



European Maritime and Fisheries Fund 2014 - 2020

The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) is designed to support maritime and fisheries activity and help deliver the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). It is also geared to encourage the development of Integrated Maritime Policy.



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

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European Union
European Structural
and Investment Funds

EMFF will:

- Encourage fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing.
- Promote sustainable aquaculture.
- Assist coastal communities in diversifying their economies.
- Support projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life.

Objectives

- Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient innovative and competitive fishing and aquaculture.
- Improving scientific knowledge and supporting monitoring, control and enforcement.
- Promoting economic growth, social inclusion and job creation in fishing communities.
- Improving marketing and encouraging investment in the processing and marketing sectors.
- Implementing the Integrated Maritime Policy.



EMFF is structured around four commitments towards:

- 1. Smart, Green Fisheries.**
- 2. Smart, Green Aquaculture.**
- 3. Sustainable and Inclusive Territorial Development.**
- 4. Integrated Maritime Policy.**

Applications are invited under the following categories:

1. Fishing vessel energy improvements and re-engining.
2. Investments on board fishing vessels.
3. Aquaculture, processing and marketing.
4. Improvements to shore-based facilities.
5. Partnerships, information sharing, advisory services, job creation and training.
6. Marine environment and inland fishing.

Supportable Activities

Sustainable development of fisheries

- Innovation - projects that develop or introduce new or substantially improved products, processes and systems.
- Advisory services - feasibility, business & marketing strategies.
- Partnership and networking between scientists & fishermen.
- Professional training, lifelong learning, networking and exchanges of best practice.
- Health and safety on board - including individual equipment.
- Development of CFP monitoring and evaluation measures.
- Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment.
- Collection of waste, better management and conservation of resources.
- Mitigation of climate change.
- Investments on board, energy efficiency audits and schemes.
- Product quality and use of unwanted catches.
- Investment in fishing port infrastructure.
- Inland Fishing.

Sustainable development of fisheries areas

- Supporting Sustainable Development Strategies through Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs).

Marketing and processing

- Collective marketing measures.
- Processing and marketing support to SMEs.

Sustainable development of aquaculture

- Innovation - introducing new technical or organisational knowledge, new or substantially improved products.
- Generating new forms of income and added value.
- Management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms.
- Professional training, learning, networking and best practice.
- Development of aquaculture sites and Infrastructures.
- Encouraging new aquaculture operations.
- Promotion of aquaculture with a high level of environmental protection.
- Fostering animal health and welfare in aquaculture enterprises.

Implementation

Member States have developed Operational Programmes to deliver a range of priority areas which will be co-financed by EMFF. As funds are limited, support will be granted to projects which best meet the strategic aims of the EMFF Programme's social, environmental and economic targets.

In Northern Ireland, support will focus on addressing commitments in respect of the landing obligation; enhancing safety; sustainable sea fisheries, processing and aquaculture sectors; and, the sustainable development of fishing communities.

During the early round of the programme, in line with the CFP reform timetable, particular focus will be given to projects which:-

- Support delivery of the CFP reform priorities, particularly the landing obligation.
- Support technical innovation, including improved selectivity.
- Support the inshore sector.
- Support sustainable aquaculture growth.
- Support scientific knowledge, training, safety and advice.
- Deliver greater coherence and transparency in the supply chain.
- Create or improve access to markets for seafood products.
- Deliver sustainable diversification or complementary activities.

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DAERA Marine & Fisheries Division
Ground Floor, Block 1, Downshire Civic Centre,
Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road,
Downpatrick, Co. Down
BT30 6GQ

Tel: 028 4461 8093 / 028 4461 8099

Email: EMFF.queries@daera-ni.gov.uk

Web: www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/european-maritime-fisheries-fund

