



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



European Maritime
& Fisheries Fund

EMFAF shadow Monitoring Committee 27 May 2021

Proposal for Interim Seafood Investment Scheme

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EMFF Budgets available

Priority	Post modification budget	Uncommitted
1	64,056,124	2,787,748
2	31,582,310	2,481,043
3	84,924,202	0
4	12,000,000	1,607,314
5	31,000,000	1,550,870
6	10,669,344	0
TA	6,217,690	0
Total	240,449,670	8,426,976

Funding Demand 2021

Part B of the Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (on board capital investment) closed since June 2020.

Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme (capital) recently closed.

3rd Programme Modification will allow limited re-opening.

Other demands – non-capital schemes, IFA request for Covid aid.

EMFF funds not likely to be sufficient for 2021 demand.

Absence of supports may cause seafood enterprises to cancel or defer investment decisions.

Use of EMFAF 2021-27

European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund Regulation expected to be enacted in June or July 2021.

New Seafood Development Programme 2021-27 being prepared, but adoption is unlikely before end 2021.

Under the EMFAF, projects eligible for support from 1 January 2021.

However, schemes under new Programme cannot be formally approved by the Monitoring Committee until after Programme adoption.

Solution

Managing Authority is proposing an *Interim* Seafood Investment Scheme for the approval of the *shadow* Monitoring Committee.

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graph TD; A[Managing Authority is proposing an Interim Seafood Investment Scheme for the approval of the shadow Monitoring Committee.] --> B[A formal Scheme will need to be approved by the Monitoring Committee after Programme adoption and after the Monitoring Committee itself is formally established.]; B --> C[This later formal scheme will need to retrospectively recognise the investments supported under the interim scheme.];
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A formal Scheme will need to be approved by the Monitoring Committee after Programme adoption and after the Monitoring Committee itself is formally established.

This later formal scheme will need to retrospectively recognise the investments supported under the interim scheme.

Limitations for an interim scheme

Priorities for 2021-27 not agreed, so any interim measures must be conservative in terms of financial commitment and likely priority for inclusion in the new programme.

EMFF FLAGs cannot select projects under EMFAF – new FLAG selection process needed.

New EMFAF requirements for engine replacement.

All EMFAF grants to seafood processors restricted to non-SMEs.

So some things not suited to an interim scheme.

Proposed Interim Scheme

- Limited to capital investment fisheries, aquaculture, processing
- Duration – until adoption of new programme
- Maximum commitment €10m
- To follow EMFF scheme rules for existing capital schemes, with some exceptions.
- Engine replacement & FLAGs excluded.
- For aquaculture, eligibility based on statutory authority to engage in aquaculture.
- Interim scheme with limited funds
➔ Lower beneficiary limits.

Part B Sustainable Fisheries Scheme	€100,000
Part C Sustainable Fisheries Scheme	€300,000
Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme	As per EMFF scheme
Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme	€450,000
Seafood Processing Capital Investment	€450,000