



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



European Maritime
& Fisheries Fund

EMFAF Shadow Monitoring Committee 19 May 2022

Seafood Development Programme 2021-27 (EMFAF)

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PRESENTATION OVERVIEW

- ▶ Context/Background to SDP Programme Development
- ▶ Sectoral Actions within the SDP
- ▶ Other Areas of SDP Programme Development (SEA, IT System, PF Methodology Paper, Operations of Strategic Importance)

EUROPEAN MARITIME FISHERIES & AQUACULTURE FUND

- ▶ EMFAF Regulation 2021/1139 adopted 7 July 2021
- ▶ Ireland's allocation of EU funds €142.3 million
- ▶ Co-funding to be agreed with Minister for Public Expenditure & Reform.

PROGRAMMING PROCESS TO DATE

Partnership Agreement

- ▶ PA Working Group of the EU funds worked together to draft the PA
- ▶ A Partnership Process Steering Group is overseeing this
- ▶ The draft PA was submitted for informal inter-service consultation to the Commission at the end of March.
- ▶ Following this consultation, observations are expected from the Commission on the draft PA this week.
- ▶ Envisage submission of the PA for approval to the Government by the end of Q2 and formally to the Commission shortly thereafter

Programming Process to date

Monitoring Committee debates

Public Consultation undertaken

Bilateral discussions with key stakeholders

Desk Review of Policy Environment

Workshop on SWOT & investment Needs Analyses

Consultations with Commission (ongoing)

Strategic Environmental Assessment / AA (ongoing)

IT system development (ongoing)



DESK REVIEW OF POLICY /LEGISLATION

EU Policy

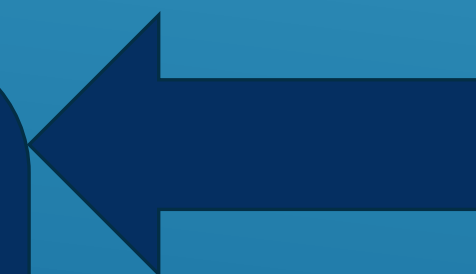
EU Regulations – CFP, EMFAF, CPR, CMO
EU Directives – WFD, MSFD
Regional Sea Basin Analysis of Western Waters
EU Biodiversity Strategy 2030
Farm to Fork Strategy
Strategic Guidelines for NSPA
Green Deal



Seafood Development Programme 2021-2027

National Policy

Seafood Task Force - Navigating Change
National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture
Harnessing Our Ocean Wealth – IMP
Towards a Marine Spatial Plan for Ireland
National Biodiversity Action Plan
DAFM climate change Adaptation Plan
FoodVision 2030 Strategy



► Approximately 100+ policies reviewed

Seafood Development Programme (SDP) 2021-2027 Strategy

SDP 2021-2027 Vision

"To support a resilient, climate smart, environmentally sustainable and profitable Irish seafood sector in order to maximise its contribution to jobs and growth and maintain the economic and social activities of our most vibrant and sustainable coastal communities"

EU Strategy 2030 Policy Objectives

EU Policy Objective 2

A greener, low-carbon transitioning towards a net zero carbon economy and resilient Europe by promoting clean and fair energy transition, green and blue investment, the circular economy, climate change mitigation and adaptation, risk prevention and management, and sustainable urban mobility

EU Policy Objective 5

A Europe closer to citizens by fostering the sustainable and integrated development of all types of territories and local initiatives

SDP 2021-2027 Missions

Mission 1

A Climate Smart, Environmentally Sustainable Seafood Sector.

Mission 2

An Innovative, Competitive and Resilient Seafood Sector, driven by Technology and Talent.

Mission 3

Vibrant and sustainable coastal communities driven to implement creative community-based strategies to enhance economic opportunity and ensure a dynamic framework for quality growth and development.

EMFAF Priorities

EMFAF Priority 1

Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources.

EMFAF Priority 2

Fostering sustainable aquaculture activities, and processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, thus contributing to food security in the Union

EMFAF Priority 3

Enabling a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and fostering the development of fishing and aquaculture communities

EMFAF Priority 4

Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling seas and oceans to be safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed

SEA FISHERIES & SSCF

- ▶ Inshore Fleet adjustment (Seafood Taskforce Recommendation)
- ▶ Improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions
- ▶ Support young fishers to enter the sector and facilitate generational renewal
- ▶ Support implementation of Inshore Fisheries Strategy
- ▶ Reduce / eliminate unwanted catches
- ▶ Support Landing Obligation
- ▶ Improve the onboard quality and added value of the catch and enhance traceability and certification of seafood
- ▶ Improve health, safety and working conditions on board fishing vessels.

AQUACULTURE SECTOR

- ▶ Support the implementation of the National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development
- ▶ Promote the sustainable development of new and existing enterprises
- ▶ Utilise technology and enhanced knowledge to facilitate growth.
- ▶ Support climate-change adaptation and mitigation in the Aquaculture sector.
- ▶ Development of AQUAMIS IT system to reinforce a streamlined and efficient licensing system

PROCESSING SECTOR

- ▶ Support the development of the processing sector by adding value to raw material.
- ▶ Build competitiveness, promote economies of scale and employment in the processing sector
- ▶ Utilise technology and enhanced knowledge to facilitate growth in the processing sector.
- ▶ Encourage open access to raw material.
- ▶ Develop industry skills
- ▶ Support the Blue bioeconomy

COASTAL COMMUNITIES

FLAGS

- ▶ Diversify the income of fishers and coastal community economy.
- ▶ Identify innovations that can lead to a transition towards smarter growth in coastal areas.
- ▶ Develop and promote marine tourism.
- ▶ Build capacity to develop greater co-operation between all relevant stakeholders in coastal communities.
- ▶ Initiatives to sustain Ireland's coastal regions physical character and environmental quality.
- ▶ Protect and promote the sense of place and culture and the quality, character and distinctiveness of the Irish coastal communities

MARKETING & MARKET ORGANISATION

- ▶ Support the preparation and implementation of Producer Organisations' production and marketing plans.
- ▶ Encourage market organisation in fisheries and aquaculture
- ▶ Facilitate and support formation of new POs.
- ▶ Differentiate Irish products in order to expand access to high-value, niche markets globally.
- ▶ Support investment in measures relating to logistics and market access of fisheries and aquaculture products
- ▶ Assist in developing existing and creating new markets for Irish seafood

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT SCIENCE

- ▶ Develop a fit for purpose data collection programme.
- ▶ Collect transversal data and spatial distribution of fishing effort for vessels under 12m.
- ▶ Address specific data and knowledge gaps for data poor stocks to respond to advisory demands .
- ▶ Address emerging advisory needs for stock assessment, MSE, mixed fisheries and ecosystem modelling.
- ▶ Improve sampling efficiencies
- ▶ Address specific scientific questions in relation to stock ID, mixing, assessment methods, migration patterns
- ▶ Optimise and maximise research survey outputs.

FISHERIES PROTECTION, MANAGEMENT & TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT

- ▶ Support effective fisheries protection and management
- ▶ Develop, implement and integrate improved technologies.
- ▶ Development of specialist expertise capacity.
- ▶ Enhance awareness of CFP and fisheries management measures among fishers and other stakeholders.
- ▶ Develop a cooperative system between all stakeholders and fisheries protection bodies.

BIODIVERSITY

- ▶ Protect biodiversity in marine habitats
- ▶ Support restoration to improve the status of Habitats Directive Annex IV habitats and species
- ▶ Tackle climate action and equally to prepare for climate change impact on fishing patterns and implement climate action measures around business operations.
- ▶ Provide continued support for the designation and management process of Natura sites and MPAs.
- ▶ Reduce the use of fishing gear most harmful to biodiversity
- ▶ Increase awareness on marine biodiversity, habitat loss, climate change and environmental impacts.
- ▶ Address the issue of marine litter and continue and expand the Clean Oceans Initiative and plastics directive.
- ▶ Improve information-sharing across decision-making bodies to facilitate cumulative impact assessments as required by the EIA Directive and Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Directives
- ▶ Enhance dissemination of fisheries data and information to stakeholder including increased awareness of the Natura/MPA network and associated conservation measures.

MARINE KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ Improve understanding of the impacts of human activities and climate change on the marine environment.
- ▶ Quantify the potential of coastal habitats as carbon sinks
- ▶ Improve understanding of marine activities that could increase resilience to climate change
- ▶ Streamline Marine data coordination and processing needs.
- ▶ Enhance data quality to support evidence-based decision making .
- ▶ Ensure that Irish marine data and knowledge are made available to all relevant stakeholders.
- ▶ Increase cooperation, research collaboration and information sharing at national, EU and international level.
- ▶ Data collection, access and analysis that will deliver on national obligations and measure changes in the marine environment .

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT

- ▶ Procurement process through E-tenders and EU Journal concluded in August 2021 with no bids.
- ▶ New tender process launched with 20 January 2022 deadline for bids.
- ▶ Contract Awarded to Octavian Economics & Minogue Associates in February 2022.
- ▶ SEA Scoping: workshops, SEA scoping consultations process carried out in March/April 2022
- ▶ SEA Environmental Report and AA report drafting ongoing
- ▶ **Next Steps:**
- ▶ Finalise Environmental Report and plan for public consultation in parallel with SDP public consultations
- ▶ Submission of SEA Environmental Report with SDP package to DG MARE.
- ▶ SEA statement to be issued to statutory consultees following adoption of SDP 2021-2027

EMFAF GRANT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

- ▶ Procurement process through E-tenders and EU Journal concluded in December 2022 with two bids
- ▶ Contract Awarded to SmartSimple Software (Ireland) Ltd. in March 2022
- ▶ Onboarding Meeting held in March 2022
- ▶ Scoping Process completed May 2022
- ▶ Next Steps
 - ▶ Configuration – May June 2022
 - ▶ Testing & Refinement – June July 2022
 - ▶ Data Import – Aug 2022
 - ▶ Reporting Definition – Aug 2022
 - ▶ Training – Sep-Oct 2022
 - ▶ Go-live – Dec 2023.

PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK METHODOLOGY PAPER

- ▶ Article 17 of the CPR requires Member States to prepare a performance framework methodology paper.
- ▶ MAs must document all of the methodological deliberations used to establish their performance framework, including:
 - ▶ criteria they used to select their indicators
 - ▶ baseline, milestone and target values for indicators.
 - ▶ the evidence-base for their methodology
 - ▶ the calculation methods employed
- ▶ The purpose of the PF methodology paper is:
 - ▶ to facilitate the programme approval;
 - ▶ to explain the intervention logic of the Member State's programme and its elements;
 - ▶ to provide a basis for planning and revision of milestones, targets and financial estimates;
 - ▶ to provide a basis for the M&E plan;
 - ▶ to support institutional memory for the programmers and stakeholders.
- ▶ EMFAF MA working with agencies to ensure a thorough PF paper is submitted to DG MARE over the coming weeks.

OPERATIONS OF STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

- ▶ Defined in Article 2(5) of Common Provisions Regulation
- ▶ Operation of strategic importance (OSI) means an operation which provides a significant contribution to the achievement of the objectives of a programme.
- ▶ OSIs are subject to particular monitoring and communication measures.
- ▶ Three potential OSIs identified include:
 - ▶ Marine Biodiversity – particularly Crayfish Management project implemented under the scheme
 - ▶ Data Collection
 - ▶ Marine Knowledge
- ▶ EMFAF Communications Officer will work with relevant agencies to ensure communication requirements are implemented over the lifetime of the OSIs.

WORK PLAN FOR COMING MONTHS

- ▶ Agree co-funding rates with DPER.
- ▶ Public Consultation on SDP and SEA
- ▶ Finalise and Submission for approval by Government
- ▶ Submission of SDP 2021-2027 Package to DG MARE
- ▶ SDP 2021-2027 Adoption
- ▶ EMFAF GMS IT System Tested and Operational (Live Q1 2023)
- ▶ Draft schemes implementing the strategy and actions identified in the Programme.
- ▶ Approval of schemes by Monitoring Committee

Questions ?????

