

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF)

France

France – overview

Coast, lakes and ports

- Coastline of 18 000 km, representing 17 % of the total EU-23 coastline.
- Coastline extends across four regions (the Atlantic Ocean, the Channel, the North Sea and the Mediterranean Sea), and the outermost regions and French territories in the Pacific.
- There are about 65 fishing harbours in total, 5 of which are in the outermost regions.

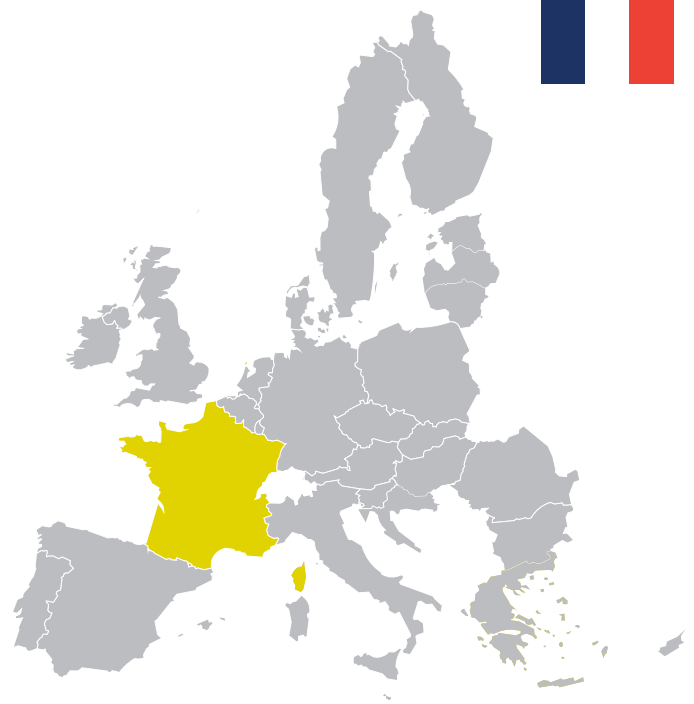
Potential

France produces approximately 900 000 tonnes of fisheries products per annum: 65 % comes from sea fishing, 35 % from aquaculture and a marginal proportion from inland fishing. Its population of some 65 million inhabitants consumes an average of almost 32kg per head of fisheries products each year, placing France well above the EU-28 average consumption level of 23.1kg per head.

Economic performance and employment

In 2013, the highly-diversified French fleet, with a broad range of vessel types targeting different species and comprising 103 fleet segments, included 7 121 vessels, 5 908 of which were active (including non-active vessels), with a combined gross tonnage of 156 000 GT, a total power of 876MW and an average age of 24 years: 42 % of the vessels operate in the Atlantic area, 21 % in the Mediterranean area and 37 % in overseas territories.

Total landing of catches was around 514 000 tonnes, generating a total income for the fleet of EUR 1.14 billion, equivalent to EUR 577 million in gross value added (GVA) and EUR 178 million in gross profit, with an average wage per employee of EUR 38 800. The number of fishing enterprises was 6059, with the vast majority owning a single vessel. Total employment was then estimated at 10 262 jobs or 7 150 full time equivalents (FTEs). Between 2009 and 2013, the level of employment fell by 14 % (1 698 jobs), and FTEs decreased by 21 % (1 908 FTEs).



Aquaculture production totalled 268 700 tonnes with a turnover of EUR 908.3 million. Total income reached EUR 992 million, with a GVA of EUR 485.1 million and net profit of EUR64.8 million for some 3249 enterprises (mostly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)). Total employment was estimated at 18 640 jobs or 10 581 FTEs, with an average wage of EUR 23 700 in 2013.

Turnover for the fish processing industry in that same year was EUR 5 billion, with a GVA of EUR 1.08 billion. While the number of enterprises has decreased from 327 to 295 since 2008, total employment has increased by 512 jobs, and was estimated at 16 184 jobs or 15 971 FTEs.

France's Operational Programme



Budget

Total (EU + national):
€ 774 353 018

EU contribution:
€ 587 980 173
(co-funding of 75.93 %)

The Operational Programme (OP) covers the six “Union Priorities” defined in the EMFF, namely:

1. promoting environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based **fisheries**;
2. fostering environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based **aquaculture**;
3. implementation of the **Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)**;
4. increasing **employment and territorial cohesion**;
5. fostering **marketing and processing**;
6. implementation of the **Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)**.

The EMFF OP has two main strategic objectives: (1) promoting more competitive fisheries and aquaculture sectors based on knowledge, innovation and high employment, and (2) promoting a more efficient use of resources through the sustainable development of its fisheries and aquaculture sectors. In contrast to the past, there is stronger emphasis on the preservation of resources and the marine environment, as well as on the development and competitiveness of businesses.



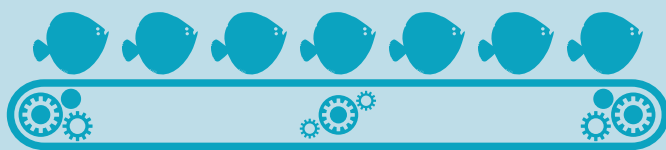
1. Fisheries

What?

The marine fisheries sector in France faces challenges in terms of its sustainability, at both the biological and economic level.

OP aim

The focus of Union Priority (UP)1 is on balancing support for economic activities with better consideration of environmental issues. Innovation, energy savings and scientific knowledge are emphasised.



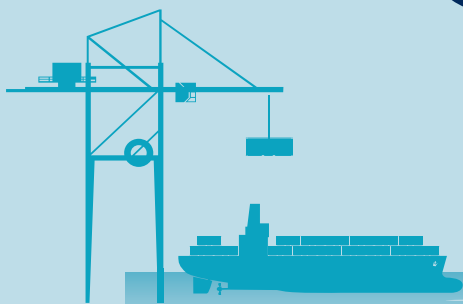
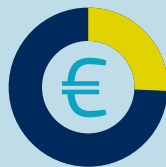
Key result

A sustainable, innovative and modern fishing fleet and sector.

Budget

€ 150 941 071

25.7 % of EMFF allocation



2. Aquaculture

What?

Several factors favour further development of the aquaculture sector: good environmental and climatic conditions, availability of adequate sea areas located at a reasonable distance from the coastline, access to both Atlantic and Mediterranean coastlines, the existence of appropriate infrastructure and skilled human resources, and accessibility to research facilities in France.

OP aim

The strategy for UP2 is anchored in a comprehensive national strategic plan for aquaculture. It is concentrated on technological development, innovation and knowledge transfer, competitiveness and viability of aquaculture enterprises, and protection and restoration of biodiversity.

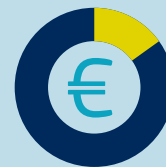
Key objective

By 2023, aquaculture activities are expected to treble, contributing to food supply, environmental protection and employment, both on the French mainland and in its outermost regions.

Budget

€ 88 789 702

15.1 % of EMFF allocation



3. Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)



What?

With regard to data collection, the main objective is to meet any needs arising during application of the CFP, and to ensure compliance with regulatory changes and the revision of the framework programme for data collection.

OP aim

The French OP addresses structural weaknesses in the French scientific data collection system through an action plan. For data collection, beyond fulfilling France's obligations under the Data Collection Framework, there is a will to improve the collection and management of data through rationalising the current set-up of databases, to better contribute to scientific knowledge and to adapt to the needs of the new CFP.

Regarding fisheries control and enforcement, France will prioritise implementation of the action plan for control, adopted in 2014. Four priorities have been identified:

- Guarantee the reliability and effectiveness of data collection and registration systems for captures data in-line with the commitments made in the action plans relating to the implementation of a efficient, proportionate and dissuasive sanctioning system and a points system for cases of serious infringement;
- Ensure the implementation of controls relating to the landings obligation;
- Maintain the French system for combating illegal unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU);
- Maintain a sufficient and proportionate level of control over all French waters and territories.

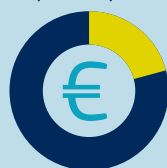
Key result

EMFF funding will support the collection, management and use of data required by the CFP, as well as the implementation of control, inspection and enforcement systems, as required by the CFP.

Budget

€ 122 279 457

20.8 % of EMFF allocation



4. Community-led local development strategies



What?

There is a stronger emphasis on local development with EUR 22 580 741 under EMFF attributed to UP4 as compared to EUR 5 699 644 under the EFF.

OP aim

The French OP targets better integration of fisheries and aquaculture activities using a sustainable development approach to territorial development. EMFF funding will help increase employment and territorial cohesion in fisheries-dependent areas by:

- maintaining current jobs and creating new jobs in fisheries and aquaculture (i.e. 800 FTEs and 500 FTEs respectively, and the creation of 20 enterprises);
- reinforcing the position of fisheries and aquaculture within the development of coastal territories from a blue growth perspective;

- strengthening the Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) network (50 % co-financing, with each FLAG benefiting from at least EUR2 million);
- creating added value through innovative projects and research.

Key result

Help fisheries and aquaculture-dependent communities diversify their economies, add value to their fishing activities strengthen their position within their territories.

Budget

€ 22 580 741

3.8 % of EMFF allocation



5. Marketing and processing



What?

Fish processing industry: Although the number of enterprises fell slightly during the period from 2008 to 2012, from 327 to 295, the industry created 512 jobs and now has 16 184 employees (or 15 971 FTEs).

OP aim

The French OP's main objective is to improve the marketing, diversification and value of aquatic products. Under UP5, the French OP assigns a central role to producer organisations (POs) that currently place almost 50 % of French produce on the market, through the implementation of production and marketing plans, and strengthening POs across its territory (both on the mainland and in the outermost regions).

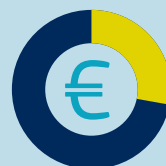
Key result

The processing sector will be modernised and its economic performance and sustainability supported through investment in the development of new or improved products, as well as through marketing and promotional campaigns.

Budget

€ 163 236 277

27.8 % of EMFF allocation



6. Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP)



For UP6, the OP has two clear main goals: (1) to increase the efficiency of maritime surveillance, and (2) to widen the network of marine-protected areas, and improve knowledge on the marine environment and its interaction with human activities.

Key results

Preservation and protection of the marine environment and its resources, and enhanced spatial planning and maritime surveillance.

Budget

€ 5 334 672

0.9 % of EMFF allocation



The remaining funds of EUR 34.8 million have been allocated to technical Assistance for the OP.

Simplification

In order to reduce current administrative burdens, the following measures will be used: increasing the use of flat rates and different methods of simplified costs options and profit using opportunities provided for in the regulations; establishing measures to increase the harmonisation and flexibility of the funding rules for beneficiaries, and to simplify management documents (requests for payments etc.); improving communication, information and assistance to beneficiaries (including by organising information events, guidance and other innovative practices); increasing use of e-administration (digitalisation of data and information transmission and storage); and using the OSIRIS e-tool for sharing information between French actors in implementing the EMFF. Finally, decentralisation of the EMFF to the regions aims to improve coherence between European Structural Funds and increase the responsibility of the regions.

Synergies

Coordination of funds is ensured by specific structures (coordination, evaluation and monitoring committees), as well as through channeling funds into limited key thematic objectives (due to the limited amount of available funding). These include research, development and innovation, support for SMEs, improving employability, supporting the shift to a low carbon economy and climate change mitigation. European Structural Investment funds will support implementation of many of the policy recommendations made in the context of the European Semester.

A new governance model shall be introduced for implementing ESI funds, as regional councils will be responsible for greater programme implementation (all of the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), and a portion of the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the European Social Fund (ESF)). This has given rise to a complex programme structure, with a total number of 75 programmes and a mixture of state and regionalised responsibility.

Success stories

Electric motors

The shipyard company Chaudronnerie Aluminium Inox (CAI) plans to test an electric motor to address the needs and constraints of fisheries professionals. The motor will be installed on a shellfish aquaculture barge and on a fisheries vessel for a year. The aim of this project is to reduce fuel consumption and protect the environment around the Arcachon Basin.

More information

Total cost: € 150 000 (€ 48 000 EU co-financing)

Product diversification: leather products from fish skin

A local association partnered with a Finnish cooperative of fishermen's wives in Vaasa to gain experience in leather tanning of fish skin. This Axis 4 project led to the registration of the FEMER trademark and the creation of a company by Arcachon FLAG, to produce and market leather products made of fish skins.

More information

Total cost: € 1 008 500 (€ 403 400 of EU co-financing)

Artificial reefs to protect Prado Bay seabeds in Marseille

Prado Bay has long been the victim of progressive silting. Sand covered the natural reefs, endangering the habitats of many animal and plant species. This project built some 401 artificial reefs of up to 30m deep, over an area of 220ha.

More information

Total cost: € 4 740 000 (€ 1 814 038 of EU co-financing)

More information

- European Commission Fisheries
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
- EFF 2007-2013
- EMFF 2014-2020
- Aquaculture multiannual national plan (See 3, document: PSNPDA VF.pdf)