EMFF OP Monitoring Committee 23 May 2017

Proposed amendments to Schemes

Damien Clarke
EMFF Managing Authority

Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme

- Present Max Grant of €500,000 facilitates investment of €1.25m.
- Some projects of scale that exceeded this.
- This artificially lowers the aid intensity rate on the overall project (e.g. €2.5m project effectively receives 20% support).
- This weakens the incentive effect of the Scheme in respect of larger investment projects.
- Proposing Maximum Grant

   €500,000 ➡ €1 m

- This will facilitate projects up to €2.5m
- Aid limit to apply separately to each project, provided they are for different locations.
- Clarifying eligible costs for projects attracting the preferential higher 50% rate
- Mixed projects in one location subject to €1m cap, with respective aid rate, 40%/50%.

Knowledge Gateway Scheme

- Seeking to attract innovation / research projects from Universities
- Eligible costs were a barrier
- Revising eligible costs to reflect research funding norms (e.g. Horizon 2020 or Marine Institute grants)
- Will allow salaries of project staff (e.g. post doc) but excludes permanent / core staff.
- Will allow contribution to overheads at flat rate of 25% of direct costs
- Max grant €200,000 ➡ €500,000

Processing Capital Scheme

Grant Aid

☐ Some capital projects of scale that exceeded maximum eligible costs allowed.

☐ This artificially lowers the aid intensity rate on the overall project

☐ It weakens the incentive effect of the Scheme in respect of larger investment projects.

☐ Eligible Costs €1.6m ➡️ €3m

☐ Equates to maximum grant of €900,000 @30%

Processing cont.

Eligible Beneficiaries

❑FLAG Scheme targets very small enterprises, by excluding enterprises with

❑Turnover > €5m

❑Employees >25

❑For Processing Capital Scheme, proposing complementary rule that excludes those that can be aided by FLAGs.

Sustainable Fisheries Scheme

❑ Present Scheme requires Certification projects to go to the Project Approvals Board (PAB) for approval.

❑ PAB is intended to assess more complex projects, with a qualitative nature.

❑ Certification projects are akin to Part B projects, i.e. Pass/Fail, which are already approved by BIM under Scheme.

❑ The Project Approvals Board adds nothing to the process but delay.

❑ Proposing to move Certification projects to Part B to correct this anomaly.

❑ Complementary inclusion of certification under Part A also, to allow for BIM work to promote and facilitate certification.

Producer Organisation Scheme

❑ Monitoring Committee has previously approved a Producer Organisation Scheme for -
  ❑ 2014/2015
  ❑ 2016
❑ Proposing Scheme for 2017 on exact same terms