

EUROPEAN MARITIME AND FISHERIES FUND (EMFF)



PHOTO: ISTOCK

STORNOWAY HARBOUR



PHOTO: ISTOCK

OBAN HARBOUR



PHOTO: K MUTCH

CREELS AT ANSTRUTHER

Background

The European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) is one of the five European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds designed to complement each other and promote a growth and job based recovery in Europe.

Designed to specifically support maritime and fisheries activity, the EMFF has been created to support the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and to encourage the development of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy. The Fund will:

- help fishermen in the transition to sustainable fishing
- Support sustainable aquaculture

- Support coastal communities in diversifying their economies
- Finance projects that create new jobs and improve quality of life along European coasts

Objectives

The objectives of the EMFF are to:

- Promote sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture
- Promote inclusive territorial development in fisheries areas
- Contribute to the implementation of the CFP



PHOTO: A HENLY

The EMFF structure

The EMFF is structured around four pillars but in addition to the four pillars, the EMFF will include accompanying measures including data collection and scientific advice, control, sustainability of fisheries markets and technical assistance. The four pillars are:

- 1. Smart, Green Fisheries:** to encourage sustainable fishing which is more selective, removes discards and contributes to the health of marine ecosystems, as well as to provide help focused on innovation and value added, making the fisheries sector economically viable and resilient to external shocks and to competition from third countries.
- 2. Smart, Green Aquaculture:** to achieve economically viable, competitive and green aquaculture, capable of facing global competition and providing EU consumers with healthy and high nutrition value products.
- 3. Sustainable and Inclusive Territorial Development:** to reverse the decline of many coastal and inland communities dependent on fishing, by adding more value to fishing and fishing related activities, and through diversification to other sectors of the maritime economy.
- 4. Integrated Maritime Policy:** to support those cross cutting priorities which generate savings and growth but which the Member States will not take forward on their own.

SUPPORTABLE ACTIVITIES

Sustainable development of fisheries

- **Innovation** - projects aimed at developing or introducing new or substantially improved products compared to the state of art, new or improved processes, new or improved management and organisation systems
- **Advisory services** - feasibility studies, business and marketing strategies
- Partnership and network building between **scientists and fishermen**
- **Professional training**, lifelong learning networking and the exchange of experience and best practice
- **Job creation** - business start-ups and skills development
- **Health and safety on board** - investment on board or on individual equipment
- **Development of design**, development, monitoring and evaluation measures under the CFP
- **Investments in equipment** limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment
- Developing or introducing **new technical or organisational knowledge** linked to the conservation of marine biological resources
- **Protection and restoration** of marine biodiversity and ecosystems
- **Sustainable fishing activities** - collection of waste, construction or installation of facilities, 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** improving fishing port infrastructure or landing sites
- **Inland Fishing**
- **Cessation measures** (potential to introduce)

Sustainable development of aquaculture

- **Innovation** – introducing new technical or organisational knowledge, developing or introducing in the market new or substantially improved products
- **Investments** in offshore and non-food aquaculture
- 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 farmers
- **Promotion of aquaculture** with high level of environmental protection
- Aquaculture providing **environmental services**
- **Fostering animal health** and welfare in aquaculture enterprises

Sustainable development of fisheries areas

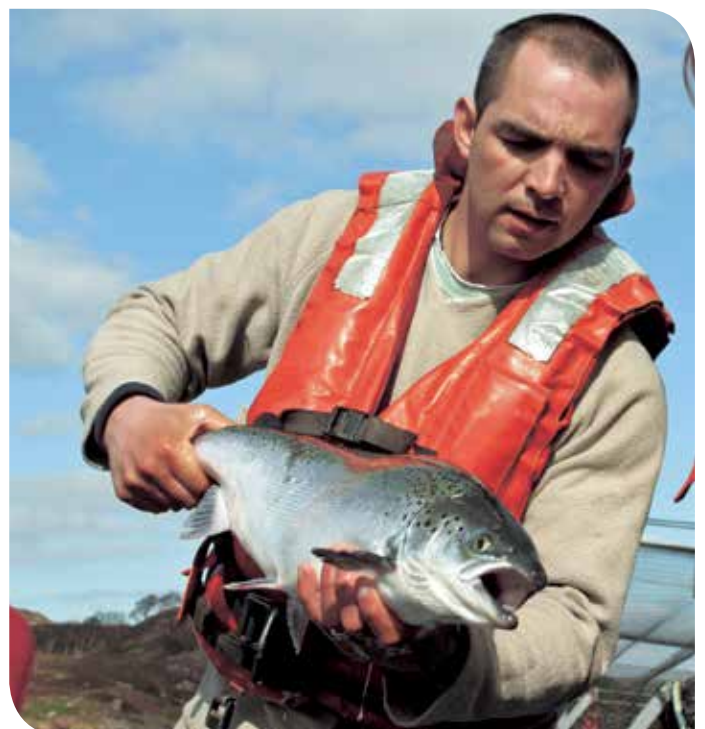
- Developing fisheries areas through **Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs)** and local development strategies

Marketing and processing

- **Production and marketing plans**
- **Storage aid**
- **Marketing measures**
- **Processing and marketing support to SMEs**



PHOTO: A WALKER



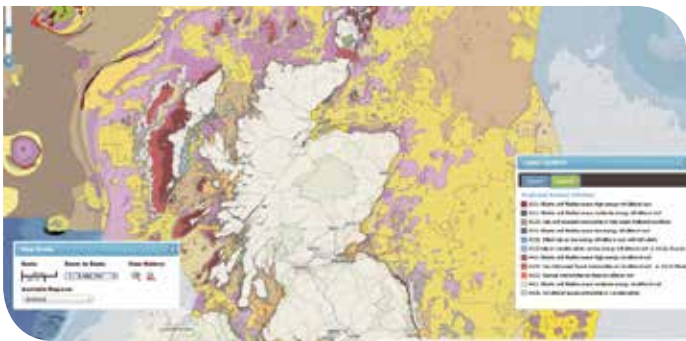
CHECKING OVER SALMON

Implementation

Each Member State will draw up a single operational programme to implement the approved priorities which will be co-financed by the EMFF. Funds are limited and support will be granted to the projects which best meet the strategic aims of the program, delivering on environmental, social and economic drivers.

In Scotland, support will focus on sustainable economic growth in the sea fisheries and aquaculture sectors, and assisting communities to deliver economic benefits during the transition phase of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) reform programme. During the early round of the programme, in line with the CFP reform timetable, particular focus will be given to projects which:

- Support the 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 Improves** the access to markets for Scottish seafood products
- **Deliver** sustainable diversification or complementary activity



AN EXAMPLE OF DATA AVAILABLE FROM THE FREE ON-LINE INTERACTIVE PORTAL 'NMPI'



FISH PROCESSING

PHOTO: ISTOCK

Further information can be found on the EMFF website

www.gov.scot/emff

Applications will be made through the EMFF e system. A link to the system can be found on the website with guidance covering all the measures.

If you are successful in being awarded grant, funds will be released on a phased basis against expenditure incurred and benefits delivered.

