformulate the call and / or assume it internally.

The answer was incomplete and only two of the three dimensions (the European context and the internal context of the association) have been covered. The Executive Board proposes to launch a restricted call for the "Atlantic Cities" dimension.

1.1 Purpose of the request:

Make an analysis of the challenges faced by the Atlantic cities, today and ten years ahead, in order to determine / confirm:

- What are the two or three common challenges that the Atlantic cities must face together?
- What is the national and European context that influences these challenges
- How the Atlantic Cities network can contribute to overcoming these challenges

2. Introduction to the subject:

The Atlantic Cities association was created in 2000. Its founding charter, known as the Rennes charter (attached), identifies a series of development brakes, before which the association must serve as an instrument for the development of the Atlantic Cities.

Therefore, it is necessary to update the political letter of the association, identifying not only the new issues but also an order of priority. In addition, the analysis of the "association" dimension emphasizes the need to refocus the field of action on a (very) limited number of relevant issues that are common to Atlantic cities and on which the association can focus its activity.

Then, the purpose of this call is an analysis that meets the aforementioned needs and that identifies the strategy to be followed.

3. Methodology:

This research must first define the development axes of the Atlantic Arc cities and, therefore, their objectives in terms of territorial development. The study should identify which of these areas have significant potential for cooperation, as well as the actions to be implemented. It will also be necessary to analyze the performance of cooperation in relation to individual strategies and / or competition.

The study should determine how collaboration between Atlantic cities leads to economies of scale and / or synergies; without forgetting the improvements to implement.

In view of the evolution of the term "Atlantic Arc" since the 90s, it must be taken into account that the concept of Atlantic cities refers to the cities located in the partner regions of the Atlantic area INTERREG III B. In fact, it is this notion the one applied by Atlantic networks.

As for the tools, the service provider will have to analyze the various strategic plans of the member cities of the association, as well as other local entities of the Atlantic; in addition to any other relevant literature.

This bibliographic search will be complemented with a field survey based on other documents (press, studies, European projects, doctoral theses ...) and interviews with interested agents. To be representative, the choice of the interlocutors must respect, as far as possible, the following criteria:

- At least five cities per country (France, Spain, Portugal, Ireland and United Kingdom) in the affected regions.
- Significant international activity, although not necessarily a member of the association.
- Variety of size / positioning of cities: national capital, regional capital, non-capital, etc.
- The selection of interlocutors must also respect diversity criteria:
- As far as possible, interviews will be conducted in the interviewee's native language and recorded with their authorization.
- The dissemination of content / citation will be subject to written authorization.
- The different positions in decision making (technical / political) must also guide the choice of the interlocutor.

Finally, the methodology will be complemented with a participant observation in the events of the association, its members or actors of the Atlantic that may be appropriate.

4. Calendar and response modes:

Validation by the Executive Bureau of this methodology	06/03/2019
Short list of consultants provided by the Executive Bureau and completed if necessary by the Secretariat	06/03/2019
Sending the call limited to consultants	13/03/2019

Results and start of work	28/03/2019.
Presentation of the first results (Executive Bureau)	05/07/2019
First draft completed	26/08/2019
Final document	27/09/2019.
Presentation to the General Assembly	Octubre 2019

For the reply, the interested consultants should send to sg@atlanticcities.eu a CV and its economic offer - estimated price: 20,000 euros including taxes.