

#### **WP4: Financial Frameworks, Resource Engineering and Cost Forecasting for Multi-Country Commitments to Construction and Operation**

The principal objective of this work package is to obtain an initial business planning perspective document and forecasting of financial commitments over the construction and the operational life of the icebreaking research vessel. This encompasses two phases:

- The first phase aims to define verifiable estimates of total construction costs, scientific research services and forecast future increase of running costs (fuel, crewing, logistics) over a at least a 15-year time perspective.
- The second phase is work towards an initial business planning perspective with a set of initial proposed scenarios for development and operation of the vessel and a financial contribution model.

The verified estimates and business planning perspective will be achieved by close consultation with all ERICON partners. An ERICON Financial Advisory Panel is assembled to provide the principle recommendations. The panel is supported by a dedicated project manager (finance) at the ESF who coordinates the discussions and responses of the panel. The panel works in close consultation with the BMBF funded national project and the private sector companies to collate information on construction and running costs and provide recommendations to the ERICON stakeholder council and their participating agencies and ministries on funding integration models. The recommendations of the financial and business perspective report will enable decisions on the construction and implementation of the facility by the ministries and funding agencies.

Work package 4 in this preparatory phase project enables the conditions for committing financial resources and opening a tender process for the vessel.

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