



FAMENET

CT 3.1 EMFF implementation report 2022

Final

November 2023

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List of abbreviations

AIR	Annual Implementation Report
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy
CIR	Common Implementation Regulation
CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment
CLLD	Community-led Local Development
CMES	Common Monitoring and Evaluation System
COM	European Commission
CPR	Common Provision Regulation
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Funds
ESI Funds	European Structural and Investment Funds
EU	European Union
FFR	Fishing Fleet Register
FLAG	Fisheries Local Action Group
IB	Intermediate Body
IMP	Integrated Maritime Policy
IMSS	Integrated Maritime Surveillance
LAG	Local Action Group (see FLAG)
LO	Landing Obligation
MA	Managing Authority
MPA	Marine Protected Area
MSs	Member State
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics
OP	Operational Programme
PO	Producer Organisation
RI	Result Indicator

SCO	Simplified Cost Options
SME	Small or Medium-sized Enterprise
SO	Specific Objective
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSCF	Small-scale Coastal Fishing/Fishery
TA	Technical Assistance
TO	Thematic Objective
UP	Union Priority

Executive summary

The EMFF implementation report 2022 describes how the available EMFF financial support has been used by the Member States. The impact of the EMFF on key policy objectives and specific topics is highlighted. Reporting is based on the latest data available, which pertains to all operations supported between January 2014 and December 2022. The report aggregates and analyses the data provided by Member States on each operation they have supported (Infosys reporting). Additional context is taken from information provided by Member States in their Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs).

During 2022 implementation of the EMFF continued to advance. For the first time, support for productive investments in aquaculture in terms of amount committed is in the leading position, ahead of the usual frontrunners: data collection and control and enforcement. Implementation of local development strategies also speeded up significantly – commitments increased from EUR 442.8 million in 2021 to EUR 573.2 million in 2022.

COVID-19 pandemic-related emergency support¹ and compensations related to the Ukraine crisis² aided the absorption of EMFF funding.

EMFF implementation is rather concentrated, as around 60% of all commitments relate to just six EMFF Articles.

In many cases Member States have already committed most of the EMFF funding available, and their focus is now on finalising already-approved projects and submitting payment claims. One element contributing to a successful completion of the EMFF operational programmes is re-allocation of the remaining funding towards those priorities and measures where demand is present.

Commitments

By the end of 2022, EUR 5.6 billion of EMFF funding had been committed, corresponding to 99% of the total EMFF funding available (under shared management). Commitments made during 2022 were EUR 644 million, or around 11% of the total EMFF allocation. This is less than in 2020 and 2021 (EUR 797 million and EUR 843 million respectively). Reasons for the reduction include the fact that this is near the end of the programming period, with most funding already committed, and the extraordinarily high commitments related to compensations in 2020 and 2021. It is reasonable to forecast that the remaining EMFF funding will be committed during 2023.

¹ Regulation (EU) 2020/560 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2020 amending Regulations (EU) No 508/2014 and (EU) No 1379/2013 as regards specific measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak in the fishery and aquaculture sector (OJ L 130, 24.4.2020, p. 11).

² Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/500 of 25 March 2022 establishing the military aggression of Russia against Ukraine as the occurrence of an exceptional event causing a significant disruption of markets.

Notwithstanding a very high average level of EMFF commitments across the EU, differences between MSs persist – commitment rates range from 32% to over 100%.³

By Thematic Objectives⁴

EUR 2 822 million of the support committed – 51% of the total – contributes to the objective of enhancing the competitiveness of SMEs, most of which operate in remote communities.

EUR 1 854 million (33%) was committed to preserving and protecting the environment, for example through protection of Natura 2000 areas and promoting resource efficiency and waste reduction.

The remaining EUR 888 million is committed to a variety of topics, which notably include promoting quality employment and labour mobility, mostly via support for local development strategies.

By Union Priority

EUR 1 469 million, or 101.4% of the available allocation for the priority, has been committed to **Union Priority 1** “Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based fisheries”.

EUR 1 045 million or 99.2% of the available allocation for the priority has been committed to **Union Priority 2** “Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based aquaculture”.

EUR 1 118 million or 104.6% of the available allocation for the priority has been committed to **Union Priority 3** “Fostering the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy”.

EUR 591 million or 107.1% of the available allocation for the priority has been committed to **Union Priority 4** “Increasing employment and territorial cohesion”.

EUR 1 035 million or 88.6% of the available allocation for the priority has been committed to **Union Priority 5** “Fostering marketing and processing”.

EUR 63 million or 97.4% of the available allocation for the priority has been committed to **Union Priority 6** “Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy”.

³ *Over-commitment can be a deliberate process to ensure the best absorption of funding: MSs commit funding to new operations, taking into account the fact that some operations approved earlier could be abandoned. For several non-EUR MSs, this over-commitment results from fluctuation of currency exchange rates: commitments are reported in national currencies and later converted to EUR using fixed exchange rates. Another factor which impacts the reported commitments is interrupted and abandoned operations (Infosys state of progress codes 1 and 2) – MSs do not always adjust the amounts initially committed in the light of partial implementation or entire abandonment of operations. The impact of incorrect reporting of abandoned and interrupted operations can be estimated at EUR 186 million or around 3.3% of total commitments.*

⁴ *Article 9 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and the Council of 17 December 2013 laying down common provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund, the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and laying down general provisions on the European Regional Development Fund, the European Social Fund, the Cohesion Fund and the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 1083/2006 (OJ L 347, 20.12.2013, p. 320).*

By Measure

Six of the 51 measures in the EMFF account for EUR 3.3 billion, or 59.3% of all EMFF funding committed to date. These are: productive investments in **aquaculture** (EUR 585.5 million), **data collection** (EUR 578.5 million), **local development strategies** (EUR 573.2 million), **processing** of fisheries and aquaculture products (EUR 565.7 million), **control** (EUR 539.6 million), and **fishing ports** (EUR 458.0 million).

Expenditure declared

Expenditure declared by beneficiaries reached EUR 3.78 billion (67.2% of total EMFF funding) since the beginning of the programming period. Beneficiaries claimed EUR 654 million, or 11.6% of the total EMFF allocation, in 2022. This is less than in 2021 (EUR 756 million) when compensation payments related to the coronavirus outbreak were at their peak.

The average growth of declared expenditure was around 11% per year for the period from 2017 to 2022. This means that during 2023 MSs may face significant challenges in finalising all operations and processing payments for the remaining funding available.

The level of expenditure varies significantly between MSs, ranging from 30.8% to 93.9%. Overall, of every EUR committed, EUR 0.68 has been claimed by beneficiaries.

EMFF contribution to specific topics

This report provides dedicated sections on each of the topics below, with a full breakdown of relevant details; here is a short overview:

- **Support to the fishing fleet**

Of a total EMFF commitment of EUR 5 563 million, EUR 1 540 million (27.7%) was dedicated to operations linked to a Fishing Fleet Register (FFR) vessel number. EMFF spending on vessel-specific operations amounted to 30.4% of the total EMFF spending. During 2022 EMFF commitment and spending on these operations continued to increase, in part due to the active use of compensation measures related to mitigation of the coronavirus outbreak. During 2022 the number of operations increased from 48 088 to 62 600 (an increase of 30%). As of the end of 2022 the EMFF supported 23 626 fishing vessels. Compared to 16 211 vessels supported as of the end of 2021 this is an increase of 46%.

- **Small-scale coastal fisheries (SSCF)**

Of 62 600 operations linked to a vessel number, 27 389 (44.0%) were for SSCF vessels. This segment received 46% of the EMFF spending dedicated to specific vessels (EUR 525 million of EUR 1 147 million).

- **Landing obligation**

MSs selected 5 160 operations related to the landing obligation (LO), based on the FAMENET “broad approach”, with total EMFF funding of EUR 180.7 million. The FAMENET “narrow approach” identified 3 825 operations with total EMFF funding of EUR 130.0 million. Of these, 2 722 operations – with

EUR 61.3 million of EMFF funding committed – were implemented in relation to added value, product quality and use of unwanted catches (Article 42).

- **Innovation**

Operations related to innovation were selected under each operational programme: overall 1 344 operations with a total EMFF budget of EUR 286.0 million. As of the end of 2022, nearly half of all the commitments to innovations related to aquaculture (Article 47).

- **Natura 2000**

In total, EUR 524.5 million of the EMFF funding was committed, and EUR 363.7 million spent, under measures directly or potentially supporting the Natura 2000 network.

- **Biodiversity**

A wide range of EMFF measures potentially contribute to protection and restoration of biodiversity and ecosystems. MSs committed EUR 2 050 million of EMFF funding over a total of 60 957 operations.

- **Diversification**

In total 4 003 operations and EUR 166.1 million of EMFF commitments contributed to diversification as of the end of 2022. Most diversification-related operations were implemented under Article 63 CLLD, with EUR 145.5 million committed. Under productive investments in aquaculture, 138 operations with EUR 10.3 million in commitments were reported as related to diversification. In the fisheries sector, angling tourism was supported by 164 operations and nearly EUR 6 million committed.

- **Climate change**

Overall, the EMFF contribution to climate change objectives by the end of 2022 was EUR 964.7 million, or 17.8% of the total EMFF funding committed to date. The corresponding number for total EMFF funding already declared by beneficiaries was EUR 653.9 million, or 17.3% of total EMFF declared by beneficiaries.

- **Outermost regions**

Overall, EUR 268.5 million of the EMFF was committed towards 6 400 operations in the outermost regions, taking into account all operations implemented by ES, FR and PT with the relevant Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS). The largest part – EUR 174.1 million - was committed towards 4 894 operations implemented under the EMFF Article 70 Compensation regime.

- **Mitigation of the COVID-19 pandemic impact and Ukraine crisis**

Overall, EUR 209.8 million of the EMFF funding in 21 843 operations was committed to mitigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. This corresponds to 3.8% of total EMFF funding committed at the end of 2022. 59.0% (EUR 123.7 million) of the funding was allocated via the temporary cessation of fishing activities (Article 33).

EMFF commitments as COVID-19 compensation vary from 0.3% to 11.9% of total EMFF funding committed in the 20 MSs which provide this type of compensation. Variations are even larger for the amounts already paid – from 0.4% to 16.9% of total EMFF funding paid in these MSs. Individual compensation amounts are relatively small, with an EU average of around EUR 9 000 per operation. The number of operations related to compensations as a percentage of the total number of operations in MSs varies from 1.8% to 68.5%.

Compensations related to the Ukraine crisis helped stakeholders to deal with the negative effects of various market disruptions. In total 2 595 operations were reported, with EUR 13.4 million of EMFF funding committed.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The key mission of FAMENET is to support stakeholders in implementing the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) in three core areas:

- monitoring and evaluating the implementation of the EMFF and the EMFAF;
- implementing community-led local development (CLLD) in fisheries and aquaculture areas to foster a sustainable blue economy; and
- communicating the results of the EMFAF through written stories and videos, and supporting the INFORM EU network.

One of the primary responsibilities of FAMENET is to furnish reports on the advancement of EMFF implementation. 2022 was the second to last year of the EMFF implementation.

The managing authorities (MAs) of the EMFF operational programmes (OPs) report implementation progress according to:

- Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013 (Common Provision Regulation, CPR) Article 50 and Regulation 508/2014 Article 114 (EMFF Regulation), specifying that MAs shall prepare and submit an **annual implementation report (AIR) by 31 May each year**, from 2016 up to and including 2023. AIRs are subject to an admissibility and acceptance procedure by the COM. Quantitative data from AIR tables 1 to 4 are presented as of 7 September 2023. At that date the AIR acceptance procedure was not yet finalised for all MSs, so any subsequent AIR modifications are not taken into account in this report. Moreover, the implementation data for Ireland's operational programme represents the state of play as of 31 December 2021, taking into account that IE had not yet submitted its AIR 2022 by 7 September 2023.
- Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 **Article 97(1)(a)**, Regulation (EU) No. 2017/788 and Regulation (EU) No. 1242/2014 (Commission Implementing Regulation), specifying that MAs shall, **by 31 March each year**, provide the COM with relevant cumulative data on operations selected for funding up to the end of the previous calendar year, including key characteristics of the beneficiary and the operation itself. The Article 97(1)(a) report is often colloquially referred to as "Infosys". Infosys contains various complementary data that are not available in the AIR.

FAMENET aggregates the data of the Infosys reports and AIRs submitted by MAs with the purpose of presenting the state of play in terms of implementation of the operational programmes, and to demonstrate the effect of this on various policy objectives and specific topics. Compared to the AIRs, the structure of the Infosys data allows for more detailed analysis and the detection of reporting errors. Infosys data thus serve as the basis for the quantitative part of the EMFF report. Infosys data are compared to AIR data and explanations are provided where there are significant differences.⁵ The greatest value added from AIR reports comes from the qualitative information (for example, issues

⁵ See FAME SU: CT03.1 working paper EMFF AIR and EMFF Article 97(1)(a) reports differences, October 2018.

affecting the performance of the programme and the corrective measures taken; and descriptions of activities related to evaluation plans).

Contextual data regarding indicative allocated amounts are derived from the 2022 Annual Implementation Reports (AIRs).⁶

Several calculations are based on the methodology developed by FAMENET, which links EMFF articles to the various policy objectives of the common fisheries policy (CFP), the integrated maritime policy (IMP) and the EU 2020 Thematic Objectives (TOs), as well as towards contributions to the horizontal objectives and specific topics. Annex 1 of this report gives an overview of the methodology.

To ensure comparability with previous EMFF implementation reports, UK data are included in all aggregations.⁷

1.2 Purpose and target groups

The aim of this report is to highlight the most important achievements of the EMFF implementation, as provided through Infosys and the AIR, in a way that is timely and can be directly used for communication purposes or decision-making by the COM and MSs.

1.3 Structure of the document

The report broadly follows the structure of the AIR and represents the state of EMFF implementation as of 31 December 2022.

The report addresses the state of EMFF implementation at the level of Union Priorities (UPs), sea basins and MSs. It provides an overview of the main achievements of the OPs in relation to the CFP, the IMP objectives and the EU 2020 Thematic Objectives, as well as contributions to the horizontal objectives and specific topics. It also addresses EMFF absorption at the level of individual measures and provides an overview of the result indicators reported.

⁶ In line with Table 4 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 1362/2014 the content of the annual implementation report shall include financial data at the level of each measure. The AIRs are the only documents that provide indicative allocations for each measure. To ensure consistency, the contextual data for indicative allocations per measure from Table 4 of AIR 2022 is used everywhere for aggregations, even if more recent aggregated contextual OP data is available. The admissibility and acceptance procedure for AIR 2022 had not been finalised at the moment this report was compiled. Contextual AIR data may therefore not always be up-to-date in cases where an MS modified its EMFF operational programme after 31 December 2022.

⁷ In line with the Withdrawal Agreement, the UK will continue to honour its payments to the EU budget after 31 January 2020. The adopted EMFF programme will continue to be implemented and EU budget commitments respected. This report will continue to present data on the financial execution and achievements of the programmes involving the UK until their closure.

2 Overview of the implementation of the operational programmes

2.1 Key developments

In the AIR section “Overview of the implementation of the operational programmes”, managing authorities (MAs) provide a concise summary of key implementation issues for the relevant year, utilising both result and output indicators. This section offers a comprehensive view of the overall progress of the programmes, focusing on significant elements, including external factors, and where possible presenting general conclusions on the progress achieved.

While in 2021, the most frequently mentioned issues were the COVID-19 pandemic crisis and the approaching end of the funding period, in 2022, the market disruption caused by Russia’s aggression against Ukraine emerged as a significant factor influencing OP implementations across Europe.

In total, EUR 5.56 billion (EUR 5.36 billion in the AIR⁸) of EMFF funding was committed, accounting for 99.0% of the total available funding. Some MSs reported more difficulties with payments to beneficiaries, with only two-thirds of the total EMFF funding available being paid to beneficiaries at the EU level by the end of 2022.

The Commission approved 14 OP modification requests in 2022 (compared to 15 in 2021 and 32 in 2020). Individual countries saw the number of OP modifications ranging from three up to 11 for the entire period until the end of 2022.

A non-exhaustive overview of the content MSs presented in the AIR section concerning the implementation of the operational programme includes the management of the OP and its amendments, calls for proposals, financial implementation, achievement of output and result indicators, factors impacting OP implementation, findings of national and EU audits, and certification of expenditure in relation to the N+3 rule.⁹

To achieve the commitment of the entire funding available, among the solutions mentioned by MSs were modifying the OP, reallocating funding between measures and UPs, and adjusting output and result indicators. Additionally, MSs referred to the completion and monitoring of projects. They organised informational events and maintained regular communication with beneficiaries, provided training in public procurement, introduced simplified cost options, and implemented online platforms. They also resorted to reallocating funding between measures and regions in the case of regionalised OP implementation. Efforts were made to speed up payments to beneficiaries, and some MSs adjusted national legislation to simplify OP implementation and enhance efficiency. Several MSs also mentioned the possibility of over-commitments,¹⁰ although this solution depended on national legislation and was not always permitted.

⁸ Please see section 2.1 for explanations of discrepancies between Infosys and AIR.

⁹ The so-called “n+3” rule means that all 2014-2020 cohesion policy funds must be spent by the end of the third year after their allocation. For example, for funds allocated in 2019, the final year to spend them was 2022.

¹⁰ Over-commitments can be a deliberate process to ensure the best absorption of funding: MSs commit funding to new operations, taking into account the fact that some operations approved earlier could be abandoned.

During 2022, the EMFAF programmes for the period 2021-2028 were adopted, and several MSs detailed the steps taken to prepare these programmes.

The pandemic's impact and the negative consequences arising from market disruptions due to Russia's aggression against Ukraine were commonly mentioned challenges. These issues included sharp rises in the prices of key production inputs such as energy, fishing materials, logistics, packaging costs, and fish feed, as well as a loss of export markets. Many of these challenges were mitigated through compensation measures. In response to the pandemic, the majority of MSs provided financial support in line with Regulation (EU) 2020/560.¹¹ Compensation measures to alleviate the consequences of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine on fishing activities and the supply chain of fishery and aquaculture products were provided according to the relevant amendments of the Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014.

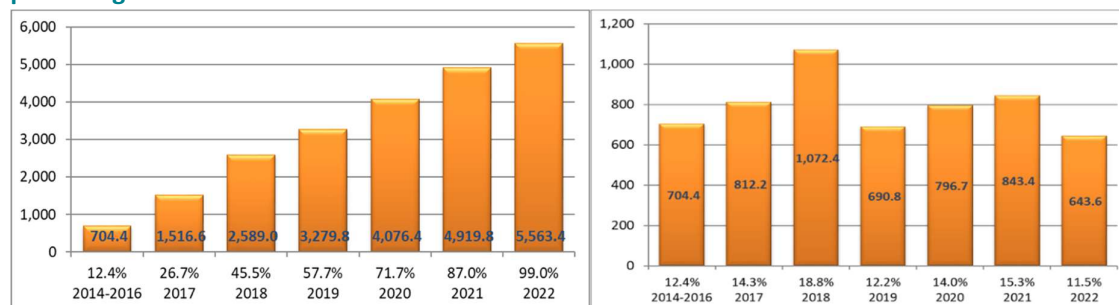
For non-EUR countries, exchange rate fluctuations have in some cases forced them to carefully monitor the level of commitments (HU, PL, SE, UK).

¹¹ Regulation (EU) 2020/560 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 23 April 2020 amending Regulations (EU) No 508/2014 and (EU) No 1379/2013 as regards specific measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak in the fishery and aquaculture sector (OJ L 130, 24.4.2020, p. 11).

2.2 EMFF implementation progress

EMFF implementation is approaching the final stage, as demonstrated by the overall EMFF commitment rate of 99.0% at the end of 2022 (Figure 1).

Figure 1: EMFF funds committed, cumulative (left) and per year (right), in million EUR and as a percentage of total allocation¹²



Source: Infosys 2022

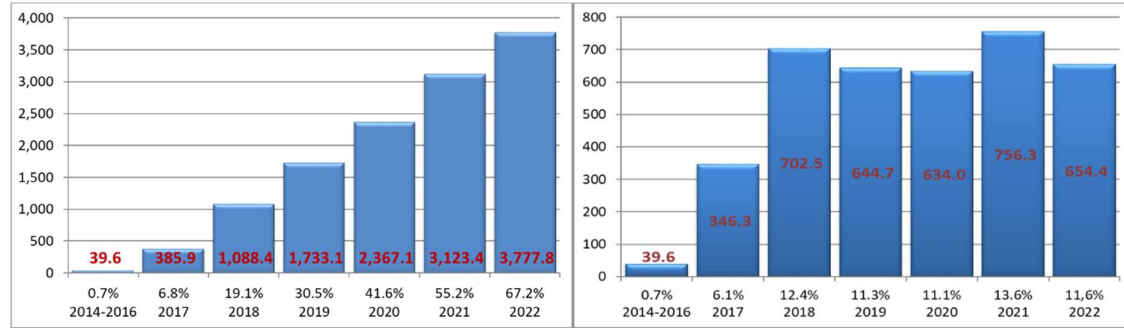
Commitments vary from year to year (Figure 1). Commitments in 2020 and 2021 were slightly higher, thanks in part to mitigation measures provided by the European Commission in relation to coronavirus. Nearly all available EMFF financing has already been committed by the end of 2022, and the emphasis is expected to shift towards successfully finalising operations in progress and processing payments to beneficiaries.

With expenditure of EUR 3.78 billion declared by beneficiaries, the total EMFF absorption rate has reached 67.2%. Figure 2 shows that 2021 was a peak year in which MSs paid beneficiaries 13.6% of the total EMFF allocation. This can be explained mostly by two factors: earlier approved operations which were maturing, and measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak. It can be assumed that market disruptions related to both COVID-19 and the Ukraine crisis had their impact on the implementation of operations in 2022 and thus slowed payments to beneficiaries.

During 2017-2022 the average rate of payments was around 11% per year of total EMFF funding available. Payments to beneficiaries and certification of expenses therefore need to accelerate significantly in 2023 (the final year of the eligibility of EMFF expenditure) to avoid the risk that part of the EMFF funding will be lost.

¹² Infosys data on annual EMFF funding committed are calculated by date of approval of each operation (Infosys field 13 "Date of approval"). Annual time series of EMFF funding committed are subject to MS-introduced modifications related to earlier reporting periods (for example, correction of errors and changes to approval dates). The total EMFF allocation is also subject to change due to decommitments. As a result, time series presented in EMFF reports may change each year.

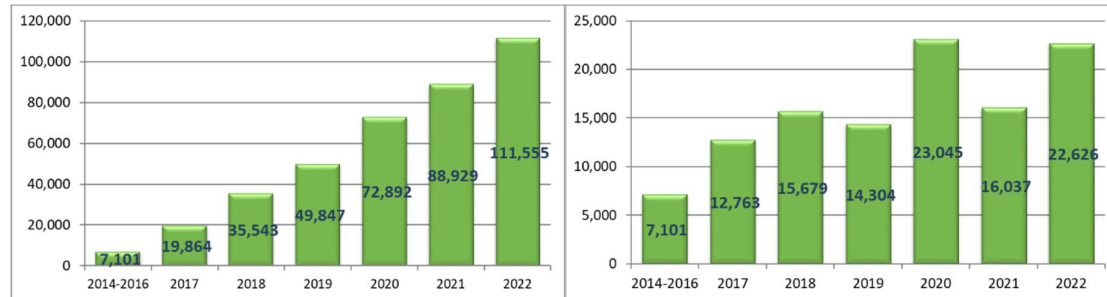
Figure 2: EMFF spending, cumulative (left) and per year (right), as a percentage of total allocation¹³



Source: Infosys 2022

More than 111 000 operations have already been reported during the 2014-2022 period. The two peak years by number of operations were 2020 and 2022. This is partially explained by the wide introduction of compensation measures (Figure 3).

Figure 3: EMFF number of approved operations, cumulative (left) and per year (right)



Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.1 EMFF implementation per UP

The EMFF pursues the following Union Priorities for the sustainable development of fisheries, aquaculture and related activities:

- Union Priority 1 – Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based fisheries
- Union Priority 2 – Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based aquaculture
- Union Priority 3 – Fostering the implementation of the CFP
- Union Priority 4 – Increasing employment and territorial cohesion
- Union Priority 5 – Fostering marketing and processing
- Union Priority 6 – Fostering the implementation of the IMP

¹³ Calculating spending is to some extent less straightforward than calculating commitments. Infosys data on annual EMFF spending are calculated by subtracting the previous year's data from the current year's data. Moreover, this approach encounters the same challenges as those involved in calculating commitments. As a result, time series presented in EMFF reports may change each year.

Table 1: EMFF implementation per UP

UP	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
UP1	1 448 155 290	1 468 613 897	101.4	960 107 599	66.3	66 620
UP2	1 053 601 093	1 045 378 182	99.2	636 876 921	60.4	13 158
UP3	1 069 341 038	1 118 105 425	104.6	873 090 483	81.6	1 535
UP4	551 764 730	590 957 830	107.1	311 744 878	56.5	13 920
UP5	1 168 221 921	1 035 299 487	88.6	770 833 569	66.0	14 012
UP6	64 343 930	62 655 522	97.4	44 350 469	68.9	269
TA	263 037 365	242 410 843	92.2	180 779 850	68.7	2 041
Total	5 618 465 367	5 563 421 187	99.0	3 777 783 769	67.2	111 555

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

As programme implementation comes to an end, commitments approach total allocations for all UPs. The overall EMFF commitment rate reached 99%. For UP1, UP3 and UP4 MSs even reported over-commitments in Infosys. Over-commitments are practiced by some MSs at the end of the programming period in order to achieve maximum absorption of the available funding, in case some approved operations are cancelled or fail to deliver.

In absolute terms, the most advanced of the Union Priorities is UP1, with EUR 1.47 billion – or 101.4% of the total allocation – already committed (Table 1). Commitments to UP3 amount to EUR 1.1 billion.

The UP2 commitment is EUR 1.0 billion and constitutes 99.2% of the EMFF allocation available for this Priority.

UP1 accounts for 66 620 operations, or about 60% of all EMFF operations.

The overall EMFF absorption rate is 67.2% (55.3% in 2021). UP3 leads with 81.6% (EUR 873.1 million) of the total available EMFF funding already paid to beneficiaries. UP3 covers data collection and control, which are usually performed by state-governed entities. This implies an easier path to implementation, and as a result UP3 has been the best performer in relation to total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries.

In absolute terms, UP1 paid beneficiaries EUR 960.1 million. Payments under UP2 and UP4 continued to progress during 2022 and reached 60.4% and 56.5% of the total allocations to these priorities. However, these priorities remain the slowest in terms of payments to beneficiaries.

2.2.2 EMFF implementation per sea basin

Looking at the various sea basins, for the purpose of this report FAMENET applied a simplified approach based on a common agreement with DG MARE from 2017. Under this arrangement, MSs are grouped by sea basin in the order below, ignoring the fact that several MSs have operations in more than one basin:

- Black Sea – BG, RO

- Mediterranean Sea – CY, GR, HR, IT, MT, SI
- Atlantic Ocean – ES, FR, IE, PT, UK
- North Sea – BE, DE, DK, NL
- Baltic Sea – EE, FI, LT, LV, PL, SE
- Landlocked – AT, CZ, HU, SK

The most significant part of the EMFF funding – EUR 2.43 billion – is allocated to the Atlantic basin (Table 2). Commitment in the Atlantic sea basin has exceeded EUR 2.3 billion, or 95.3% of the total planned EMFF allocation. In monetary terms, the Mediterranean and Baltic Sea basins are the next most significant, with EUR 1.4 billion and EUR 1.0 billion respectively in commitments. In relative terms, both Mediterranean and Baltic Sea basin countries have reported over-commitments (110.0% and 100.1%). The number of operations is highest in the Atlantic (45 230) and Mediterranean (36 599), mostly due to the numerous cessations, both permanent and temporary.

In terms of absorption, the leader again is the Atlantic basin with EUR 1.7 billion already claimed by beneficiaries. In relative terms, the highest share (71.7%) of the total planned EMFF allocation was claimed in the North Sea basin. Absorption remains slower in the Mediterranean Sea (57.9% declared).

Table 2: EMFF implementation per sea basin

Sea basin	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Atlantic	2 428 351 010	2 315 103 189	95.3	1 719 600 907	70.8	45 230
Baltic	1 030 005 010	1 030 998 826	100.1	709 437 298	68.9	20 453
Black sea	249 245 098	230 726 445	92.6	158 074 294	63.4	1 434
Landlocked	85 871 966	82 349 556	95.9	54 754 380	63.8	1 704
Mediterranean	1 253 771 292	1 379 154 310	110.0	726 219 186	57.9	36 599
North Sea	571 220 991	525 088 862	91.9	409 697 705	71.7	6 135
Total	5 618 465 367	5 563 421 187	99.0	3 777 783 769	67.2	111 555

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

2.2.3 EMFF implementation per MS

EMFF implementation per Member State varies significantly (Annex 2).¹⁴ Commitment rates range from 32.0% (Slovakia) to over-commitments in several MSs.¹⁵ The highest commitments are for Spain – EUR 942 million (22 829 operations), France – EUR 583 million (6 976 operations), Poland – EUR 541 million (12 330 operations), and Italy – EUR 515 million (20 270 operations).

Progress in EMFF absorption also differs notably among MSs. In relative terms it is led by Austria, Ireland and Finland, with respectively 93.9%, 93.6% and 91.5% of the total EMFF funding available to

¹⁴ Data provided in the AIR compared to data reported in Infosys are not always coherent. For some MSs the discrepancies are significant. In Annex 2 are two tables that relate to EMFF implementation per MS: one is based on Infosys data and the other is based on the AIR. Analysis in this section is based on Infosys data.

¹⁵ Over-commitments are practiced by some MSs at the end of the programming period in order to achieve maximum absorption of the available funding, in case some approved operations are cancelled or fail to deliver.

beneficiaries already paid. Spain, having the largest EMFF budget, paid beneficiaries 67% of the total EMFF funding available. Countries with an absorption rate of less than 50% are Greece and Slovakia.

Overall, of every EUR committed, EUR 0.68 has been paid to beneficiaries.

Table 3 reveals commitment and absorption per size of OP allocation. The OPs were divided into three groups:

- total EMFF allocation below EUR 100 million (11 MSs: AT, BE, BG, CY, CZ, FI, HU, LT, MT, SI and SK);
- total EMFF allocation from EUR 100 million to EUR 300 million (10 MSs: DE, DK, EE, HR, IE, LV, NL, RO, SE, UK);
- total EMFF allocation above EUR 300 million (6 MSs: EL, ES, FR, IT, PL, PT).

As EMFF implementation approaches its final year, commitment and absorption rates converge between these three groups. The slightly higher commitment rate for the group with the largest allocations is partially explained by over-commitments in EL and erroneous reporting of abandoned and interrupted operations by PL, IT and PT.

EMFF expenditure declared is the highest for OPs belonging to the middle group. Nearly every third operation is implemented in the six MSs with total EMFF allocations above EUR 300 million.

Table 3: EMFF implementation by size of Operational Programme

Total EMFF allocation per MS (EUR million)	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate (%)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate (%)	Number of operations
< 100	430 387 206	405 728 761	94.3	300 305 913	69.8	8 660
100–300	1 702 241 029	1 653 691 666	97.1	1 235 815 416	72.6	21 345
> 300	3 485 837 132	3 504 000 760	100.5	2 241 662 440	64.3	81 550
Total	5 618 465 367	5 563 421 187	99.0	3 777 783 769	67.2	111 555

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

2.2.4 EMFF implementation per measure

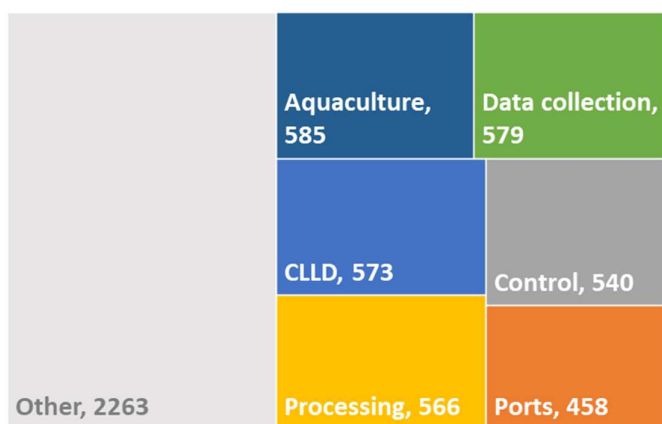
Data provided in the AIR compared to data reported in Infosys are not always consistent. For the EMFF funding committed and spent, however, most of the differences could be judged as negligible at the level of general observations. To allow comparison, Annex 3 includes two tables related to EMFF implementation per measure: one is based on Infosys data and the other is based on the AIR. Analysis in this section is based on Infosys data.

Also at the end of 2022, Article 35 (Mutual funds for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents) remains the only one where MSs have not made commitments.

Implementation per article varies considerably, both absolutely – in terms of the EMFF funding committed and paid for – and in relative terms when compared to the planned allocation. We also observe that the concentration of committed funding is rather pronounced, with nearly 60% of total EMFF commitments related only to six articles (Figure 4).

In absolute terms, for the first time the Article with the most uptake relates to the aquaculture sector. In total EUR 585.5 million were committed as of the end of 2022. This corresponds to the 105.3% of total planned EMFF allocation under Article 48(1)(a-d,f,g) (Productive investments in aquaculture). Data collection (Article 77) has EUR 578.5 million in commitments; here too, all available funding has already been committed. Significant progress in implementation of local development strategies (Article 63) led to EMFF commitments of EUR 573.2 million. Support for processing of fisheries and aquaculture products (Article 69) comes next, with EUR 565.7 million or 98.0% of planned EMFF amount already committed. This is followed by EUR 539.6 million (or more than all planned EMFF allocation) committed under Article 76 (Control and enforcement). Investment in fishing ports and landing sites (Article 43(1,3)) also had a good uptake, with EUR 458.0 million in commitments; this is the last of the top six articles.

Figure 4: EMFF committed per Article (EUR million) presented as a tree map chart

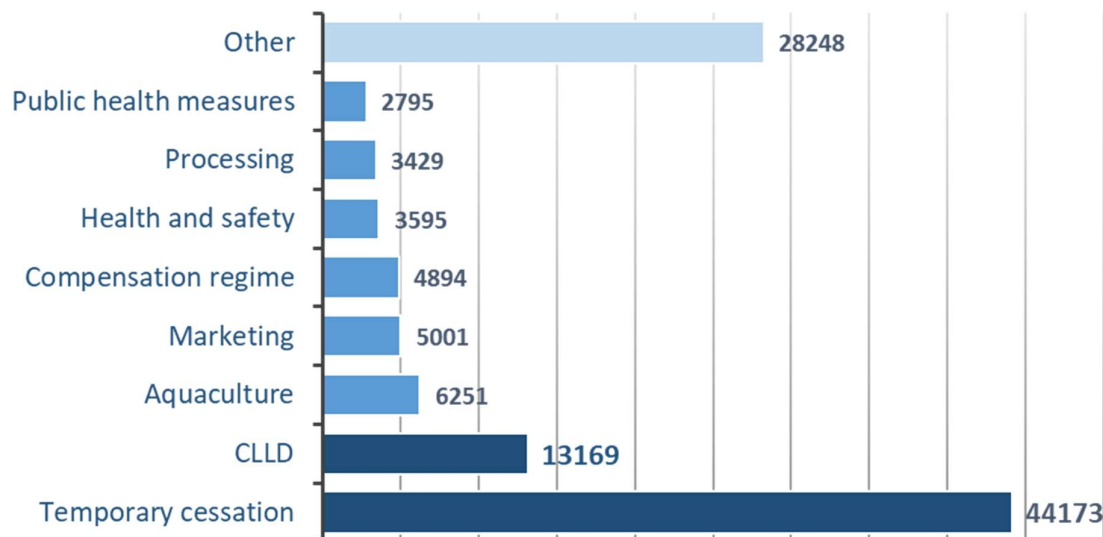


Source: Infosys 2022

Measures attracting the least interest relate to conversion to eco-management, audit schemes and organic aquaculture (Article 53), with only one operation, and to trainees on board SSCF vessels (Article 29(3)), where 49 operations have been implemented.

Nearly 40%, or 44 173, of all EMFF operations (Figure 5) have been implemented under Article 33 (Temporary cessation). This number continued to grow rapidly: 12 496 was the number of operations in December 2019, 23 239 in December 2020, and 31 955 in December 2021. In monetary terms the commitment under this Article is moderate: EUR 227.3 million. 18 912 of these temporary cessation operations were reported as related to coronavirus impact mitigation.

Figure 5: Number of operations per Article



Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.5 Types of operations for selected Articles

The EMFF is the only ESI Fund to ensure reporting at the level of operations. This allows FAMENET to compile data related to EMFF contributions to various specific topics. Infosys also provides the opportunity to analyse EMFF support for specific measures by the type of operation or investment (Infosys data fields 20 and 21). Such detailed statistics have proved helpful in preparing the answers to various data requests and also for tailoring certain policy decisions.

In this section we analyse the following selected measures according to their type of operation or type of investment:

- Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment (Article 38);
- Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity (Article 40(1)(b-g,i));
- Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (Article 41(2));
- Productive investments in aquaculture (Article 48);
- Aquaculture providing environmental services (Article 54);
- Implementation of local development strategies (Article 63);
- Marketing measures (Article 68);
- Processing of fisheries and aquaculture products (Article 69);
- Control and enforcement (Article 76),
- Promotion of protection of marine environment and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources (Article 80(1)(b)).

A complete breakdown is shown in Annex 4.

In total, EUR 23.9 million, or 1 774 operations, were implemented in relation to **Article 38: Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species**. More than half of all the committed EMFF funding was devoted to gear selectivity – EUR 13.0 million, or 1 014 operations. The next most popular types of operation were to protect gear and catches from mammals and birds (EUR 4.4 million for 351 operations) and to reduce discards or to deal with unwanted catches (EUR 4.4 million for 296 operations).

EUR 236.2 million in 2 710 operations was committed to **Article 40(1)(b-g,i): Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – contribution to a better management or conservation, construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities**. There are seven types of operations under this Article (Annex 4). 44% (1 206 operations) of all operations relate to other actions enhancing biodiversity (EUR 90.4 million committed). Another popular type is management of resources, with 1 116 operations and EUR 74.8 million in commitments. These two types of operations comprise 71% of all EMFF committed funding under this Article.

There are two types of operations under **Article 41(2): Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change – Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines**. More than three-quarters (EUR 2.6 million for 617 operations) of the total commitment was allocated to engine replacement; the remainder was for engine modernisation.

Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h): Productive investments in aquaculture is the measure with the most uptake, with EUR 585.5 million of EMFF funding committed. About 64% (EUR 374.4 million) of these commitments were classified as productive investments. Modernisation was the second most popular type of operation, with EUR 174.0 million in commitments. The remaining 6% of commitments were spread amongst five other types of operations (quality of products, restoration, diversification, complementary activities, and animal health).

Of the EUR 29.7 million committed to operations related to **Article 48(1)(e,i,j): Productive investments in aquaculture – resource efficiency**, 64% (EUR 36.8 million) targeted the development of closed recirculation systems.

In total, 2 062 operations with EUR 96.2 million in commitments are implemented under **Article 54: Aquaculture providing environmental services**. This article has three types of operations. The largest proportion of the EMFF committed budget relates to aquaculture operations including conservation and improvement of environment and biodiversity – EUR 56.6 million in 1 535 operations.

Article 63: Implementation of local development strategies is, overall, one of the best-performing measures, with EUR 573.2 million in EMFF commitments. ‘Adding value’ with EUR 162.8 million in commitments (around 28% of total commitments under Article 63) is in the lead. ‘Adding value’ is followed by ‘diversification’, ‘socio-cultural’, ‘running costs and animation’, ‘environmental’ and ‘governance’. Infosys also provides a detailed split of CLLD operations per type of beneficiary. 5 143 operations (39% of total number of operations) with EUR 214.3 million (38% of total commitments) in EMFF commitments are implemented by legal persons. Public authorities implement 2 994 operations (23%) with EUR 166.3 million (29.1%) in commitments. Natural persons are in charge of 2 499 operations (19%) and EUR 80.3 million (14%) of commitments. NGOs are reported as responsible for 854 operations (7%) and EUR 57.7 million (10%) of EMFF committed. The rest is implemented by fishers’ and producers’ organisations, research centres/universities, and by mixed types of beneficiaries.

The total EMFF funding committed to **Article 68: Marketing measures** was EUR 175.8 million for 5 002 operations (the number of operations more than doubled compared to 2 098 operations at the end of 2021). Three types of operations were chosen more often than the others: Communication and promotional campaigns (858 grants with EUR 65.9 million EMFF committed), finding new markets and improving marketing conditions (930 operations with an EMFF commitment of EUR 55.3 million) and promoting quality and value added with focus on direct marketing (2 238 operations with EUR 20.9 million committed). To support the creation of producer organisations, associations and inter-branch organisations, 29 operations with an EMFF commitment of EUR 2.0 million were implemented. Traceability and ecolabels were supported by 57 operations with EMFF commitment of EUR 4.0 million.

Processing of fisheries and aquaculture products (Article 69) was also amongst the most popular measures implemented, with a total EMFF funding of EUR 565.7 million committed for 3 429 operations. The following types of operations attracted most of the funding: new or improved products, processes or management systems with EUR 322.0 million in commitments (57% of the total) in 1 907 operations (56% of the total); improved safety, hygiene, health and working conditions (EUR 110.2 million, 743 operations); and energy saving or reducing the impact on the environment (EUR 91.1 million, 594 operations). On the other hand, in terms of amounts committed beneficiaries were least attracted by the processing of by-products (EUR 8.7 million, 70 operations).

The fifth most popular EMFF measure relates to **Control and enforcement (Article 76)** with a total of EUR 539.6 million of EMFF funding committed. Amongst the wide range of types of investment, the top four were purchase, installation and development of technology; purchase of other control means; modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircraft and helicopters; and operational costs. These types of investment together attracted 79% of total commitments.

Under **Article 80(1)(b): Promotion of protection of marine environment and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources** EUR 12.0 million was committed. Of this figure, EUR 8.5 million relates to marine protected areas and EUR 3.5 million to Natura 2000. In total 79 operations were implemented.

2.2.6 Average EMFF support per UP and per measure

Variations amongst UPs are notable, with the average EMFF support per operation ranging from EUR 22 046 for UP1 to EUR 728 407 for UP3 (Table 4). The average amount of EMFF support across all UPs and technical assistance (TA) is close to EUR 50 000.

Measures for UP3 (data collection and for control and enforcement) are usually implemented by state-governed institutions, so UP3 grant agreements often cover a wide range of tasks and long time periods of implementation. UP3 is followed by UP6, whose average EMFF commitment amounts to EUR 232 920.

The average size of EMFF commitment per operation for UP1, UP2, UP4 and UP5 does not exceed EUR 100 000. However, some MSs have reported several large operations under these UPs. The highest commitment for one operation in UP1 is close to EUR 33 million – support provided under Article 41(1)(3) (Fishing ports), and in UP5 it was EUR 60.9 million. In the latter case the operation was implemented by ES under Article 70 (Compensation regime), and refers to the entire Spanish compensation plan for the 2014-2020 period.

Table 4: Average and maximum EMFF committed to an operation per Union Priority

UP	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)
UP1	66 620	22 046	32 925 875
UP2	13 158	79 678	9 217 646
UP3	1 535	728 407	57 020 906
UP4	13 920	42 454	2 556 583
UP5	14 012	73 929	60 900 000
UP6	269	232 920	4 159 993
TA	2 041	119 062	7 237 830

Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.7 Average EMFF support by Member State

This section presents information on the average and maximal size of a single operation in each MS (Table 5). The average size of an operation may depend on several factors. These include the types of measures where MSs have the most commitments; in data collection and control and enforcement, for instance, the average size of operation is expected to be higher than under other measures. Other factors may include the size of the EMFF budget (MSs with larger budgets may have larger operations) and the progress of EMFF implementation (MSs with fewer operations may have distorted averages).

The average amount of funding per operation varies widely amongst MSs, ranging from EUR 22 983 in FI to EUR 223 923 in RO. When calculating averages, however, we need to take into account the effect of extremes. In a number of MSs the largest operations have EMFF funding of several million euros, and several operations exceed EUR 30 million.

The MSs with the highest average amounts are RO, MT, NL and HU. Those with the lowest average funding per operation are CY, FI, CZ, and IT.

Table 5: Average and maximum EMFF funding committed to an operation per Member State

MS	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)
AT	7 467 928	225	33 191	495 000
BE	46 801 701	373	125 474	5 335 836
BG	68 382 629	709	96 449	2 864 831
CY	38 328 907	1 580	24 259	5 204 906
CZ	32 519 439	1 230	26 439	290 946
DE	176 483 872	3 090	58 130	23 079 682
DK	199 430 261	2 136	93 366	12 194 501
EE	91 351 760	1 795	50 892	4 500 000
EL	506 964 295	9 989	50 752	27 203 408
ES	941 826 032	22 829	41 256	60 900 000
FI	72 397 956	3 150	22 983	14 071 480

MS	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)
FR	582 546 255	6 976	83 507	9 215 808
HR	275 639 703	4 450	61 942	13 535 387
HU	39 359 567	222	177 295	2 479 678
IE	146 869 833	3 320	44 238	17 465 331
IT	514 887 854	20 270	25 401	31 633 884
LT	54 134 459	834	64 909	3 764 220
LV	163 348 583	1 268	128 824	12 480 993
MT	21 896 577	114	192 075	5 701 331
NL	102 373 027	536	190 994	12 800 000
PL	540 822 203	12 330	43 862	32 925 875
PT	416 954 121	9 156	45 539	7 827 747
RO	162 343 815	725	223 923	7 237 830
SE	108 943 864	1 076	101 249	4 718 914
SI	21 436 974	196	109 372	1 832 657
SK	3 002 623	27	111 208	626 217
UK	226 906 947	2 949	76 944	11 409 392
EU	5 563 421 187	111 555	49 872	

Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.8 Average EMFF support by measure implemented

This section presents information on the average and maximal size of EMFF commitment to individual operations, broken down by measure (Table 6).

The average values range from EUR 2 044 for protection and restoration of marine biodiversity (Article 40(1)(h)) to EUR 2 058 884 for data collection (Article 77). The second-largest average operation size (EUR 505 499) is for integrating maritime surveillance (Article 80(1)(a)) and the third-largest (EUR 444 913) is for support for systems of allocation of fishing opportunities.

Support for fishing ports and shelters to facilitate compliance with the landing obligation (Article 43(2)) as well as to improve the infrastructure of fishing ports and auction halls, and construction of shelters to improve safety of fishers (Article 43 (1, 3)), are other measures that are apparently implemented via larger-scale projects, since the average operation size here is around EUR 300 000.

Table 6: Size of operations by measures implemented

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)
Article 26	51 038 696	336	151 901	1 605 000
Article 27	7 531 546	79	95 336	1 249 195

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)
Article 28	54 311 695	200	271 558	4 374 595
Article 29(1,2)	17 627 050	1 176	14 989	883 194
Article 29(3)	455 021	49	9 286	16 000
Article 30	10 496 459	358	29 320	59 449
Article 31	8 751 012	293	29 867	56 250
Article 32	49 301 321	3 595	13 714	457 035
Article 33	227 320 176	44 173	5 146	378 695
Article 34	114 819 559	1 784	64 361	631 870
Article 36	7 563 527	17	444 913	1 643 447
Article 37	32 568 234	375	87 081	1 828 874
Article 38	23 865 290	1 774	13 453	327 000
Article 39	40 103 657	195	205 660	1 506 489
Article 40(1)(a)	22 660 979	535	42 357	1 722 753
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	236 155 446	2 714	87 078	25 344 706
Article 40(1)(h)	5 543 352	2 712	2 044	157 419
Article 41(1)(a-c)	16 166 142	1 206	13 405	342 348
Article 41(2)	3 241 692	724	4 477	36 480
Article 42	61 257 871	2 722	22 505	2 250 000
Article 43(1,3)	457 980 064	1 539	297 583	32 925 875
Article 43(2)	19 855 107	64	310 236	3 115 549
Article 47	140 576 892	613	230 077	3 321 424
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	585 459 593	6 251	94 095	9 217 646
Article 48(1)(e,i,j)	57 552 260	283	204 086	2 251 215
Article 48(1)(k)	7 282 744	258	28 338	348 610
Article 49	17 780 842	124	143 394	2 210 915
Article 50	9 925 945	201	50 131	878 525
Article 51	20 775 200	104	199 762	1 500 000
Article 52	19 633 740	84	236 551	2 479 678
Article 53	9 000	1	9 000	9 000
Article 54	96 914 886	2 063	47 000	1 706 772
Article 55	64 576 461	2 795	23 104	1 500 000
Article 56	19 813 602	276	71 788	2 889 108
Article 57	5 077 017	105	48 353	340 854
Article 62(1)(a)	5 307 394	262	20 257	321 401
Article 63 CLLD	573 226 079	13 169	43 528	2 556 583
Article 64	12 424 357	489	25 408	848 768
Article 66	104 882 265	618	169 712	7 097 550
Article 67	14 828 715	70	211 839	5 698 562
Article 68	175 766 477	5 001	35 188	4 937 500
Article 69	565 713 519	3 429	165 075	12 480 993
Article 70	174 108 511	4 894	35 576	60 900 000

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Average EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)	Maximal EMFF committed per operation (EUR) (Infosys 31/12/2022)
Article 76	539 559 010	1 254	430 270	57 020 906
Article 77	578 546 416	281	2 058 884	42 865 758
Article 78	242 410 843	2 041	119 062	7 237 830
Article 80(1)(a)	17 692 450	35	505 499	3 000 000
Article 80(1)(b)	11 875 921	79	150 328	900 000
Article 80(1)(c)	33 087 151	155	213 465	4 159 993
Total	5 563 421 187	111 555	49 896	

Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.9 EMFF contribution to CFP objectives

Regulation (EU) No. 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council sets several objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy. To estimate the EMFF contribution to each of these objectives, FAMENET applied a methodology to link the EMFF articles to the objectives (Table 7 and Annex 1).

Table 7: EMFF contribution to CFP objectives

CFP objective	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
CFP Article 2(2,3)	806 558 177	471 779 201	7 264
CFP Article 2(4)	578 546 416	517 789 494	281
CFP Article 2(5)(a,b)	101 535 565	82 430 457	4 126
CFP Article 2(5)(c)	1 766 188 654	997 910 986	22 084
CFP Article 2(5)(d)	349 703 263	298 018 600	45 974
CFP Article 2(5)(e)	1 045 378 182	636 876 921	13 158
CFP Article 2(5)(f)	256 320 619	234 819 674	9 784
CFP Article 2(5)(g)	200 846 754	153 741 712	4 035
CFP Article 2(5)(h)	76 752 156	55 662 229	1 554
Total	5 181 829 785	3 449 029 275	108 260

Source: Infosys 2022

- CFP objective: **Exploitation of living marine biological resources restores and maintains populations of harvested species above levels which can produce the maximum sustainable yield; Fisheries activities avoid the degradation of the marine environment (CFP Article 2(2,3))**. MSs have selected 7 264 operations (9 368 operations in AIR) with a total EMFF funding of EUR 807 million (EUR 872 million in AIR).¹⁶ The money spent amounted to EUR 472 million (EUR 579 million in AIR).

¹⁶ For several CFP objectives, AIR values differ from Infosys values. To calculate Infosys values, all operations are filtered by the codes of operation implementation data and only operations relevant to a specific CFP objective are taken into account.

- **CFP objective: Collection of scientific data (CFP Article 2(4)).** At the end of 2022, MSs selected 281 operation (258 operations in AIR) with a total budget of EUR 579 million (EUR 577 million in AIR), of which EUR 518 million (EUR 513 million in AIR) was declared by beneficiaries.
- **CFP objective: Gradually eliminate discards, by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches, and by gradually ensuring that catches are landed; where necessary, make the best use of unwanted catches (CFP Article 2(5)(a,b)).** At the end of 2022, MSs selected 4 126 operations (2 760 operations in AIR) with a total EMFF funding of EUR 102 million (EUR 77 million in AIR), and spent EUR 82 million (EUR 65 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Provide conditions for economically viable and competitive fishing capture and processing industry and land-based fishing-related activity (CFP Article 2(5)(c)).** MSs selected 22 084 operations (21 008 operations in AIR) with a total EMFF budget of EUR 1 766 million (EUR 1 670 million in AIR), and spent EUR 998 million (EUR 1 004 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Adjust the fishing capacity of the fleets according to fishing opportunities (CFP Article 2(5)(d)).** MSs selected 45 974 operations (41 358 operations in AIR) with a total EMFF allocation of EUR 350 million (EUR 322 million in AIR), and spent EUR 298 million (EUR 284 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Promote the development of sustainable aquaculture activities (CFP Article 2(5)(e)).** MSs selected 13 158 operations (12 453 operations in AIR) with a total budget of EUR 1 045 million (EUR 1 007 million in AIR), and spent EUR 637 million (EUR 646 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Contribute to a fair standard of living for those who depend on fishing activities (CFP Article 2(5)(f)).** MSs selected 9 784 operations (10 009 operations in AIR) with a total budget of EUR 256 million (EUR 253 million in AIR), and spent EUR 235 million (EUR 235 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Contribute to an efficient and transparent internal market for fisheries and aquaculture (CFP Article 2(5)(g)).** MSs selected 4 035 operations (5 465 operations in AIR) with a total EMFF allocation of EUR 201 million (EUR 271 million in AIR), and spent EUR 154 million (EUR 208 million in AIR).
- **CFP objective: Take into account the interests of both consumers and producers (CFP Article 2(5)(h)).** MSs selected 1 554 operations with a total EMFF allocation of EUR 77 million, and spent EUR 56 million.

2.2.10 EMFF contribution to IMP objectives under shared management

Regulation (EU) No. 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council stipulates several general and operational objectives for further development of an Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP).

To estimate EMFF contributions to the relevant objectives, FAMENET applied a methodology linking EMFF articles to the objectives (Table 8 and Annex 1). The eligible operations for the IMP measures financed by the EMFF under shared management are listed in EMFF Article 80 (“Contribute to achieving the objectives of the IMS”, “Protect the marine environment” and “Improve knowledge of the state of the marine environment”). During 2022 the number of operations increased for all three IMP objectives.

- MSs selected 79 operations with a total EMFF allocation of EUR 12.0 million, or 86.8% of the total planned EMFF allocation, under the IMP objective: **Promote the protection of the marine environment, in particular its biodiversity, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources (IMP Article 2(c)).** MSs have paid EUR 9.7 million (70.8%) to beneficiaries.

- MSs selected 35 operations with a total budget of EUR 17.7 million, or 103.5% of the total planned EMFF allocation, related to the IMP objective: **Development of the Common Information Sharing Environment for the Union maritime domain, in line with the principles of the Integrated Maritime Surveillance (IMP Article 3(2)(a))**. MSs have paid EUR 8.9 million (51.8%) to beneficiaries.
- **Development of a comprehensive and publicly accessible high quality marine data and knowledge base (IMP Article 3(2)(c))** is the most popular amongst the IMP objectives. MSs assigned 155 operations with a total budget of EUR 33.1 million, or 97.3% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to this objective.

Table 8: EMFF contribution to IMP objectives

IMP objective	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
IMP 2(c)	13 676 411	11 875 921	86.8	9 681 362	70.8	79
IMP 3(2)(a)	17 095 319	17 692 450	103.5	8 860 671	51.8	35
IMP 3(2)(c)	34 018 852	33 087 151	97.3	25 808 436	75.9	155
Total	64 790 582	62 655 522	96.7	44 350 469	68.5	269

Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.11 EMFF contribution to the Europe 2020 Thematic Objectives

Common Provisions Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013 sets 11 thematic objectives for the ESI Funds and Common Strategic Framework. The relevant objectives for the EMFF are TO3, TO4, TO6 and TO8 (Table 9).

Table 9: EMFF contribution to the Europe 2020 Thematic Objectives

EU 2020 TO	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
TO3	2 908 468 347	2 821 749 827	97.0	1 866 569 083	64.2	80 267
TO4	38 946 018	26 690 578	68.5	17 232 317	44.2	2 188
TO6	1 818 448 491	1 853 604 093	101.9	1 381 635 606	76.0	11 713
TO8	589 565 145	618 965 846	105.0	331 566 913	56.2	15 346

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

To estimate the EMFF contribution to these TOs, each EMFF Article was linked to a TO according to the methodology provided in Annex 1 of this report.

- MSs selected 80 267 operations with a total budget of EUR 2 822 million, or 97.0% of planned EMFF allocation, for **TO3: Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized**

enterprises (SMEs), under which fall 73% of all operations and 53% of the total committed amount. Under this TO the highest amounts committed were to operations implemented under EMFF Article 48(1)(a-d,f-g) – Productive investments in aquaculture; Article 69 – Processing of fisheries and aquaculture products; and Article 43 (1,3) – Investment in fishing ports and landing sites. More than half (44 173 operations) of all operations under this TO were implemented under Article 33 – Temporary cessation of fishing activities.

- MSs selected 2 188 operations with a total budget of EUR 26.7 million for **TO4: Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors**. This TO has the lowest number of operations and committed amounts compared to other TOs. This is also true in relative terms, the 68.5% commitment rate placing it last among all the TOs. According to the methodology provided in Annex 1, operations implemented under the following EMFF Articles are considered relevant: Article 41(1)(a-c) – Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change – on board investments; energy efficiency audits and schemes; studies to assess the contribution of alternative propulsion systems and hull designs (EUR 16.2 million committed); Article 48(1)(k) – Productive investments in aquaculture – investments increasing energy efficiency and promoting the conversion of aquaculture enterprises to renewable sources of energy (EUR 7.3 million committed) and Article 41(2) – Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change – replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (EUR 3.2 million committed).
- MSs selected 11 713 operations with a total budget of EUR 1 854 million, or 101.9% of the planned EMFF allocation, for **TO6: Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency**. Under this TO the largest commitments were allocated to Article 77 – Data collection and Article 76 – Control and enforcement.
- MSs selected 15 346 operations with a total budget of EUR 619 million, or 105.0% of the planned EMFF allocation, to **TO8: Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility**. The implementation of local development strategies (under EMFF Article 63) accounted for EUR 573 million, or 93%, of all commitments towards this TO.

2.2.12 Contribution to the EMFF objectives, Article 5

Article 5 of the EMFF Regulation ((EU) No. 508/2014) sets four EMFF objectives. In order to establish the EMFF contribution to each objective, links were established between the Article 5 objectives and the Union Priorities (Table 10). UP1, UP2 and UP5 contribute to promoting competitive, environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible fisheries and aquaculture. UP3 contributes to fostering the implementation of the CFP, and UP4 to promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries and aquaculture areas. UP6 contributes to fostering the development and implementation of the Union’s IMP in a manner complementary to cohesion policy and to the CFP.

- MSs selected 93 790 operations with a total budget of EUR 3 549 million, or 96.7% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to the objective: **Promoting competitive, environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible fisheries and aquaculture (EMFF Article 5(a))**. This corresponds to 85.6% of all the selected operations and to 66.7% of the total EMFF amount committed to all Article 5 objectives.
- MSs selected 1 535 operations with a total budget of EUR 1 118 million, or 104.6% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to the objective: **Fostering the implementation of the CFP (EMFF Article 5(b))**.

- MSs selected 13 920 operations with a total budget of EUR 591 million, or 107.1% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to the objective: **Promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries and aquaculture areas (EMFF Article 5(c)).**
- MSs selected 269 operations with a total budget of EUR 63 million, or 97.4% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to the objective: **Fostering the development and implementation of the Union's IMP in a manner complementary to cohesion policy and to the CFP (EMFF Article 5(d)).**

Table 10: EMFF contribution to the EMFF objectives

Article EC 508/2014	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 5(a) EC 508/2014	3 669 978 304	3 549 291 567	96.7	2 367 818 090	64.5	93 790
Article 5(b) EC 508/2014	1 069 341 038	1 118 105 425	104.6	873 090 483	81.6	1 535
Article 5(c) EC 508/2014	551 764 730	590 957 830	107.1	311 744 878	56.5	13 920
Article 5(d) EC 508/2014	64 343 930	62 655 522	97.4	44 350 469	68.9	269

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

2.2.13 EMFF contribution to horizontal principles

In line with the CPR ((EU) No. 1303/2013), MSs shall ensure arrangements, in accordance with their own institutional and legal frameworks, for involving bodies responsible for gender equality throughout the preparation and implementation of programmes.

Table 11: EMFF contribution to horizontal principles

Specific objective	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Gender	40 415 300	35 407 892	87.6%	23 105 431	57.2%	1 030
Sustainability	2 262 081 405	2 177 434 239	96.3%	1 287 137 494	56.9%	40 490

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

According to the FAMENET methodology (Annex 1), only EMFF Article 29(1,2) contributes directly to gender equality and non-discrimination. MSs selected 1 030 operations with a total EMFF budget of EUR 35.4 million (Table 11), or 87.6% of the total planned EMFF allocation, for gender equality and non-discrimination.

Environmental, economic and social stability are fundamental elements of investments from the ESI Funds. FAMENET links to several EMFF articles that contribute to sustainability, mostly from UP1 and UP2 (Annex 1). MSs selected 40 490 operations with a total budget of EUR 2 177 million, which corresponds to 96.3% of the total planned EMFF allocation, to sustainability. In total, 26 EMFF Articles are attributed to this horizontal principle; in terms of EMFF funds committed, operations implemented under Article 48(1)(a-d,f,g) – Productive investments in aquaculture (EUR 586 million) and Article 63 – Implementation of local development strategies (EUR 573 million) contributed the most to sustainability.

2.2.14 EMFF support for climate change objectives

The EMFF supports operations related to climate change and energy efficiency in accordance with the headline target of the Europe 2020 strategy.

The coefficients for calculating amounts of support for climate change objectives are provided in Annex III of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 1232/2014. MSs have to provide the data regarding amounts of support for climate change objectives in Table 4 of AIR (Table 12).

Table 12: EMFF contribution to climate change of operations selected for support

MS	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Climate change amount of total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Climate change / EMFF allocation (%)	Climate change / EMFF committed (%)
AT	6 965 000	7 429 116	900	0.0	0.0
BE	41 746 051	46 420 443	9 998 281	24.0	21.5
BG	80 823 727	68 577 812	10 844 516	13.4	15.8
CY	39 715 209	38 298 607	8 848 342	22.3	23.1
CZ	31 108 015	39 479 534	1 244 592	4.0	3.2
DE	219 596 276	192 618 496	56 175 230	25.6	29.2
DK	208 355 420	202 968 255	29 104 756	14.0	14.3
EE	100 970 418	94 985 467	13 657 587	13.5	14.4
EL	379 745 523	504 578 012	112 609 367	29.7	22.3
ES	1 057 143 957	924 370 591	150 250 577	14.2	16.3
FI	74 393 168	73 848 715	20 583 786	27.7	27.9
FR	587 980 173	582 562 370	70 998 629	12.1	12.2
HR	252 643 138	222 842 115	39 852 732	15.8	17.9
HU	38 412 223	33 855 122	4 278 723	11.1	12.6
IE	147 601 979	142 785 974	10 474 099	7.1	7.3
IT	537 262 559	489 873 112	111 120 377	20.7	22.7
LT	63 432 222	54 159 384	6 228 100	9.8	11.5
LV	139 833 742	131 558 714	19 641 708	14.0	14.9
MT	22 627 422	21 989 043	4 687 869	20.7	21.3
NL	101 523 244	102 340 784	12 985 296	12.8	12.7

MS	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Climate change amount of total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Climate change / EMFF allocation (%)	Climate change / EMFF committed (%)
PL	531 219 456	447 958 556	90 959 208	17.1	20.3
PT	392 485 464	402 640 391	74 832 404	19.1	18.6
RO	168 421 371	152 563 278	27 421 269	16.3	18.0
SE	120 156 004	120 530 506	26 882 193	22.4	22.3
SI	21 777 441	21 066 822	4 058 614	18.6	19.3
SK	9 386 728	3 002 623	16 841	0.2	0.6
UK	243 139 437	234 767 165	38 303 771	15.8	16.3
Total	5 618 465 367	5 358 071 004	956 059 766	17.0	17.8

Source: AIR 2022

Overall, the EMFF contribution to climate change objectives by the end of 2022 was EUR 956.1 million, or 17.8% of the total EMFF funding committed to date. The corresponding number for total EMFF funding already declared by beneficiaries was EUR 653.9 million, or 17.3% of total EMFF funding declared.

2.2.15 EMFF contribution to specific topics

The structure of the AIR data provides limited possibilities to report on EMFF contributions to various specific topics, so the analysis provided in this section therefore relies on Infosys data. The EMFF is the only ESI Fund that ensures reporting at the level of operations. Because of such unique Infosys datasets, it is possible to provide a detailed analysis of EMFF contributions to various specific topics. Several topics deserve specific attention due to their political significance, in particular: operations involving vessels, outermost regions, innovation, landing obligation, energy efficiency, climate change, Natura 2000, biodiversity, marine litter, and coronavirus mitigation measures.

2.2.15.1 Operations involving vessels

Article 3(14) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 (the EMFF Regulation) defines “small-scale coastal fishing” (SSCF) as “fishing carried out by fishing vessels of an overall length of less than 12 metres and not using towed fishing gear as listed in Table 3 of Annex I to Commission Regulation (EC) No. 26/2004”.

The EMFF Regulation recognises the importance of SSCF in the environmental and social context of coastal communities, and stipulates that operations related to small-scale coastal fisheries may benefit from higher aid intensity (+30 percentage points as defined in Annex I of the Regulation). While SSCF may benefit from this preferential treatment, the EMFF reporting streams (AIR and Infosys) do not contain detailed reporting provisions on SSCF.

Of a total EMFF commitment of EUR 5 563 million, EUR 1 540 million (27.7%) was dedicated to operations linked to an FFR vessel number (Table 13). EMFF spending (EUR 1 147 million) on vessel-specific operations amounted to 30.4% of the total EMFF spending. During 2022 EMFF commitment

and spending on these operations continued to grow. This partially can be explained by the active use of compensation measures related to mitigation of the coronavirus outbreak.

During 2022 the number of operations increased from 48 088 to 62 600 (an increase of 30%). The number of operations related to SSCF vessels increased from 18 987 to 27 389 (an increase of 44%). As of the end of 2022 the number of operations related to SSCF vessels represented 44% of all operations related to vessels. This segment received 46% of the EMFF spending dedicated to specific vessels (EUR 525 million out of EUR 1 147 million).

The number of unique vessels supported increased by 46% (from 16 211 to 23 626). Infosys contains the so-called Fishing Fleet Register (FFR) number only when a vessel is involved in an operation. In that case it can be referred back to the FFR to identify to which vessel class it belongs. The following vessel classes were defined (Table 13):

- SSCF vessels defined according to Article 3 of the Regulation EU 508/2014¹⁷
- other vessels under 12 m
- vessels between 12-24 m
- vessels above 24 m.

Table 13: General overview of all vessel-related operations (EU total)

Vessel size	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	% of total	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	% of total	Number of operations	% of total	Number of vessels	% of total
SSCF ¹⁸	758 392 030	49	524 595 201	46	27 389	44	13 624	58
Other vessels under 12 m	57 663 594	4	40 408 994	4	3 514	6	1 733	7
Vessels between 12–24 m	375 603 044	24	307 532 181	27	24 504	39	6 152	26
Vessels above 24 m	283 153 782	18	242 635 388	21	6 520	10	1 615	7
Unspecified	64 778 184	4	32 284 807	3	673	1	502	2
Total	1 539 590 633	100	1 147 456 570	100	62 600	100	23 626	100

Source: Infosys 2022, FFR 2019

Average EMFF commitment per supported vessel amounted to EUR 65 165, while the average EMFF spending was EUR 48 568. An individual vessel may receive support more than once; the average

¹⁷ Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No. 2328/2003, (EC) No. 861/2006, (EC) No. 1198/2006 and (EC) No. 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No. 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

¹⁸ SSCF vessels defined according to Article 3 of the EU 508/2014 Regulation (EMFF Regulation).

EMFF commitment for each operation related to a vessel amounted to EUR 24 594, while the average EMFF spending was EUR 18 330.

FAME presented a detailed analysis of SSCF in the scope of the ancillary task “FAME SU: AT01.2 SSCF periodic reports, sample report 2, August 2020”.

In AIR section 6 MSs have to provide a summary of actions taken on progress to achieve the provision set out in EMFF Article 41(8) with regard to the priority that up to 60% of the public assistance is reserved for the small-scale coastal fishing sector, including data on the actual share of small-scale coastal fishing within the operations financed under the measure of Article 41(2) – Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change. A number of MSs have said that this AIR section is not relevant to their OPs – AT, BE, CZ, DK, EL, HU, LV, NL, SE, SI, SK, UK. For the rest, the following list covers several issues related to SSCF that have been reported in the AIRs:

- Prioritisation of the SSCF sector is secured in the guidelines for applicants on two levels: (1) higher aid intensity (BG, FR) and (2) prioritisation in the ranking when projects are assessed (BG, HR, LT).
- BG, CY, DE, ES and IT noted that the quantity of upcoming and approved projects was rather poor as interest from beneficiaries remained low.
- EL noted that the measure under Article 41(2) for the replacement or modernisation of main or auxiliary engines has not yet been activated.
- ES reported that in total 58 operations were approved, of which 54 were SSCF-related. The implementation of this measure remained very low in 2022, although the number of approvals increased compared to 2021. Around 13% of the planned allocation was committed, and of that, 71% was SSCF-related.

The difficulty in implementing this measure is a consequence of the annual report on the activity of the Spanish fishing fleet, where in previous years the SSCF segment was considered unbalanced. As of now, a more comprehensive segmentation had been made for each fishing region in the North Atlantic. In 2021, however, in order to standardise the results with those obtained by the Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries (STECF), the segmentation of the fleet of the North Atlantic region was assessed jointly. This means that vessels less than 24 m in length operating in this area have been grouped only in accordance with the fishing gear most often used, independently of the fishing ground where they operate. This modification changes the results of the economic, technical and biological indicators that influence the assessment of whether the SSCF sector is balanced.

In addition, low implementation of this measure may also be in part linked with the conditions to be met by the beneficiaries with regard to Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation. The economic situation of the SSCF sector is sensitive, and a hypothetical case in which beneficiaries are penalised and asked to repay grants they have received is considered a risk.

- FR noted that in 2022, 62% of vessels receiving support under Article 41(2) were small-scale coastal fishing vessels (123 files out of the 198 committed).
- In IE there are two schemes of relevance to SSCF: the New Fishermen Scheme (one SSCF vessel was acquired) and the Inshore Fisheries Conservation Scheme (six onshore refrigeration facilities and a trading website). More generally, the priority for SSCF is the preferential grant rate of 70%: in 2021 two SSCFs received grants for engine replacement.

- In IT, this measure is not very attractive due to the complexity of the procedures and the low rate of public contribution (30% of the eligible expenditure). This discouraged potential beneficiaries from applying.
- In LT only three applicants received support by the end of 2022.
- PL notes that support for the replacement or modernisation of main or auxiliary engines may only be granted for vessels belonging to a fleet segment for which the capacity report referred to in Article 22(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 1380/2013 shows a balance with the fishing opportunities available to that segment. Since the beginning of the implementation of the OP, fishing segments have not been balanced, so the measure cannot be implemented. The Managing Authority has taken measures to transfer funds from this measure.
- In PT, 135 operations were approved by the end of 2022. 115 of those were SSCF-related, which corresponds to 85% of the total number of operations and 57.5% of the total amount committed. PT also provided a detailed description of its SSCF segment.
- RO pointed out that the measure was removed from its OP. RO considers that when aid intensity less than 100%, it is hard to believe that fishers or boat owners could afford such investments in the future, especially with the rise in fuel prices related to the conflict in Ukraine.
- In the UK, 49 Article 41(2) projects have been approved since the start of the programme, with public assistance of EUR 344 000 awarded. 60.4% of the total public support allocated to Article 41(2) is committed to SSCF operators. Of the 48 projects selected, 43 relate to SSCF, with total public support of EUR 216 000 awarded.

2.2.15.2 Landing obligation

The landing obligation (LO) is established under the “fisheries management” pillar of the Common Fisheries Policy.¹⁹ Article 15 of the CFP sets out the obligation to retain all species subject to catch limits or minimum sizes²⁰ caught either in European Union (EU) waters or by Union fishing vessels outside EU waters without prejudice to international obligations. The LO was implemented in phases:

- 2015 – the landing obligation began to cover small and large pelagic species, industrial fisheries and the main fisheries in the Baltic.
- 2016 – it was extended to demersal fisheries for the North Sea and the Atlantic.
- 2019 – full implementation, i.e. land all species subject to catch limits and, in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, to minimum conservation reference sizes (MCRS).

EMFF (EU Regulation 508/2014) has general and specific measures designed to support the implementation of the LO. The EMFF introduced, among other measures, a focus on increased gear selectivity, with gear technology development and sea trials continuing the work started under the EFF in 2007-2013.

Actions to support the LO include for example:

- improved selectivity of fishing gear to minimise unwanted catches,
- specific on-board equipment, and/or

¹⁹ The other three pillars being international policy, market and trade policy, and funding of the policy.

²⁰ As defined in Annex III to Regulation (EC) No. 1967 /2006.

- adaptation of landing sites to handle and commercialise unwanted catches.

However, there is no explicit LO earmarking at the level of individual operations. In May 2018 FAME completed a report on the implementation of LO-relevant measures under the EFF and EMFF. The approach to identifying relevant operations was based on:

- the relevance of the measure under which the operation was implemented;
- a combination of relevant Infosys implementation data and/or result indicators such as a “change in unwanted catches”; and
- validation of the above through an interview with the MS authorities.

While this approach proved fruitful, it was also too demanding to be repeated annually. For this reason, FAME introduced two additional ways to identify EMFF contributions to the LO implementation:

- A broad approach based on the measure alone (with the exception of Article 68: Marketing measures, where a combination of measure and operation implementation data is applied) (Table 14 and Table 15). The broad approach is easier to apply but might also include operations that are marginally relevant.
- A narrow approach combining the measure with Infosys operation implementation data. This is harder to apply, but more precise (Table 16). However, it should be assumed that not all operations selected by the narrow approach contribute directly to the LO.

One or other of these two complementary approaches is chosen based on the information required.

Table 14: EMFF contribution to landing obligation (Infosys – broad approach)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Article 37	32 568 234	26 525 507	375
Article 38	23 865 290	20 502 182	1 774
Article 39	40 103 657	20 541 743	195
Article 42	61 257 871	48 647 294	2 722
Article 43(2)	19 855 107	16 916 863	64
Article 68 code 118	3 049 832	2 066 165	30
Total	180 699 991	135 199 754	5 160

Source: Infosys 2022

The broad approach takes into account all operations related to the following articles:

- Article 37: Support for the design and implementation of conservation measures;
- Article 38: Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species (+ Article 44(1)(c) Inland fishing);
- Article 39: Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ Article 44(1)(c) Inland fishing);

- Article 42: Added value, product quality and use of unwanted catches (+ Article 44(1)(e) Inland fishing);
- Article 43(2): Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters – investments to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches.

The only exception is operations implemented under Article 68: Marketing measures. Here, only operations with Infosys code 118 (Find new markets and improve marketing) are counted.

According to the broad approach (Table 14), at the end of 2022 MSs selected 5 160 operations with a total EMFF funding of EUR 180.7 million for the landing obligation. In terms of numbers of operations, most were implemented under Article 42 (2 722 operations) and Article 38 (1 774 operations). About one-third of the funding committed to supporting the LO was for operations implemented under Article 42.

Table 15: EMFF contribution to landing obligation (AIR – broad approach)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Article 37	34 301 695	27 384 532	390
Article 38	23 762 030	20 564 102	1 748
Article 39	40 764 148	20 796 658	187
Article 42	57 645 380	48 687 078	2 697
Article 43(2)	19 719 824	16 777 781	63
Total	176 193 077	134 210 151	5 085

Source: AIR 2022

A slightly modified approach to the AIR data, with Article 68 (marketing measures) excluded from the calculations, gives the results shown in Table 15.

Table 16: EMFF contribution to landing obligation (narrow approach)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Article 37 RI 1.4	12 431 211	8 589 422	205
Article 38 codes 35,36, RI 1.4	9 226 373	8 792 163	675
Article 39 RI 1.4	24 192 439	14 047 481	129
Article 42	61 257 871	48 647 294	2 722
Article 43(2)	19 855 107	16 916 863	64
Article 68 code 118	3 049 832	2 066 165	30
Total	130 012 833	99 059 388	3 825

Source: Infosys 2022

The narrow approach takes into account operations under the same articles described above. However, operations are also selected by means of Infosys codes according to their relevance to the LO. Operations under Article 37 and Article 39 are taken into account provided they are linked to result indicator 1.4: Change in unwanted catches. Operations under Article 38 are counted provided the

following conditions are met: they have Infosys codes 35 (selectivity of gear) or 36 (reduce discards or deal with unwanted catches) and they are linked to RI 1(4): Change in unwanted catches.

According to the narrow approach (Table 16), at the end of 2022 MSs selected 3 825 operations for the LO with a total EMFF funding of EUR 130.0 million. Under Article 37, 205 operations out of 375 were attributed to the LO. For Article 38, the LO figure was 675 out of 1 774 operations. For Article 39, 129 out of 195 operations were clearly connected to the LO.

In 2017 FAME undertook an Ancillary Task (AT) to explore mainly how the EMFF, and to a lesser extent the EFF and other (EU and national) funding, had been used to date by MSs to support the implementation of the LO. In 2021, FAME did a follow-up to this AT. Conclusions drawn are provided in the EMFF implementation report 2020.²¹

2.2.15.3 Innovation

The EMFF supports investment in innovation to increase the competitiveness and economic performance of fishing activities and aquaculture, and to conserve marine biological resources.

Operations related to innovation were selected by all 27 MSs: in total 1 344 operations with a total EMFF budget of EUR 286.0 million, or 95.8% of the total planned EMFF allocation to innovation (Table 17). Nearly half of all the commitments to innovation related to aquaculture (Article 47). Amongst the MSs, FR committed the most (EUR 46.4 million), followed by PT (EUR 31.6 million), ES (EUR 28.7 million) and NL (EUR 26.7 million). The average size of EMFF commitment to an innovation operation was EUR 213 585. The average size of EMFF commitment to an innovation operation under Article 26 “Innovation” was EUR 212 821, but under Article 28 (Partnerships between fishermen and scientists) it was EUR 271 559.

Table 17: EMFF contribution to innovation

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 26	55 160 029	51 038 696	92.5	26 901 570	48.8	336
Article 28	52 848 530	54 311 695	102.8	30 039 441	56.8	200
Article 39	42 359 252	40 103 657	94.7	20 541 743	48.5	195
Article 47	148 101 269	140 576 892	94.9	74 046 974	50.0	613
Total	298 469 080	286 030 940	95.8	151 529 728	50.8	1 344

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

²¹ https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-09/emff-implementation-report-2020_en.pdf

2.2.15.4 Natura 2000

The EMFF supports operations to protect and restore marine biodiversity and ecosystems in the framework of sustainable fishing activities. The EMFF contains, under shared management, a series of measures directly or potentially supporting the Natura 2000 network (Table 18). Directly related measures are Article 40(1)(b-g,i) (Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – Natura 2000 sites), Article 40(1)(h) (Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – schemes for compensation of damage to catches caused by mammals and birds), Article 54 (Aquaculture providing environmental services), and Article 80(1)(b) (Promotion of the protection of marine environment, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources).

Table 18: EMFF contribution to Natura 2000 (directly related EMFF measures)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	249 466 768	236 155 446	94.7	142 980 974	57.3	2 714
Article 40(1)(h)	6 890 716	5 543 352	80.4	5 347 098	77.6	2 712
Article 54	99 666 112	96 914 886	97.2	89 745 201	90.0	2 063
Article 80(1)(b)	13 229 758	11 875 921	89.8	9 681 362	73.2	79
Total	369 253 353	350 489 605	94.9	247 754 636	67.1	7 568

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

In 7 568 operations, the MSs together committed EUR 350.5 million, or 94.9% of the total planned allocation, to these measures. The biggest contributors are ES with EUR 73.1 million and PL with EUR 52.2 million in commitments. FI and DK have the highest number of operations (1 464 and 990). Of the total EMFF budget committed to the articles directly related to Natura 2000, Article 40(1)(b-g,i) and Article 54 jointly account for 95%.

Table 19: EMFF contribution to Natura 2000 (potentially contributing EMFF measures)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 28	52 848 530	54 311 695	102.5	30 039 441	56.7	200
Article 38	28 638 551	23 865 290	78.4	20 502 182	67.3	1 774
Article 39	42 359 252	40 103 657	89.2	20 541 743	45.7	195
Article 40(1)(a)	23 551 882	22 660 979	144.4	19 005 019	121.1	535
Article 80(1)(c)	34 018 852	33 087 151	102.5	25 808 436	79.9	155
Total	181 417 067	174 028 772	95.9	115 896 821	63.9	2 859

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

Articles directly related to the implementation of the Natura 2000 network are further analysed according to their type of operation in section 2.2.5 of this report.

Table 19 lists the EMFF measures that potentially support the implementation of the Natura 2000 network. Potentially supporting measures are Article 28 (Partnerships between fishermen and scientists), Article 38 (Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species), Article 39 (Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources), Article 40 (1)(a) (Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – collection of lost fishing gear and marine litter) and Article 80 (1)(c) (Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment).

In total, EUR 524.5 million of EMFF funding has been committed and EUR 363.7 million spent under measures directly or potentially supporting the Natura 2000 network.

2.2.15.5 Biodiversity

A wide range of EMFF measures potentially contribute to protection and restoration of biodiversity (Table 20). Taking this range of measures into account, MSs committed EUR 2 050 million of EMFF funding over a total of 60 957 operations.

Table 20: EMFF contribution to biodiversity

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate (%)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate (%)	Number of operations
Article 33	242 718 652	227 320 176	93.7	206 481 226	85.1	44 173
Article 34	89 761 795	114 819 559	127.9	85 391 027	95.1	1 784
Article 36	8 398 765	7 563 527	90.1	6 146 347	73.2	17
Article 37	31 325 540	32 568 234	104.0	26 525 507	84.7	375
Article 38	28 638 551	23 865 290	83.3	20 502 182	71.6	1 774
Article 39	42 359 252	40 103 657	94.7	20 541 743	48.5	195
Article 40(1)(a)	23 551 882	22 660 979	96.2	19 005 019	80.7	535
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	249 466 768	236 155 446	94.7	142 980 974	57.3	2 714
Article 40(1)(h)	6 890 716	5 543 352	80.4	5 347 098	77.6	2 712
Article 42	68 004 736	61 257 871	90.1	48 647 294	71.5	2 722
Article 49	19 330 159	17 780 842	92.0	9 792 350	50.7	124
Article 54	99 666 112	96 914 886	97.2	89 745 201	90.0	2 063
Article 76	495 518 993	539 559 010	108.9	355 300 989	71.7	1 254
Article 77	573 822 045	578 546 416	100.8	517 789 494	90.2	281
Article 80(1)(b)	13 229 758	11 875 921	89.8	9 681 362	73.2	79
Article 80(1)(c)	34 018 852	33 087 151	97.3	25 808 436	75.9	155
Total	2 026 702 574	2 049 622 318	101.1	1 589 686 249	78.4	60 957

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

2.2.15.6 Outermost regions

To yield an overview of the EMFF contribution to the outermost regions, all operations implemented by ES, FR and PT with the relevant Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics (NUTS) codes were selected.

ES, FR and PT supported 6 400 operations in the outermost regions with a total committed EMFF budget of EUR 268.5 million (EUR 204.7 million as of the end of 2021) – see Table 21. Most of these were from PT: 4 586 operations with a total EMFF contribution of EUR 101.3 million. PT was followed by FR with 1 438 operations and EUR 11.8 million committed.

Table 21: EMFF contribution to the outermost regions

MS/Outermost region	NUTS code	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
ES		55 237 416	12 984 869	376
Gran Canaria	ES705	33 666 745	8 656 681	207
Tenerife	ES709	21 570 671	4 328 189	169
FR		111 782 768	82 317 187	1 438
Guadeloupe	FRA10	12 192 365	4 677 768	346
Martinique	FRA20	8 785 873	3 563 869	217
French Guiana	FRA30	30 799 865	23 330 769	245
La Réunion	FRA40	59 922 123	50 665 745	620
Saint-Martin	FRZZ	82 542	79 035	10
PT		101 285 239	76 076 651	4 586
Azores	PT200	74 740 085	52 288 799	4 044
Madeira	PT300	26 545 154	23 787 852	542
Total		268 305 423	171 378 707	6 400

Source: Infosys 2022

In line with EMFF Article 70, the EMFF may support the compensation of additional costs incurred by operators in the fishing, farming, processing and marketing of certain fishery and aquaculture products from the outermost regions. EMFF Article 13 (5) stipulates that in total EUR 192.5 million of the budgetary resources under shared management shall be allocated to the compensation of outermost regions.

Table 22 demonstrates progress of operations implemented under the EMFF Article 70 per outermost region.

Table 22: EMFF contribution to the outermost regions – EMFF Article 70 Compensation regime

MS/Outermost region	NUTS code	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
ES	ES	60 900 000	60 768 519	1
FR		66 939 344	64 151 761	1 084
Guadeloupe	FRA10	2 772 637	2 735 992	314
Martinique	FRA20	1 056 728	1 055 579	171
French Guiana	FRA30	22 459 545	20 158 586	210
La Réunion	FRA40	40 567 891	40 122 569	379
Saint-Martin	FRZZZ	82 542	79 035	10
PT		46 269 167	45 005 463	3 809
Azores	PT200	31 234 951	30 208 587	3 454
Madeira	PT300	15 034 216	14 796 876	355
Total		174,108,510.98	169,925,742.97	4,894

Source: Infosys 2022

2.2.15.7 Mitigation of the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and compensations related to the Ukraine crisis

The European Parliament and the Council have proposed a set of ambitious measures under the EMFF to support EU fisheries and aquaculture in tackling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The package includes support for the temporary cessation of fishing activities due to the pandemic, support to aquaculture farmers for the suspension of production and additional costs, and support to producer organisations for the storage of fishery and aquaculture products. To enable tracking of the uptake of these measures, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1027 introduced a new field into Infosys: Field 25 “Mitigation of the COVID-19 outbreak”.

Beneficiaries implemented these measures for the third consecutive year in 2022. At the end of 2020, overall, EUR 108.7 million of EMFF funding in 5 913 operations was committed to mitigate the impact of coronavirus. These commitments thus corresponded to 2.7% of the total EMFF funds committed. At the end of 2021 commitments grew to EUR 188.7 million (corresponding to 3.8% of total EMFF funds committed) and the number of operations more than doubled, to 12 391. At the end of 2022 commitments increased slightly to EUR 209.8 million, but the number of operations skyrocketed to

21 843 (Table 23). This increase in the number of operations was mostly due to an increase in support related to temporary cessation – 18 912 operations as of the end of 2022 compared to 10 025 operations a year before. COVID-19 related temporary cessations accounted for EUR 123.7 million of EMFF commitments.

Under Article 55 (Public health measures), 2 499 operations totalling EUR 40.2 million were reported as COVID-19 related. These two Articles accounted for 98% of all reported number of operations and for 78% of total EMFF commitments related to COVID-19. It is worth noting that 42.8% of all operations and 54.4% of all commitments under Article 33 relate to COVID-19. Nine out of every ten operations implemented under Article 55 relate to COVID-19. The average amount of EMFF committed for each COVID-19 related operation was EUR 9 604.

Table 23: EMFF contributions to COVID-19 pandemic support measures per EMFF Article

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Number of operations (COVID)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (COVID) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (COVID) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)
Article 28	52 848 530	200	5	54 311 695	401 294	30 039 441	294 713
Article 29(1)(2)	21 085 141	1 176	1	17 627 050	5 601	13 313 081	5 601
Article 32	51 419 205	3 595	57	49 301 321	369 821	36 888 986	375 769
Article 33	242 718 652	44 173	18 912	227 320 176	123 679 880	206 481 226	113 757 676
Article 40(1)(b-g); (i)	249 466 768	2 714	1	236 155 446	32 846	142 980 974	10 018
Article 41(1)(a-c)	17 090 666	1 206	1	16 166 142	1 444	10 765 382	1 444
Article 43(1,3)	385 570 559	1 539	38	457 980 064	839 509	221 108 165	705 366
Article 47	148 101 269	613	3	140 576 892	196 314	74 046 974	178 260
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	555 943 656	6 251	3	585 459 593	6 982 532	332 598 305	15 210
Article 55	66 882 658	2 795	2 499	64 576 461	40 239 329	61 767 053	39 009 575
Article 63 CLLD	532 265 560	13 169	4	573 226 079	105 638	301 565 628	102 295
Article 66	109 221 917	618	8	104 882 265	1 718 121	87 565 162	1 536 132
Article 67	27 413 908	70	12	14 828 715	5 036 601	14 643 382	5 007 637
Article 68	262 028 430	5 001	4	175 766 477	56 564	123 904 944	55 423
Article 69	577 057 666	3 429	294	565 713 519	29 648 550	374 794 339	28 034 890
Article 78	263 037 365	2 041	1	242 410 843	468 613	180 779 850	398 304
Total	3 562 151 949	88 590	21 843	3 526 302 739	209 782 657	2 213 242 892	189 488 312

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

In total, 20 MSs provided support for their fisheries and aquaculture sectors to mitigate the COVID-19 outbreak. Table 24 demonstrates that EL has the highest number of operations related to COVID-19 – in total 6 842 operations or nearly one third of all “coronavirus-related” operations. It is also worth mentioning that slightly more than two-thirds of all operations implemented in EL are “coronavirus-related”. However, in terms of amount it corresponds to EUR 30.6 million, or only 6% of Greece’s total commitments.

EL is followed by IT (4 144 operations and EUR 13.9 million in commitments), ES (3 303 operations and EUR 33.3 million) and PL (2 055 operations and EUR 60.0 million). PL has 28.6% share of total COVID-19 related commitments.

Table 24: EMFF contributions to COVID-19 pandemic support measures per MS

MS	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Number of operations (COVID)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (COVID) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (COVID) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)
BE	41 746 051	373	42	46 801 701	368 438	32 291 358	363 375
BG	80 823 727	709	276	68 382 629	4 070 433	46 613 796	3 888 022
CY	39 715 209	1 580	499	38 328 907	1 996 107	24 858 399	1 843 548
CZ	31 108 015	1 230	32	32 519 439	2 006 702	24 175 516	2 050 066
DE	219 596 276	3 090	321	176 483 872	1 818 675	154 333 304	1 803 675
EE	100 970 418	1 795	33	91 351 760	2 774 016	76 357 615	2 518 738
EL	379 745 523	9 989	6 842	506 964 295	30 606 458	188 926 497	29 818 945
ES	1 057 143 957	22 829	3 303	941 826 032	33 327 171	706 311 509	25 773 354
FR	587 980 173	6 976	1 717	582 546 255	21 995 247	396 554 067	19 484 630
HR	252 643 138	4 450	668	275 639 703	14 785 598	149 358 042	14 343 805
IE	147 601 979	3 320	247	146 869 833	776 263	138 084 261	776 263
IT	537 262 559	20 270	4 144	514 887 854	13 882 882	328 575 997	12 929 970
LT	63 432 222	834	60	54 134 459	986 033	39 209 364	986 033
LV	139 833 742	1 268	101	163 348 583	1 848 264	89 899 865	1 827 504
NL	101 523 244	536	290	102 373 027	4 710 901	70 385 056	4 146 601
PL	531 219 456	12 330	2 055	540 822 203	60 036 605	335 008 208	53 390 603
PT	392 485 464	9 156	912	416 954 121	9 358 941	286 286 161	9 229 443
RO	168 421 371	725	39	162 343 815	1 856 878	111 460 498	1 760 133
SE	120 156 004	1 076	54	108 943 864	342 612	100 883 880	378 618
UK	243 139 437	2 949	208	226 906 947	2 234 434	192 364 909	2 174 987
Total	5 236 547 965	105 485	21 843	5 198 429 301	209 782 657	3 491 938 302	189 488 312

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

EMFF implementation in 2022 was also impacted by another adverse event: market disruptions related to the military aggression of Russia against Ukraine.

Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 was amended as regards specific measures to alleviate the consequences of the military aggression of Russia against Ukraine on fishing activities and to mitigate the effects of the market disruption caused by that military aggression on the supply chain of fishery and aquaculture products. To enable tracking of the uptake of these measures, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1027 introduced a new code in Infosys field 25.

Table 25: EMFF contributions to Ukraine crisis mitigation measures

MS	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Ukraine crisis) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (Ukraine crisis) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations (Ukraine crisis)
PL	4 249 857	3 288 717	607
PT	9 138 034	8 311 452	1 988
Total	13 387 891	11 600 169	2 595

Source: Infosys 2022

Two MSs used this opportunity as of the end of 2022 (

Table 25). PT implemented 1 988 operations and committed EUR 8.3 million. PL recorded 607 operations and EUR 3.3 million in commitments.

2.2.15.8 EMFF support related to diversification

The EMFF can support the maintenance and creation of direct or indirect jobs outside the fishing and aquaculture sectors by helping to diversify the sources of income of fishers and aquaculture operators through the development of complementary activities. This action is part of the EMFF measure dedicated to local development strategies led by local actors.

The EMFF also can support dedicated diversification activities in fisheries and aquaculture.

To evaluate the EMFF contribution to diversification FAMENET applied the following methodology. Under UP1, EMFF Article 30 (Diversification and new forms of income) is considered as entirely contributing to diversification. The Infosys data structure (fields 20 and 21 in Annex 3) allows screening for operations with type of investment “diversification” for Article 48 (1)(a-d,f-h), and for type of operation “diversification” for Article 63 CLLD (Table 26).

Table 26: EMFF support related to diversification

EMFF Article	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Number of operations	Type of investment/type of operation
Article 63	145 484 736	72 400 302	3 518	Diversification
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	10 322 567	6 970 301	138	Diversification
Article 30	5 975 291	3 807 806	164	Angling tourism
Article 30	1 801 494	1 106 427	70	Restaurants
Article 30	1 676 662	907 067	82	Investments on board
Article 30	822 743	299 983	31	Other
Article 30	220 269	130 819	11	Environmental services
Total	166 083 493	85 491 887	4 003	

Source: Infosys 2022

It is clear that most diversification-related operations were implemented under Article 63 CLLD, with EUR 145.5 million committed. The majority of these operations were implemented by four MS (EL, ES, PL and PT) - totalling EUR 113.3 million committed towards 2 419 operations.

Under productive investments in aquaculture, 138 operations with EUR 10.3 million in commitments (around one third of it implemented in FR) were reported as related to diversification. According to the operations' names as provided in Infosys reports, some examples of these operations are: reconstruction of a cottage for accommodation and sport fishing; establishment of a retail store for fish and fish delicacies; installation of a microalgae culture system and greenhouses to produce *Spirulina*; investment in sea cucumber aquaculture; construction of an oyster nursery; and acquisition of a shellfish vending machine.

Operations implemented under the EMFF Article 30 - Diversification and new forms of income under UP1 directly contribute to diversification. Through Infosys reporting it is possible to distinguish between 5 different types of diversification: angling tourism, restaurants, investment on board, environmental services and 'other'. The table above provides an overview of support provided under EMFF Article 30. In total, EUR 10.5 million were committed towards 358 of these types of diversification operations. More than half of all commitments were directed at developing angling tourism (96% of these were in in PL). 70 operations supported the development of restaurants.

In total 4 003 operations and EUR 166.1 million of EMFF commitments contributed to diversification as of the end of 2022.

2.2.16 EMFF common result indicators, status quo

Like all the other European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI Funds), the EMFF takes a reinforced result-oriented approach. To achieve this, a Common Monitoring and Evaluation System (CMES) for the EMFF has been introduced, comprising context, result and output indicators, as well as a reinforced intervention logic, milestones and target values.

Data on EMFF result indicators are available from both Infosys reports and AIRs. Both reporting streams have their benefits and constraints. However, Infosys has one significant advantage: reporting is done at the level of individual operations. That provides the opportunity to implement several

measures for data quality control. As a consequence, FAMENET is able to provide analysis of EMFF result indicators based on Infosys reports (Annex 5). Result indicators reported in the AIRs are presented in Annex 6.

EMFF result indicators are unusual among the ESI Funds in measuring the gross direct effects of EMFF interventions at the beneficiary level. Such granularity demands diligence and precision in collecting and inserting data into Infosys at the level of individual operations. On the positive side, it offers programme managers, evaluators and policymakers wide-ranging potential to identify promptly what works and at what cost.

The period 2014-2020 was the first time that common result indicators were used on this scale (the EFF 2007-2013 did not use common result indicators). Experience showed that this was a challenging task, especially when aggregating the values of result indicators at MS or EU level, due to a number of formal errors and plausibility issues.²²

To improve RI data quality, the current version of the FAMENET Infosys validation tool has a total of 20 specific queries – one for each RI – plus one general query applying to all RIs (assessing the gap between ex-ante and ex-post values). Specific queries for single RIs compare costs and achievements. The logic implies that it takes a certain amount of investment to create one unit of result. Queries are designed to flag outliers using benchmarks established at the EU level. Plausibility issues flagged by the validation tool are reported to the MS in question. However, it is often challenging for the MA and/or intermediate body (IB) to rectify the situation, as this may require the reported values to be verified with each beneficiary.

Overall, the number of plausibility issues shows a decreasing trend. However, the errors and plausibility issues that remain can reduce the accuracy of the interpretation of RI data when making detailed analyses. One proof of reporting mistakes is the observation that there were significant fluctuations in reported ex-post RI values: in each reporting year, several ex-post RI values decreased despite progress in implementing the OPs.

Several MSs in their AIRs mention other factors impacting reported RI values. In the case of projects that are not yet finalised, for instance, RI values are not yet available. Several types of projects may even take a few years after completion to start delivering results.

In this report FAMENET provides the following analysis related to RIs:

- comparison of reported ex-ante and ex-post values of RIs;
- description of RI use per UP and SO.

The first step in the analysis is to compare the ex-ante and ex-post RI values. We looked at the relation between the RI values forecast by beneficiaries before the implementation of the operation (ex-ante)

²² Some examples of formal errors are: use of the national currency where EUR is required; values reported in EUR where “thousand EUR” is required; values reported in kg where tonnes are required; duplication of RI values; missing values; wrong or missing codes (implementation data or result indicator codes); multiple use of codes where only one entry is required, etc.

and the results actually achieved (ex-post). FAMENET selected all Infosys entries with values in both ex-ante and ex-post fields and compared the absolute deviation between them (Table 27).

It can be observed that RI data reported in Infosys include a number of entries with a large difference between ex-ante and ex-post values. It can be assumed that at least some of the reported RI values are implausible, in cases where the ex-post value exceeds the ex-ante value by more than 200%. Most of these errors are considered to be of the formal type, such as using the national currency where EUR is required, reporting in EUR where “thousand EUR” is required, or reporting in kg where tonnes are required. A part of these differences may also relate to imprudent planning, unforeseen events during the implementation, or small numbers (for example, ex-ante: one FTE maintained; ex-post: three FTE maintained).

In 1 656 occurrences, over-performance of up to twice the ex-ante value is reported. 1 768 cases report over-performance of less than 200%, most of which could be considered plausible.

Table 27: RI values: Ex-post values as a percentage of ex-ante values

Ex-post values as percentage of ex-ante values	Number of occurrences
More than 200% (possibly a reporting error)	1 656
From 100% to 200% (overperformance)	1 768
100% (ex-post and ex-ante values are the same)	29 921
Less than 100% (underperformance)	6 160
Ex-ante and ex-post values are zero (maintained status quo; compulsory common RI not applicable to the operation)	202 453
Reported ex-ante value is non-zero, ex-post value is zero (possibly results are not yet reported)	9 565
Ex-ante value is zero, reported ex-post value is non-zero (possibly the project achieved unexpected results)	917
Total	252 440

Source: Infosys 2022

The relatively high number (29 921) of occurrences where ex-post and ex-ante RI values are exactly the same should be viewed with caution. It means that ex-ante forecasts of results to be delivered were extremely precise. In cases where a supported project falls into a wider entrepreneurship activity there may be some degree of subjectivity on which part of the achievement relates directly to the EMFF support.

Underperformance is observed in 6 160 cases.

The biggest group of observations – 202 453 in total – relates to cases where both ex-ante and ex-post RI values are zero. This group more than doubled compared to the 86 320 cases observed in 2020. In the case of an indicator measuring, for example, work-related injuries and accidents, this may simply mean preserving the status quo. In other cases it may indicate that preserving the current employment or volume of production was the best that could be achieved in a negative economic environment. It may also indicate that the applicability of an RI to a particular measure is limited; most operations related to measures to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 outbreak fall into this category.

In 9 565 occurrences, an ex-ante value other than zero is reported and the ex-post value is zero. This can be explained at least partially by assuming that not all operations have yet collected RI data after implementation.

In 917 cases the ex-ante value is zero and a non-zero ex-post value is reported. Such a case can be either a mistake, or an admission by the beneficiaries that they achieved unexpected results following the implementation.

The second step of RI analysis concentrates on selected RIs for which the data reported have the least issues related to their plausibility. The analysis is based on the table of EMFF common result indicators reported in Infosys as provided in Annex 6.

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RI 1(4)(a,b) “Change in unwanted catches” as well as RI 1(6) “Change in the % of unbalanced fleets” likely have issues with reporting of negative and positive values. “Change” in the sense of a reduction is expected to be expressed as a negative value. However, in Infosys, reduction is sometimes reported as a positive value. For example, the target of RI 1(4)(a,b) might be a negative value of 25 748 tonnes, but the ex-ante and ex-post values are positive – 20 251 tonnes and 8 353 tonnes respectively. The data quality is also influenced by an additional layer of complexity related to the calculation of percentages. Several RIs under SO4 (Change in the value of production; Change in net profits) seem to suffer from frequent errors; common error types are wrong reporting units.

RI 1(10)(a) “Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives” demonstrates an increase of 24 084 km², which corresponds to 76.1% of the target value set in the OPs.

Both RIs reporting “Change in the volume of production” (in thousand EUR and tonnes), include erroneous values: under SO4 (Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including SSCF, and the improvement of safety and working conditions) and also under SO5 (Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer). The most likely cause of these errors is wrong reporting units (EUR versus thousand EUR and kg versus tonnes).

Under SO4, the RIs “Employment created” and “Employment maintained” report fulfilment of targets at 74.8% (1 980 FTE) and 176.0% (32 719 FTE) respectively. However, in some cases the values reported go beyond the direct impact of EMFF support. Under SO6 (Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning) another 1 145 jobs were created (91.2% of the target value) and 5 521 jobs were maintained (152.3% of the target value).

²³ Article 6 of the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council. OJ L 149, 20.5.2014, p. 1–66.

- **Union Priority 2 – Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource-efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge-based aquaculture**

Under SO1 (Provision of support to strengthen technological development, innovation and knowledge transfer), two RIs (“Change in value of production” and “Change in net profit”) report values corresponding to just slightly above 5% of their targets.

Under SO2 (measures: “Productive investments in aquaculture” and “Support to new aquaculture farmers”) the reported change in the volume and value of aquaculture production, and the change in net profit, include erroneous data and should not be used for further analysis. Employment created and employment maintained are at 70.9% (888 FTE) and 84.8% (7 703 FTE) of their respective target values.

RIs under SO3 (covering measures related to energy and resource efficiency; increasing potential of aquaculture sites; and eco-management and organic aquaculture) show strong growth in organic aquaculture: 15.6 million tonnes (222.6% of the target value). The RI for recirculation systems reports a moderate increase of 2.2 million tonnes (or 12.2% of achievement of the target). Targets for employment indicators are partially fulfilled: 389 FTE were created (80.4% of the target level) and 184 FTE were maintained (5.6% of the target value).

Under SO4 (Aquaculture farms providing environmental services, public and animal health measures and aquaculture stock insurance) 387 aquaculture farms provide environmental services (33.2% of the target value).

Under SO5 (the only article under this SO that relates to promoting human capital and networking) there are two RIs: employment created and employment maintained. It seems that operations implemented under this SO had limited impact on employment indicators, with 16 new jobs created (3.4% of the target value) and 812 jobs maintained (32.5% of the target value).

- **Union Priority 3 – Fostering the implementation of the CFP**

UP3 has two SOs and related RIs: 3(b)(1) “Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls” and 3(a)(1) “Number of serious infringements detected”. Note that reporting on these indicators involves additional complexity, as they require supplementary data to be calculated and cannot always be provided by individual beneficiaries. MSs reported 1 527 serious infringements detected (2 409 as of the end of 2021!) which corresponds to 32% of the target value. Several factors may impact this number – for example, a general decrease in infringements or less intense controls.

- **Union Priority 4 – Increasing employment and territorial cohesion**

UP4 has only one SO, with measures related to local development strategies. According to the reported values, 8 466 jobs were created (256.5% of the target value). This is a significant increase compared to the previous year, when only 2 709 jobs created were reported. A similar trend is also seen for jobs maintained: at the end of 2021, 6 243 jobs were maintained (67.0% of the target), while a year later the figure stands at 14 583 (156.6% of the target). Successful implementation of CLLD is also confirmed by 1 211 businesses created (157.1% of the target) – a good growth compared to 836 businesses a year ago.

- **Union Priority 5 – Fostering marketing and processing**

UP5 has two SOs: one relates to improvement of market organisation and the other to investments in processing and marketing. Both SOs have the same RIs, which are designed to demonstrate the change in volume and value of first sales, both within and outside producer organisations. Compared to other RIs, the values of the UP5 RIs have more exposure to external factors such as price volatility. Reporting on these RIs is therefore challenging, and the values are often erroneous. Most of the errors are due to the wrong measurement units, but it can be assumed that there are further distortions because the RIs include results that go beyond the direct impact of EMFF-supported operations. As a result, the reported values of these RIs should be approached with vigilance.

- **Union Priority 6 – Fostering the implementation of the IMP**

UP6 is the smallest UP in terms of EMFF allocation and it has only one SO: “Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy”. As with the UP3 indicators, reporting on UP6 indicators involves additional complexity, as it requires supplementary data to be calculated and cannot always be answered by individual beneficiaries. The data quality is also influenced by an additional layer of complexity related to the calculation of percentages. As a result, caution is advised when looking at the reported values of RI 6(1) “Increase in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain”, RI 6(2)(a) “Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives” and RI 6(2)(b) “Change in the coverage of other spatial protection measures under Article 13(4) of the Directive 2008/56/EC”.

2.2.17 EMFF programme-specific result indicators

EMFF intervention logic defines rigid links between measures, specific objectives and result indicators. Most MSs have therefore found it necessary to introduce programme-specific RIs into their OPs to fill gaps perceived to exist when measuring results with common result indicators alone, even though the names of the programme-specific RIs are often similar to those of common RIs.

In several cases, programme-specific RIs provide an insight into what a specific MS considers to be the relevant result of an OP implementation. For example, LT provides a value for a relatively complex indicator “Return on investment (ROI) of fishing in the Baltic Sea”. RO introduced indicators which count aquaculture farms and processing entities affected by loss of sales revenue in the context of the COVID-19 epidemic. Some MSs use an indicator tracing the change in consumption of fish and fish products per capita (HU, SK). ES reports the number of subsidised projects.

Data related to programme-specific indicators cannot be aggregated at the EU level. These data are therefore reported in the AIRs, whereas Infosys reporting captures only common RIs. In total, 17 MSs provided at least a target value for 106 different programme-specific RIs in their AIRs. ES listed the highest number of programme-specific indicators (20), followed by PL (15) and HU (12).

The achieved results for programme-specific RIs are distributed as follows: 24 programme-specific RIs achieved less than 10% of the target value; 12 RIs achieved 10-50% of the target; 24 RIs reported 50-100% of the target, and for 46 RIs the target values were over-achieved.

The complete table of all EMFF programme-specific RIs can be found in Annex 7.

3 Issues affecting the performance of the programme and corrective measures taken (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013)

3.1 Issues affecting performance

This section summarises the main issues highlighted by Member States in their 2022 AIRs, section 4.2.

The war in Ukraine emerged as the most common issue identified by MSs to be affecting EMFF implementation in 2022. In particular, the increase in costs of raw materials and energy that has resulted from the conflict has led to many projects being abandoned as they are no longer feasible within the original budget approved. This has affected a large range of different types of projects, from construction to investment in processing equipment. The economic situation linked to the war has also meant construction projects are taking longer, with increased unpredictability and administrative burden due to changes made to projects and requests for extensions. The resulting delays in project implementation are visible as a lag in certified and paid projects. In some cases, contractors are proposing to terminate contracts due to an inability to meet deadlines.

All this has come at a time when many countries were just starting to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic. Other MSs are still suffering the effects of COVID-19, which also inflated prices of raw material and energy, as well as disrupting supply chains and export markets. The difficulties experienced in selling domestic fishery products, given the total or partial closure of export markets, had a negative impact on the competitiveness of the sector, and this has made it difficult for many companies to make new investments. COVID-19 also led to certain operations being cancelled due to their physical nature, e.g. training projects.

Lengthy administrative procedures to submit and approve projects and check and settle payment claims were also at the root of delays, as well as the limited uptake of funding opportunities in a number of MSs. Also, while programme amendments have been used to improve the poor performance of certain measures in many MSs, the procedures involved in reprogramming have increased the administrative workload and time needed to relaunch calls and generally adapt to changes.

Other issues mentioned by the MSs include:

- Lack of interest from potential beneficiaries in certain measures, leading to a lack of take-up and therefore commitments (NL, BG: interest from project promoters was concentrated on very few measures, RO: low interest by local public authorities for fishing port infrastructure, since only the modernisation of existing infrastructure and not the creation of new ports can be financed).
- Difficulty for private beneficiaries in the sector, and in particular small-scale coastal fisheries, to secure the match funding necessary to present projects for EMFF support (RO, BG).
- Slow execution of certain big projects (BG).
- Underperformance in UP2 due to the limited number of stakeholders, consecutive crises and the general economic climate (BE).
- Underperformance in UP3 due to the infringement procedure blocking disbursement of funding (BE).
- Some other countries pointed to the late start in launching the EMFF as another cause for implementation to be lagging behind expected performance (IT, BG).

- Some MSs pointed to the complexities and/or longer approval process of CLLD projects or local development strategies to explain delays under UP4 (FR, BG, EI). In Greece specifically, the use of multi-funding (EMFF and EAFRD) for CLLD, as well as the involvement of many horizontal services in the procedures, and a delay in activating the State Aid Management Information System, has led to delays in organising procedures, agreeing the role of the public institutional framework, and the definition of fisheries LAGs as Intermediate Bodies.
- Public sector projects face difficulties caused by the regulations applied to public projects (EL).
- Difficulties in managing operations in relation to ports (UP1) as complex and taking a long time to implement. Such difficulties were also compounded by the various crises and the fleet measures implemented in the form of permanent and temporary cessations (FR).
- Cooperation dossiers in UP2 were found to be complex because they involve several partners (FR).
- Many fisheries have been forced to cut back production due to input prices, as they have not been able to finance the same level of stocking as in recent years (HU).
- In 2022, Europe experienced its worst drought in 100 years, resulting in below-average yields for pond production. One-third of respondents had to sell their fish stocks earlier than planned, and carry out forced harvesting (HU).
- Prices for feed, energy and services have risen to levels that threaten the economic sustainability of aquaculture production (HU).
- Administrative and operational challenges within the managing authority and intermediate bodies can delay project approvals and cause problems with coordination and resource allocation (IT)
- The problematic situation for the Baltic cod fishery (SE).

3.2 Corrective measures taken

Below is a summary of the key measures taken to address the issues impacting performance, highlighted by MSs in their AIRs, section 4.2.

The most common measure taken to speed up absorption of funds was to re-allocate funding to measures where demand was higher and implementation quicker. In terms of addressing difficulties faced by the fisheries sector due to the war in Ukraine, many MSs also decided to shift funding towards measures best suited to mitigate the effects of rising costs and the loss of important markets, in particular compensation schemes. In some cases they also increased support for storage of fishery products, and for trade and promotion measures to help find new markets.

Some re-allocations involved transfers from measures within a Union Priority. Others required more substantial re-allocation from one UP to another, with the necessary amendments to the EMFF operational programme.

Some MSs indicated that they had carried out detailed analysis of the implementation of different measures, non-committed funds, and the potential for launching new calls to maximise the use of available budgets. Many MSs extended deadlines for project completion in order to avoid project promoters pulling out of projects, and some of them also modified selection criteria to make funds more accessible.

Efforts to speed up the processing of applications, approvals and payments were also made in various MSs. Initiatives included measures to reduce excessive administrative burden by simplifying and

shortening procedures for applicants, simplifying cost verifications and moving to electronic workflows. Capacity building and improvements to payment forms were also highlighted as ways to reduce errors, thereby improving efficiency. A number of MSs pointed to actions to boost human resources devoted to processing applications and/or payments, including hiring further staff, delegating more power to intermediate bodies, and using administrators from other units within the MA.

A non-exhaustive list of further corrective measures applied by MSs is:

- Communication campaigns, information provision and promotion of measures still open (BE, BG, FR, LV).
- Closely monitoring project implementation stages and enhancing the certification of expenditure (BG).
- Adjusting the target levels for some result, output and financial indicators (EE), following transfer of financial allocations amongst different measures.
- Setting firm deadlines for commitments (31.03.2022), end of operations (30.06.2023) and submission of payment requests (30.09.2023) (FR).
- Completing the work of a task force launched in December 2021 to revisit 400 older projects, resulting in various payment claims being submitted (DK).
- Carrying over some projects to the next programming period 2021-2027, as phasing projects (EL).
- For watercourse restoration, the DK MA has allowed an increase in project budgets and grants to support increased costs of construction due to inflation (DK).
- “Extraordinary support” for entrepreneurs engaged in fishing, aquaculture or the processing of fishing and aquaculture products (EE) (i.e. emergency support measures to mitigate the negative effects on the fisheries sector caused by the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine).
- Change in recommended amounts planned to be used with EMFF financial instruments (EE).
- Dialogue with EC to resolve uncertainties caused by the infringement procedure (BE).
- Mentoring operators to support them in preparing their applications (FR).
- Encouraging and facilitating the implementation of local projects under UP4, e.g. by using the bill payment method; shortening the commitment period for maintaining created jobs from five to three years; and increasing aid intensity for innovative local projects from 70% to 80% (LT).
- More contacts with beneficiaries and a meeting about their obligations (NL).
- Measures to strengthen the liquidity of companies (PT, HU). HU extended its Széchenyi Card scheme to provide new loans for enterprises in agriculture and fisheries, with preferential terms, a state interest subsidy and a guarantee fee subsidy.
- Because of the problems in the Baltic cod fishery, vessels could apply for support for permanent cessation – though this measure gained limited interest (SE).

4 Information on serious infringements and remedy actions (Article 114(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014)

OP implementations are at their final stage, with more than 87% of the total EMFF funding already committed and more than 55% declared by beneficiaries. However, the number of MSs reporting that they have detected serious infringements remains low, as does the number of individual infringements. We can conclude that MSs have established well-functioning detection and reporting systems to protect the system from ineligible beneficiaries.

Information presented in this AIR section varies significantly between MSs in terms of the level of detail provided. Examples of measures taken to detect infringements as described in section 5 of the AIR are presented below.

BG reports that all detecting and reporting systems are in place and in full compliance with national regulations. BG has created a separate manual of procedures and nominated two experts to combat irregularities and fraud; in addition, there are established reporting lines to specialised structures that combat irregularities. Each applicant under the UP1 measures is checked in relation to IUU fishing irregularities.

CY has set up specific procedures to monitor and audit beneficiaries for serious infringements in line with Articles 10(1) of EU regulation 508/2014. CY notes that the process of auditing all beneficiaries during the implementation of the selected operations, and for five years afterwards, has proven to be extremely time-consuming and burdensome for the IB, taking into account the continual increase in the number of operations and beneficiaries.

In **CZ** the rules for applicants include a summary of measures designed to ensure compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy, including corrective measures. Applicants must also provide affidavits related to compliance with the rules. CZ also adopted a fraud prevention directive covering multiple areas.

In **DE** the management and control systems of the federal states include comprehensive measures for fraud prevention. These include screening of applicants before approval and during the implementation of the project (on-site checks, administrative controls) and IT-based implementation of the administrative and control process. The procedures are regularly reviewed and updated when necessary. The security and fraud prevention standards applied are of the highest level and the IT systems are regularly checked and certified.

In **DK** new guidelines and checklists have been developed and implemented since 2019, and are ongoing. Regarding physical controls, 18% of the overall catch was checked, as were 6.9% of overall landings. A systematic check for eligibility was implemented in 2020: each project must be checked for serious infringements by the departments of the Fisheries Agency and with local municipalities in relation to infringements of environmental laws. An IT system for automatic checking of eligibility was launched in the first half of 2021. In July 2022, the managing authority published specific guidance on the admissibility of applications for EMFF support in the event of serious infringements covered by the points system.

In **EE** the control of applicants is laid down in the working procedure of the intermediate body (IB). The IB is responsible for background checks on each applicant. In 2022, no serious infringements were identified in relation to applicants for EMFF support.

EL reports several national-level circulars and decisions to facilitate compliance with the requirements of Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation. Beneficiaries are required to sign a statement confirming their compliance with these requirements.

The **ES** MA has implemented an action protocol and requires each beneficiary to present a signed statement that the requirements of Article 10 of the EMFF regulation are fulfilled. The IBs have to verify these statements before approving an operation. A module allowing IBs to connect to the relevant infractions database is under development and will be functional within the 2021-2027 period. In 2022 ES detected 77 serious infringements, corresponding to 1% of total applications. In the accounting year 2021-2022, in total 66 operations were interrupted, representing an EMFF contribution of EUR 630 000). ES notes that verification procedures are delayed because it is difficult to automate them; they require human involvement and the participation of several organisations.

FI has established its supervision strategy for the years 2016-2020 and also already approved the new strategy for the 2021-2027 period. One previous suspected infringement case is still pending.

In **FR** accordance with Article 10(5) of the EMFF Regulation – verification of the situation of the beneficiary – is checked at two levels. A declaration of conformity by the beneficiary is first required, and then the instructing department systematically verifies these declarations. This procedure is included in the procedure manual and requires the investigating service to check for three types of malpractice: fishing offences (Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation); offences relating to environmental protection; and fraud committed within the framework of the EFF and/or the EMFF. In addition, tools were reinforced in 2021 to verify the absence of offences after the completion of the operation – systematic monitoring is planned for a period of five years.

Since 2017 in **HR** a system of penalty points has been applied in case of serious offences in accordance with EU legislation. During selection and approval of operations the competent authority for control and inspection in fisheries determines the admissibility and compliance with Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation.

In **HU** no serious infringements have been identified so far. However, according to information provided by the MA, several suspected irregularities were reported by 31 December 2022. HU also reports the most common reasons for irregularities, including non-eligible costs, operations not implemented according to the rules, and issues with technical specifications.

The **IE** Sea Fisheries Protection Authority maintains a National Register of Infringements which contains the information required under Article 10(1)(a) of the EMFF Regulation. The register allows for each application to be checked by an intermediate body for admissibility under Article 10. Separately, as required by Article 10(5) of the EMFF, applicants for grant aid under all schemes are required to declare that none of the criteria specified in Article 10(1) apply to them, or if they do, to specify details of their infringements, convictions etc.

In 2021 Sea Fisheries Protection Officers in Ireland detected 20 serious infringements. Of the 39 case files opened by the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority since the establishment of the process for vessel

owners under the 2020 regulations, 20 case files have been forwarded to the appropriate panel and points assigned. Of these, seven cases related to vessels from other Member States. By the end of 2021, the panel had determined 16 serious infringements, of which four were at the appeal stage. In one case there was found to be no serious infringement.

Ireland recently introduced a points-based system for fisheries control. By the end of 2021 eight vessel owners had points applied to their licences by the licensing authority. None of these were at the threshold of nine points that would trigger a period of inadmissibility or recovery of grants already paid.

In **IT**, national decrees set modalities, terms and procedures for the application of the points system for serious infringements. Italy has implemented a fully digitised national register of infringements which produces individual inspection reports that can be provided to other Member States on request. In IT in 2022, 410 cases of serious infringements were reported under Article 42 of Regulation (EC) 1005/2008 and Article 90 of Regulation (EC) 1224/2009.

In **LT** the Fisheries Service under the Ministry of Agriculture is responsible for reporting to the Intermediate Body serious violations of the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy provided for in Article 10(1)(a-c) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014. The infringement register is integrated into the fisheries data information system. Measures to combat illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing are published on the Fisheries Service website.

LV has set up the Latvian Fisheries Integrated Control and Information System (LFICIS) to ensure the application of Regulation (EC) No. 1224/2009. The system includes information on the fishing inspections carried out, infringements found and penalties imposed.

PL applies a system of administrative penalties (financial fines) for violations of sea fishing regulations. In addition, the Sea Fisheries Act of 19 December 2014 regulates the issues of penalties for serious violations of the CFP. Pursuant to Article 93 of Council Regulation No. 1224/2009, an electronic register of breaches of CFP regulations, including serious infringements, was created. In 2022, 10 serious infringements of the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) were detected. Administrative proceedings are pending.

PT has implemented individual registration of infringements. In 2017 a decree established a points system for serious infringements. This was refined in 2019 with a sanctions regime applicable to commercial maritime fishing at any stage of production, including processing, marketing, industry, transport, import, export, re-export and re-import of fishery products, and to the marketing of aquaculture products.

SE performs a variety of checks to verify whether the person seeking or receiving support: has been convicted of fraud; has any claim for reimbursement of aid from the EMFF; has been convicted of environmental crimes (applies only to applications in aquaculture); has received a decision on a serious infringement during the previous 12 months (applies to vessel owners and fishing licence holders); or has a vessel implicated in illegal fishing in the last 24 months. SE has so far had one applicant who had a serious infringement according to Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation.

SI's national implementing regulations ensure compliance with the CFP rules. Data on serious infringements referred to in Article 10(1) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 are obtained when the

Managing Authority verifies applicants' data in the national register of infringements kept by the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture, Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries. Business entities applying for support for aquaculture must submit a signed statement that they have not committed fraud under the rules of the European Fisheries Fund or the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund. The national implementing regulations also stipulate that during the implementation of an operation, and five years after the last payment of funds, the beneficiary must not be convicted of a criminal offence referred to earlier. To certify that, the beneficiaries submit a statement that they have not committed the relevant criminal offence when they submit each progress report, and the Intermediary Body can verify this in court.

UK reported that as at 31 December 2022, a total of five projects have failed to meet their conditions for durability of operations as set out in Article 10(2) of the EMFF Regulation. These projects concern three operators in receipt of funds under UP1, where vessels have been sold, or sunk. In line with the requirements of Article 71(1) of the Common Provisions Regulation 1303/2013, all operators affected have partially repaid their public funding to the Intermediate Bodies concerned.

5 Information on actions taken to ensure the publication of beneficiaries (Article 114(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014)

All MSs reported having made the list of supported beneficiaries available on a dedicated website.

Other information describing wider publicity measures provided in this AIR section includes:

- In **BE**, a variety of channels are used to disseminate different types of information about the EMFF, including broad media and press, project symposia, stakeholder meetings, publications, events, and multimedia platforms. The development of the E-counter will be continued, and its functionalities will be expanded further, with a view to the operation of the EMFAF.
- **BG** provides real-time information on beneficiaries through the UMIS 2020 e-system. Information on application conditions, open procedures, ranked and abandoned projects, and the activities of the MC are published on UMIS, the Unified Information Portal of the European Structural and Investment Funds (www.eufunds.bg); BG also shares statistical data on the usage of this website. The communication activities focus on promoting good practices among the general public and publishing information on successful projects supported by the EMFF.
- In **CY**, **FR** and **GR**, the published list of selected operations is updated every six months.
- **DE** publishes the list of project data in accordance with Article 119 and Appendix V of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 every six months on the portal agrar-fischerei-zahlungen.de. Beneficiaries consent to publication when submitting their personal application data on this website.
- **EE** updates information required by Article 119 and Annex V at the beginning of each month, and this is available on the website of the Agricultural Registers and Information Board. The Fisheries Information Centre plays a crucial role in coordinating the fisheries and aquaculture sectors, facilitating cooperation between fishers and researchers, and managing studies and experimental projects. Throughout the reporting year, 68 different fishing events, such as round table discussions, seminars, information days, workshops, and public events, took place under the organisation of the information centre. A total of 13 studies were completed (including four in aquaculture), along with traditional publications such as *Estonian Fish Economy 2021* and the market overview *Fishing – Industrial and Wholesale Companies 2021*.
- In addition to the list of selected operations, **IT** also provides implementation data on the Open Coesione website (www.opencoesione.it) in the form of a dashboard with interactive graphics and maps.
- **LV** provides all the necessary information and publicity measures in accordance with Article 114(2)(e) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 and Paragraph 1 of Annex V. Information on approved projects and summaries is available on the website of the Ministry of Agriculture (Managing Authority) and the Rural Support Service (Intermediate Body). The information is also published in compliance with the requirements of Article 119(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014, Articles 58-61 of the Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No. 908/2014, and Articles 111-117 of Regulation (EU) No. 1306/2013. This information is also accessible on the websites of the Ministry of Agriculture and the Rural Support Service.
- **PL** administrators significantly increased their online activities, conducting most of their outreach through websites. PL focused on information and promotion activities on social media networks, enabling administrators to reach additional groups of recipients at no cost. Additionally, PL organised an art competition titled “Us and Fish – How the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund has changed the environment around us.”

- The SI MA publishes and regularly updates information on the implementation of the OP on its EMFF website (www.ribiski-sklad.si). The Managing Authority updates the list of beneficiaries after each selection of operations or any change in the published operations. An electronic mailbox has been established for communication with applicants, beneficiaries, and other interested parties.

Several MSs (AT, CZ, FR, PL, SI) noted restrictions in the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) or national legislation regarding the publishing of the names of individuals.

6 Activities in relation to the evaluation plan and synthesis of the evaluations (Article 114(2)) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014, Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013)

CFP Article 50(2) stipulates that the AIR should provide a synthesis of the findings of all evaluations of the OP that have become available during the previous financial year.

Similar to the preceding AIRs, information presented in this AIR section varies significantly amongst the MSs in terms of the level of detail provided. Several MSs provided information on evaluations completed before 2022 and referred to evaluations planned for 2023 as well as to the final evaluation of the programme implementation. Several activities described in this AIR section can be attributed more to monitoring than to evaluation. In some cases audit activities and implementation of action plans are also reported.

There follows a non-exhaustive compilation of evaluation findings and recommendations for selected MSs:

AT

The mid-term evaluation for the 2014-2018 period was completed before 2022. Subsequently, the information provided by Austria mainly pertains to programme monitoring. The progress of the programme is continuously monitored, focusing on developing essential output and result indicators. The Monitoring Committee is responsible for conducting this ongoing monitoring. The cumulative data monitoring serves as an additional mechanism to verify the achievement of result and output indicators.

BE

In the AIR section, the Managing Authority (MA) reported that in 2022 no additional evaluations were conducted due to the impact of successive crises on programming, priorities, and the investment climate. However, the Belgian programme achieved positive outcomes in terms of financial performance, output indicators and result indicators. The MA acknowledged that conducting an additional programme-wide evaluation is currently challenging because of the impending need for a final Operational Programme (OP) amendment in 2023.

BG

The mid-term evaluation of the Maritime Affairs Programme and Fisheries 2014-2020 was conducted to assess the programme's progress and performance up to 31 December 2018. It encompassed all priority axes and measures, as well as the overall implementation process. The evaluation aimed to gauge resource utilisation, performance, and the effectiveness of EMFF programming. Additionally, it assessed the socio-economic impact and how well the programme aligned with community priorities.

During the reporting period, a second interim evaluation of the OP was carried out, focusing on the results achieved during 2019-2020. This evaluation addressed several key aspects, including the absorption of funding, the effectiveness of implementation, the effectiveness of EMFF programming, and the socio-economic impact of the measures. Based on the evaluation's findings, the following recommendations were provided:

- Reduce administrative burden: streamline the application and implementation processes to shorten the time for application processing, evaluation, and ex-post control. Reducing the number of required documents can also help to simplify procedures for beneficiaries.
- Longer application period: provide applicants with a longer application period to allow for multiple coordination efforts with various institutions, ensuring a smoother and more comprehensive application process.
- Capacity building of the MA: continue upgrading the capacity of the MA in various areas such as certification of expenses, public procurement, audit procedures, handling irregularities, and providing training on spreadsheets.
- Improved communication and publicity: develop more focused communication plans to address the specific needs of different target groups. Expand social media to reach a broader audience. Maintain the model for conducting online information campaigns and discussions.

Looking ahead to the next programming period (2021-2027), the evaluation recommended several measures to be considered: ensure that the required procedures and processes are in place and ready for the start of the new programme to facilitate a smooth transition; introduce simplified cost options to streamline administrative processes and make it easier for beneficiaries to access funding; include measures aimed at supporting SSCF to promote sustainable development in coastal areas; create opportunities for CLLD initiatives in municipalities along the river Danube to foster local development and engagement; ensure that measures for CLLD are initiated promptly to maximise their impact and benefits for local communities.

CY

The evaluation plan for the Operational Programme (OP) included a series of evaluations to assess various aspects of the programme's performance. These evaluations were conducted over several years and aimed to provide insights into the effectiveness, efficiency, and impact of the OP.

The first process evaluation took place in 2018, followed by an evaluation of effectiveness and efficiency at the level of Specific Objectives (SOs) and Measures in 2019. Subsequently, in 2020, an assessment specifically focused on UP4, which involves CLLD initiatives. The second process evaluation was carried out in 2021, and an impact assessment at the level of UPs was also performed during the same year. The main conclusions from the second process evaluation are:

- involvement of partners from representative industries is highly valued as it facilitates effective coverage of various topics during the planning and implementation phases of the OP;
- teleconferences and other technological means for the design of the new programme should be further considered to enhance communication and collaboration;
- implementation of the OP was influenced by low demand for certain measures, suggesting that some measures may not be meeting the needs or expectations of potential beneficiaries;
- the OP has matured compared to the previous evaluation, and both the MA and the beneficiaries have gained more experience, leading to improved practices and procedures;
- however, there has been an increase in the amount of work related to project closures, and this situation is exacerbated by a shortage of personnel, potentially affecting the timely and efficient handling of projects.

The mix of communication actions employed during this stage of the OP was deemed appropriate and effective in serving the needs of the programme.

In addition to the process evaluations, an impact assessment was carried out at the level of UPs, focusing on assessing the contribution of the OP towards achieving the goals of the UPs. The results of these individual assessments were made publicly available and can be accessed on the OP's website.

CZ

Between 2018 and 2019, the fisheries Operational Programme (OP) underwent an ongoing evaluation conducted by an external evaluator. The primary objectives of this evaluation were to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of interventions at the measure and specific objective levels, as well as to gauge progress towards achieving the programme's objectives outlined in the Partnership Agreement.

The evaluation also delved into the implementation structure to ascertain its efficiency and effectiveness from the perspective of all stakeholders involved.

The Czech Republic MA acknowledges that some of the recommendations from the interim evaluation conducted in 2018-2019 have been fully implemented, while others are still being carried out.

Notably, certain recommendations from the evaluation have been considered for incorporation into the Fisheries OP for the 2021-2027 programme period. These include measures to reduce administrative complexity and simplify forms, enhance the clarity of instructions for applicants and beneficiaries provided by the MA, centralise information for applicants and beneficiaries to improve accessibility, and establish a streamlined and permanent electronic system for data collection from the aquaculture sector.

In line with a commitment to continuous improvement and responsiveness to evaluation findings, the Evaluation Plan for the Fisheries OP for the 2021–2027 programming period was approved in autumn 2022.

DE

In 2018, an interim evaluation of the Operational Programme (OP) was conducted by external consultants. The findings of this evaluation were summarised briefly in the Annual Implementation Report (AIR) for the year 2019. Subsequently, the administrative authorities of the federal states took on the responsibility for implementing the recommendations and conclusions of the evaluation, where relevant and within their jurisdiction, and taking into consideration the planning and preparation of the new funding period.

DK

In 2022, the MA did not conduct any evaluations of the EMFF programme. Instead, their focus was on ensuring the completion of ongoing projects before the programme's end in 2023. Only a few EMFF schemes opened for applications during this period.

However, preparations for the final evaluation of the programme have commenced. The final evaluation is expected to encompass thematic evaluations that will address the most critical priorities

of the programme. These thematic evaluations will focus on key areas such as the development of coastal fisheries, implementation of the landing obligation, and promotion of an ecosystem approach in fisheries management.

EE

The evaluation process for the EE OP operates on a rolling basis, where the need to conduct evaluations, their schedule, specific objectives, and expected outputs are determined for each subsequent year. The corresponding evaluation plan, along with the results of these evaluations, is presented annually during the monitoring committee meetings.

In October 2022, a contract was awarded to Ernst & Young Baltic AS to assess the performance and impact of several specific measures under the EMFF OP. The evaluation is scheduled to take place in 2023. The primary focus of this evaluation will be to analyse the extent to which the goals set for each priority (UP1, UP2, UP3, UP5, and UP6) have been achieved. The main objectives of the evaluation are as follows: assess the extent of achievement of the OP's main targets for each of the identified measures; analyse the main success factors that contributed to the achievement of these targets; and identify and analyse any obstacles or challenges that hindered the successful implementation of the measures. The evaluation findings will be used to enhance the planning and implementation of the OP and to inform future policy decisions.

EL

As per the evaluation plan, the Greek MA prepared and distributed the AIR. After reviewing the Monitoring and Evaluation framework, the MA has determined that no modifications are necessary, and no new evaluation needs were identified.

ES

The evaluation plan for the OP aims to showcase the progress and achievements of the programme, assess the impact, effectiveness, efficiency, and relevance of EMFF implementation, review the coherence of the strategy, and implement corrective actions if any deficiencies are identified.

In the AIR section, ES primarily provides information about the action plan derived from the evaluation's conclusions, which received support from the Commission. The MC approved the action plan in April 2021, and two follow-ups were conducted in March and October 2022.

The summary of the monitoring of actions in the action plan, as provided by the MA, is organised into three categories:

- administrative measures adopted in 2022: application of open calls; publication of calls as early as possible to allow beneficiaries ample time for execution, due to the programme's advanced stage; multiannual calls primarily for measures requiring significant investment and a longer execution period; online processing of applications;
- economic or budgetary measures;
- strengthening human resources to support the successful implementation of the programme;
- enhancing IT tools for better management and monitoring.

In 2023, ES anticipates that it will use compensation measures related to the consequences of Russia's military aggression against Ukraine to address the implementation gap caused by withdrawals or reductions.

FI

The effectiveness of the Finnish Operational Programme (OP) in the fisheries sector is evaluated by a team of experts specialising in fisheries and fish stock assessment at the Natural Resources Institute. This evaluation is an ongoing exercise that involves collaboration with fishery managers, entrepreneurs and stakeholders. The aim of this assessment is to provide valuable information on the development of industries and the operating environment within the fisheries sector.

The evaluation covers various aspects of the fisheries industry, including the fish market overview, which analyses the global fish market, the European salmon market, and the fish oil and fishmeal markets. It also examines the domestic market, considering the development of different fish species and production methods. Another crucial aspect is the review of fishing conditions, which delves into catch development, the impact of weather and natural conditions, economic and social factors, and future developments. Additionally, the overview of fish farming conditions focuses on farming production and the market situation, weather and natural conditions, economic and social factors, and potential threats and opportunities.

The maritime policy was also evaluated, with the conclusion that the package of maritime policy measures has successfully fostered cross-administrative cooperation between authorities. It has improved the strategic planning and management of maritime policy. However, it was noted that while the funded activities have been successful, they fell short of fully achieving ambitious goals related to sea area control, maintenance of sea area information, monitoring, marine area planning, national maritime policy improvement, and maritime expertise development. Communication and stakeholder cooperation were also deemed partially successful.

The final report of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) OP evaluation, published in 2023, provided several recommendations. These included advocating for continuous assessment and forecasting, supporting innovation programs, introducing more systematic monitoring of investments with strategic importance, setting more long-term goals, promoting solution-oriented cooperation between different administrative sectors, enhancing product development in the fisheries sector, improving external communication, and investing in training for the fishing industry.

Furthermore, the impact of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine on the fisheries sector was assessed and monitored. The results of this assessment helped determine the subsidies and support measures required for the sector.

In 2022, an evaluation of the seal and cormorants damage compensation scheme was also conducted, and its final results will contribute to designing the compensation model for the EMFAF programme.

FR

In France, an evaluation was conducted at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, and its recommendations were closely monitored and incorporated during the revision of the programme. These recommendations were also taken into account for the development of the EMFAF programme.

The MA took several actions in response to the recommendations. For UP1, temporary cessation of fishing was activated, and funds were redeployed to select port projects with substantial financing amounts. In UP2, more demanding selection criteria were put in place, and the budget for the two most demanded measures was increased due to rapid consumption of funding. For UP3, support for data collection operations was identified to ensure a smooth transition to the new EMFAF programme. In UP4, the loss of the performance reserve was distributed among the regions and FLAGs on a pro-rata basis, and reallocations of funding between measures were implemented for UP5 and UP6.

Intermediate bodies and regions provided support measures for project leaders, including instalment payments to facilitate project completion. In the context of the next programming period, project leaders will receive more extensive support, such as covering consulting expenses and financing actors like fishing committees to directly assist the sector. Other recommendations related to governance and simplified costs are being studied for integration into the future EMFAF programme, although they may require further procedure overhauls.

The strengthening of the national FLAG network led to improvements based on observations from the mid-term evaluation. The national evaluation of CLLD implementation in France, conducted by the national network in 2021, provided lessons and advice for the future. Regular exchanges between regions were organised to advance collectively on projects related to the future EMFAF CLLD, ensuring continuous progress in these territories.

Certain recommendations and observations were more general, and efforts were made to address under-programming risks through improved communication tools at local and national levels. Lack of coordination and communication within the partnership and under-use of the technical assistance budget were identified as challenges, and plans are in place to address them in the next programming period with the launch of EMFAF.

An assessment of the programme's impacts for certain measures was set up in 2022, covering EMFF support for productive investments in fishing, aquaculture, processing, marketing sectors, and crisis-related compensations. The evaluation is ongoing as of the end of 2022, and final results are yet to be available.

HR

In 2019 a mid-term evaluation was conducted, resulting in a series of recommendations to enhance various aspects of the programme. These recommendations covered monitoring and control systems; support for networking, association, and cooperation of stakeholders; and initiatives to address horizontal issues like reducing environmental impact and utilising environmental indicators. Communication and capacity-building activities for stakeholders, particularly FLAGs, were also suggested.

In 2022, the implementation of the mid-term evaluation recommendations continued in accordance with an action plan for their execution and monitoring. Additionally, a separate evaluation of the EMFF OP at the level of UP4 was concluded. The purpose of this evaluation was to analyse achievements and propose further enhancements to the effectiveness and efficiency of UP4 implementation. Several recommendations were provided based on the evaluation:

- implement Simplified Cost Options (SCO) for preparatory support, running, and management costs;
- consider “umbrella projects” to facilitate access to financing for small projects;
- inform Fisheries Local Action Groups (LAGs) about the importance of defining measurable and achievable result/output indicators, particularly related to environmental protection, to measure the real and broader impact of CLLD;
- simplify procedures for amending CLLD;
- simplify administrative procedures for project evaluation and contracting;
- promptly and effectively involve key stakeholders in the planning process for new strategies;
- enable the pre-financing model of projects to encourage a larger number of applicants;
- facilitate active communication with commercial banks to offer suitable financial packages for supporting project implementation co-financed from the EMFF.

HU

In HU, evaluations are conducted by external experts who are functionally independent of the responsible authorities. These evaluations involve the provision of methodologies, annual assessments, and continuous summaries.

In 2022, a satisfaction survey consisting of questionnaires and in-depth interviews was repeated among beneficiaries of the OP. The results yielded several important conclusions. Concerning abandoned operations, beneficiaries justified their actions based on economics, citing the impact of the Russian-Ukrainian war, which increased the prices of construction materials and energy and prolonged construction times. To address this issue, HU recommends appropriate measures to reduce the number of abandoned operations in future programmes.

Regarding financial implementation, the survey analysis suggested a continued focus on financial planning and an increased level of commitments. The underperformance of result indicators revealed that the aid intensity significantly influences the decisions of potential applicants. Furthermore, planning errors, inadequate consideration of sector needs, and weaknesses in the quality of aid applications contributed to the underperformance of several output indicators. Additionally, eligibility problems, combined with a shift towards fewer but larger projects and an increase in prices, also played a role in the underperformance.

Based on these lessons learned from the evaluations, it is essential to take appropriate actions and improvements to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of future programmes.

IE

The following evaluations have been undertaken to date in IE: review of the FLAG programme 2012-15 (February 2016); cost-benefit analysis of the proposed decommissioning scheme (July 2016); ex-ante assessment of the use of financial instruments (June 2017); evaluation of lobster v-notching scheme (2018); evaluation of sustainable fisheries scheme (2019); evaluation of the EMFF OP 2014-2020.

In 2020 Ireland carried out two evaluations addressing effectiveness and process respectively. The effectiveness evaluation focused on how well the EMFF programme was being implemented, with the key question being how effective EMFF measures have been in achieving the SOs and the targets set

in the OP. This was carried out by evaluating each scheme against key evaluation questions. The process evaluation focused on the delivery mechanism of the EMFF OP 2014-2020. This evaluation assessed management structures and implementation methods, and evaluated the effectiveness and efficiency of the management and delivery system.

For the current programme, the main recommendations proposed in the final report were to continue to keep commitments under review and to reallocate funds from schemes that are unlikely to spend their full allocation to those where demand exists; clearly designated responsibilities should be put in place to capture data to determine RIs.

For the future programme, the main recommendations were to: streamline the number of interventions in the interests of efficiency and clarity; ensure clear targeting (to increase uptake) to areas of need, minimising any potential for overlap; improve programme management efficiency regarding the IT system; and process more grants online. The MA should clearly detail and communicate the purpose for which technical assistance should be used; the MA should provide training at the outset of the programme; and a new centralised communication strategy to promote awareness of the EMFAF in a coherent and consistent manner should be agreed and rolled out. Support should also be put in place to build capacity in some sectors where there is an ongoing need (economic drivers to support growth and competitiveness), or where uptake to date has been low. Such support should be within the scope of the regulations, for example covering networking, knowledge transfer and dissemination, to raise awareness and provide pathways to other beneficial interventions.

IT

During 2022, the evaluation activities for the Fisheries Operational Programme (OP) focused on two main aspects: UP2, particularly measures related to investments in aquaculture, and UP4. These two UPs encountered significant challenges during the implementation of the OP. The final evaluation yielded several important conclusions and recommendations.

First, it was observed that the OP contained a large number of measures with limited financial allocations. This led to high activation costs for many measures, making their implementation challenging. Additionally, the activation of numerous measures required sufficient human resources, which were difficult to attain due to limited staff availability in the public administration. In contrast, the new EMFAF programme concentrates resources on a select number of interventions, streamlining the implementation process.

Certain interventions were noted for their positive impact. Measures for both temporary and permanent cessation were effective in reducing fishing effort in line with European Commission requirements. Measures aimed at increasing the added value of the catch and diversifying fishing activities were seen as innovative and attractive for young people, playing a crucial role in stimulating their interest in the sector.

The evaluation emphasised the significance of supporting business diversification interventions, such as transformation, fishing tourism, and increasing added value through shortening supply chains and applying Community trademarks and certifications. The need for innovation in aquaculture was also highlighted, especially regarding nutritional and environmental sustainability, advanced production

systems, and collaboration between operators and scientists to conserve and restore traditional aquaculture systems.

The evaluation recognised two types of environmental services provided by the sector: capturing invasive alien species in inland waters and collecting waste, especially plastics, at sea. However, these interventions were noted for their sporadic nature, requiring specific conditions for activation, such as suitable waste collection centres and municipal support.

In-depth analysis of investments in aquaculture during 2022 showed positive effects for companies receiving EMFF support, including increased turnover, improved management skills, reduced working time, increased productivity, enhanced working safety, and potential employment growth.

Regarding financing, access to credit was not a significant obstacle during the EMFF programming. However, future financial instruments like guarantees and interest subsidies could prove useful if the situation worsens.

The evaluation of CLLD activities is scheduled for June 2023. Initial evidence suggests that FLAGs operating in larger territories with greater financial resources offer advantages in management capacity and resource allocation. However, extending these advantages to more extensive and heterogeneous territories may not always be viable. Linking FLAGs and other territorial coordination structures can avoid duplication and extend the impact of interventions. Harmonised actions between FLAG and Intermediate Bodies (IBs) ensure efficiency and clarity for beneficiaries, while dissemination of EMFF opportunities is strengthened through FLAG's animation activities.

LT

Lithuania's evaluation plan includes the monitoring of Operational Programme (OP) indicators, which is an ongoing process covering all UPs. Based on the evaluation results, modifications were made to the implementation rules for UP1, UP2, and UP5, as well as administrative and measure implementation rules.

Quarterly programme implementation assessments provide a comprehensive overview of the OP's progress, in terms of both quantitative and financial aspects, and the achievement of indicators. This assessment also identifies emerging problems and suggests solutions.

In 2022, Lithuania conducted a preliminary assessment related to the use of financial instruments in the EMFAF programme. The assessment concluded that financial instruments are suitable for implementing two measures: "Investments to the production facilities (fixed assets) in sustainable aquaculture production and related value-added activities" and "Investments in fisheries and aquaculture products recycling". The analysis revealed a lack of financing available under market conditions for companies in the fisheries sector, with approximately 50% of SMEs facing difficulties such as higher operational risk, lack of collateral, high financing costs, and limited operating history. In the 2021-2027 period, the shortfall for productive investments in sustainable aquaculture production and related value-added activities is projected to be around EUR 10.5 million, and for SMEs in the processing of fishing and aquaculture products, the shortfall is estimated at EUR 7 million. Due to rapidly increasing production costs, a high demand is predicted for revolving loans in the short term. To address these financing gaps, Lithuania proposes the creation of a new financial instrument called shared risk loans in the form of a fund of funds. The ex-ante valuation report suggests a leverage ratio

of at least 1.6 for this instrument. The pooled funds are planned to finance at least 10 aquaculture development projects and nine processing capacity development projects. If the funds are reinvested at least once during the 2021-2027 expenditure eligibility period, the number of financed projects can be increased to 16 and 13, respectively.

LV

The evaluation of the OP investments is an ongoing process, conducted continuously by independent experts from the Institute of Agricultural Resources and Economics. In 2022, several evaluation activities were implemented to assess various aspects of the fisheries industry and the effectiveness of communication channels.

One of the evaluations focused on communication means and channels related to the direct target audience. A survey of representatives from the fishing industry was conducted to assess their perception of communication about European Maritime Affairs and the implementation possibilities of the EMFF. The findings from this assessment will be used to create effective communication strategies for the 2021-2027 programming period, with the Rural Support Service's website as the primary source of information for beneficiaries. Emphasis will also be placed on oral communication, ensuring access to experts.

The evaluation also addressed the methodology for compensation of aquaculture environmental measures and related organic aquaculture payment recalculation. Recommendations for calculations were provided, considering updated fish farming conditions and feed costs.

The assessment included the calculation of crisis-related compensation, establishing reference price methodologies for fisheries resources and fish processing products for export to Belarus, Russia, and Ukraine in 2021.

The sustainability of the fishing industry concerning the consumption of productive resources was also evaluated. The research on production resource costs aimed to identify risks and opportunities for support. The evaluation found that support is necessary for high-risk cases in the fisheries sector, particularly regarding energy and fish feed in aquaculture enterprises. To mitigate risks, the evaluation recommended supporting innovation, pilot projects, cooperation with science, modernisation of the fishing fleet, aquaculture product processing, diversification of production, and the use of renewable energy.

Lastly, updated guidelines were prepared for the development of Local Action Group (LAG) strategies for the 2021-2027 period. These guidelines are meant to support fisheries LAGs in the development of community-driven local development strategies and provide recommendations, examples, and best practices from Latvia and other countries.

MT

In line with the evaluation plan adopted in March 2016, the interim evaluation for Malta's OP was conducted and the final report was concluded by May 2019.

A detailed summary of the outcomes and recommendations was presented in the AIR 2019. The report's findings were given their due importance by the MA in its endeavour to transform best

practices into de facto standard procedures. Lessons learned will also be part of an administrative legacy to be applied in the upcoming programming period 2021-2027.

NL

During the annual EMFF evaluation meeting, communication between the Ministry or intermediate body and beneficiaries was assessed, with a particular focus on innovation in aquaculture. Additionally, the communication addressed the obligations of beneficiaries concerning payment requests.

As the EMFF implementation was nearing its end, the Ministry and intermediate body organised meetings with beneficiaries whose projects were set to conclude in 2023. The purpose of these meetings was to discuss potential issues and challenges that might arise as the projects approached completion.

PL

In 2022, Poland did not conduct any formal evaluations of the OP according to Article 54 of Regulation No. 1303/2013. However, the MA carried out a detailed analysis of the implementation of individual programme measures, available funds, and opportunities during March and April 2022. This analysis aimed to assess the progress and performance of the OP during that period.

Additionally, the MA initiated preliminary conceptual work related to the ex-post evaluation of the OP. This ex-post evaluation will focus on assessing the implementation of the OP in terms of achieving its targets and objectives. Particular emphasis will be given to the performance framework, which includes effectiveness, efficiency, and impact indicators.

The evaluation will cover various aspects of the programme management and implementation system, including the process of issuing calls for proposals, the time taken to evaluate applications and sign contracts, and any issues related to the settlement of payment requests. By identifying and addressing legal barriers that hinder beneficiaries and the administration, the MA aims to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of future programming periods.

The ex-post evaluation will also assess the implementation of the OP in relation to its final objectives. This assessment will identify both positive and negative factors that have affected the programme's performance. A detailed assessment of the achievement of individual objectives will be conducted, considering their relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, and durability.

PT

The EMFF OP assessment plan is included in the Global Assessment Plan for Portugal. The following ongoing assessments were listed: evaluation of the implementation of the Pacts for Development and Territorial Cohesion and of CLLD; assessment of the contribution of PT 2020 to the Europe 2020 Strategy and the National Programme of Reforms; evaluation of the implementation of measures on adaptation to climate change; the Portugal 2020 Macroeconomic Impact Assessment; and assessment of the contribution of Portugal 2020 to the National Strategy for the Sea 2013-2020, which covers all five ESI funds .

OP implementation assessment was also completed in 2020. In 2022, as a result of a follow-up it was concluded that most recommendations were accepted.

RO

The Managing Authority (MA) has established an evaluation methodology aimed at supporting the effective management of the Operational Programme (OP) and assessing its implementation progress. As part of this methodology, an interim evaluation is conducted annually to analyse various aspects of the OP's performance.

During the working group's evaluation of the OP implementation as of 2022, the following key issues were analysed:

- Achievement of output, result, and financial indicators: the working group assessed the progress made in achieving the predefined indicators set out in the OP. These indicators are used to measure the tangible outputs and outcomes of the funded projects.
- Trends in environmental indicators: The evaluation included an analysis of the environmental indicators to understand the impact of the OP's interventions on the environment and sustainability aspects.
- Irregularities: The evaluation team examined any irregularities or non-compliance issues that may have arisen during the implementation of the OP, and identified areas that need improvement to ensure proper compliance with regulations.
- Rejections and delays in funding requests: The reasons behind the rejection of funding requests and delays in the reimbursement process were examined to identify any bottlenecks or challenges faced by beneficiaries.
- Problems encountered by FLAGs: The working group addressed the issues faced by Fisheries Local Action Groups (FLAGs) to understand the challenges and obstacles they encountered during the implementation of the OP.

Based on the evaluation findings, several lessons were learned for the upcoming 2021-2027 programming period, notably:

- providing more predictable and well-communicated dates for the launch of calls can help potential applicants better prepare and submit their proposals;
- reducing the time taken from application submission to contract signing can improve the efficiency of the funding process and expedite project implementation;
- enhancing the monitoring of contract implementation can ensure that projects are executed according to the agreed terms and conditions, and any issues are addressed promptly;
- the IB responsible for managing the OP's financial flows may need to revise its payment strategy to meet the needs and priorities outlined by the MA.

SE

In 2022, the Swedish MA conducted several evaluations related to the impact and effectiveness of the funded interventions.

Evaluation of Investment Support for Aquaculture and Processing Industry (2007-2019): This evaluation assessed the impact of investment support on the competitiveness and growth of

companies in the aquaculture and processing industries. The study analysed data from companies that received financial support and compared them with similar companies that did not receive assistance (counterfactual analysis). The evaluation found that the investment support contributed positively to growth by increasing the production value and likely increasing employment in aquaculture companies. However, there were no significant effects on productivity, which is essential for long-term competitiveness.

Follow-up of Investment Support for Aquaculture and Nutrient Reduction (2014-2020): This follow-up evaluated the use and impact of investment support in aquaculture on nutrient reduction. The study focused on companies that received support and reported their production increase and its impact on reducing nutrient load. Mussel farms, which accounted for a significant portion of the production increase, showed a reduction in nutrient load. However, it was challenging to quantify the overall reduction in nutrient load due to the subsidies.

Test of Model for Leader Effects Evaluation (Interim Report 4): This evaluation was part of a broader project on evaluating sustainable effects from Leader actions. The report examined the usability of the Leader impact evaluation model developed by evaluators. The main finding was that the model did not work effectively in practice for evaluating Leader actions. However, the evaluators suggested revisions to enhance its usefulness.

The evaluations were conducted by an advisory research group consisting of external researchers from various Swedish universities, ensuring independent and rigorous assessments. The results of these evaluations provide valuable insights into the effectiveness and impact of the EMFF investments in the aquaculture and fisheries sectors and can inform future decision-making and policy development in the maritime and fisheries industry in Sweden.

SI

The MA is conducting an ongoing evaluation of the OP for the years 2021 and 2022. The primary objectives of this evaluation are to assess the performance of SOs and measures and to review the fulfilment of recommendations from a previous evaluation conducted in 2021. Although the final report is not yet available, the findings will focus on:

- composition and representation in the Monitoring Committee (MC);
- timetable and acceleration of implementation procedures;
- rigidity of project implementation through public tenders;
- importance of continuous communication;
- improving operational implementation between LAGs and the IB.

SK

The Slovakian MA conducted an internal assessment in February 2018 to evaluate the achievement of the OP performance framework indicators. The findings from this assessment played a crucial role in proposing revisions to the OP by adjusting mid-term indicators of the performance framework.

In 2022, the MA did not make any changes to the Evaluation Plan. However, the MA recognised the importance of further refining the focus of the evaluation topics identified in the plan. This would involve specifying the areas that need in-depth evaluation and assessment to gain valuable insights

into the OP's implementation and impacts. Additionally, the MA discussed the need to establish a clear time schedule for the anticipated evaluation activities, and acknowledged the importance of defining the necessary resources for successful implementation of the evaluation plan.

UK

There have been two external evaluations of the EMFF. These evaluations were summarised in the 2020 AIR and the broad findings of each are set out below.

The EMFF sponsorship body (DEFRA) conducted an evaluation of the implementation and early impact of the EMFF in 2019, also referred to as the socio-economic evaluation of the EMFF. This evaluation, which focused on the process and delivery elements of the EMFF, was presented to the Programme Monitoring Committee in November 2020 and formally published in 2021. The report highlighted that the overall opinion of grant recipients accessing the scheme was positive; the effectiveness of the delivery model at each UK Intermediate Body varies, partly because each faces a different situation; grants received have resulted in both intended and unintended benefits, with several interviewees reporting wider impacts for third parties (i.e. local suppliers); there appears to be some geographical variation in the uptake of grants.

An evaluation of the environmental benefits delivered through the EMFF in England was commissioned by DEFRA and published in November 2019. In summary, the evaluation found that projects funded under the EMFF have been delivering environmental benefits and/or are likely to do so in the future. This includes reducing incidental mortality of commercial and non-commercial fish stocks, improving and connecting habitats, developing skills and knowledge (human capital), broadening participation in environmental decision-making (human and social capital), and improving energy efficiency. The evaluating body also concluded that the RIs applicable to the EMFF programme were not that useful in selecting environmental projects, due to their focus on flows (in natural capital terms) which downplay potential contributions to reducing pressures or enhancing assists.

The UK MA is committed to undertaking a third evaluation. In accordance with Article 56(3) of the Common Provisions Regulation 1303/2013, the UK is required to assess how support from the EMFF has contributed to the objectives for each UP. This evaluation will be commissioned in 2023.

7 Citizens' summary (Article 50(9) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013)

Along with their AIRs, all MSs also submitted a citizens' summary – a short overview of the state of play of their OP implementation.

The annual implementation reports, and citizens' summaries of their contents, shall be made available to the public.

9 Report on the implementation of financial instruments (Article 46(1) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013)

In cases where an MA has decided to use financial instruments, it must send the Commission a specific report covering their operations as an annex to the AIR, using the template included in the implementing act adopted pursuant to Article 46(3) of Regulation (EU) No. 1303/2013.

According to the information provided in the AIRs, only Estonia and Bulgaria currently implement financial instruments within the framework of the EMFF. Both MSs reported in their AIRs that the type of financial instrument was a “fund of funds”.

Estonia implements financial instruments under UP2 and UP5.

Under UP2, Estonia initially established an investment loan fund totalling EUR 4 320 000 (including management fees) for aquaculture production. Due to the lack of demand from the sector the total amount (including management fees) of the loan was further reduced to EUR 1 137 549 in 2022. As of the end of 2022, the total amount of programme payments made to the financing instrument was EUR 1 106 772, of which the EMFF amount was EUR 830 079. Seven loan agreements have been signed and disbursements have been made to six loan agreements in the amount of EUR 820 836.

Under UP5 EE has two types of financial instruments:

- A growth loan fund. The total programme contributions paid to this financial instrument was EUR 4 190 211, of which EMFF contributions amounted to EUR 3 142 659.
- A long-term investment loan fund for micro- and small enterprises in fish processing. The total programme contributions paid to the financial instrument was EUR 782 356, of which EMFF contributions made up EUR 586 767.

As of the end of 2022, through the growth loan fund 11 loan agreements have been concluded with micro- and small enterprises engaged (or starting to engage) in fish processing, with payments amounting to EUR 732 855. Under the long-term investment loan fund, seven loan agreements were concluded, for which payments of EUR 3 483 941 have been made.

Bulgaria implements financial instruments under UP2, UP4 and UP5.

The total amount of programme contributions committed in the funding agreement under UP2 is EUR 1 636 940, of which the EMFF part is EUR 1 227 705. The total amount of programme contributions paid to the financial instrument is EUR 409 235, of which EUR 306 926 is EMFF funding.

The total amount of programme contributions committed in the funding agreement under UP4 is EUR 306 780, of which the EMFF part is EUR 260 763. The total amount of programme contributions paid to the financial instrument is EUR 76 695, of which EUR 65 191 is EMFF funding.

The total amount of programme contributions committed in the funding agreement under UP5 is EUR 818 470, of which the EMFF part is EUR 613 853. The total amount of programme contributions paid to the financial instrument is EUR 204 618, of which EUR 153 463 is EMFF funding.

10 Annexes

10.1 Annex 1 EMFF contributions to policy objectives and specific topics

The EMFF Regulation ((EC) No. 508/2014) structures support by measures (EMFF Articles). The EMFF intervention logic links EMFF articles to TOs, SOs and UPs.

To determine EMFF support for various policy objectives within the CFP, IMP and Europe 2020 strategy, and also for specific topics (for example SSCF, outermost regions, and innovation), links had to be established between the EMFF articles and these objectives and topics. These links are presented in the table below.

Policies	Objectives	EMFF Article 508/2014	UP
CFP objectives	CFP(2)2: Ensure that exploitation of living marine biological resources restores and maintains populations of harvested species above levels which can produce the maximum sustainable yield	37, 38 (partially), 39, 40(1)(a,b-g,h)	1
	CFP(2)3: Ensure that fisheries activities avoid the degradation of the marine environment	76	3
	CFP(2)4: Collection of scientific data	77 ²⁴	3
	CFP(2)5 a, b: Gradually eliminate discards, by avoiding and reducing unwanted catches, and by gradually ensuring that catches are landed; where necessary, make the best use of unwanted catches	38 (partially), 42, 43(2)	1
		68 (partially)	5
	CFP(2)5 c: Provide conditions for economically viable and competitive fishing capture and processing industry and land-based fishing-related activity	26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 35, 41(1)(a-c), 41(2), 43(1,3)	1
		62, 63, 64	4
		68 (partially), 69	5
	CFP(2)5 d: Adjust the fishing capacity of the fleets according to fishing opportunities	33, 34, 36	1
	CFP(2)5 e: Promote the development of sustainable aquaculture activities	47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57	2
	CFP(2)5 f: Contribute to a fair standard of living for those who depend on fishing activities	29, 32	1
		67, 70	5
	CFP(2)5 g: Contribute to an efficient and transparent internal market for fisheries and aquaculture	66	5
CFP(2)5 h: Take into account the interests of both consumers and producers	68 with Infosys codes 124-127 ²⁵	5	
IMP objectives	IMP 3.2.a: Development of the Common Information Sharing Environment for the Union maritime domain, in line with the principles of the Integrated Maritime Surveillance	80(1)(a)	6

²⁴ EC 508/2014 Article 13(4): limited allocation possible.

²⁵ Infosys fields for types of operations: 124 – Transparency of production, 125 – Traceability and eco-labels, 126 – Standard contracts, 127 – Communication and promotional campaigns.

Policies	Objectives	EMFF Article 508/2014	UP
	IMP 2.c: Promote the protection of the marine environment, in particular its biodiversity, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources	80(1)(b)	6
	IMP 3.2 c: Development of a comprehensive and publicly accessible high quality marine data and knowledge base	80(1)(c) ²⁶	6
EU 2020 objectives	TO3: Enhancing the competitiveness of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)	26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 40.1.h, 42, 43(1,3)	1
		47, 48(1)(a-d,f-h), 49, 51, 52, 55, 56, 57	2
		66, 67, 68, 69, 70	5
	TO4: Supporting the shift towards a low-carbon economy in all sectors	41(1)(a-c), 41(2)	1
		48(1)(k)	2
	TO6: Preserving and protecting the environment and promoting resource efficiency	34, 37, 38(1)(a), 40(1)(a,b-g,i), 43(2)	1
		48(1)(e,i,j), 53, 54	2
		77, 76	3
		80(1)	6
	TO8: Promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting labour mobility	29(1)(a,b), 29(2), 29(3)	1
		50	2
		62(1)(a), 63, 64	4
EC 508/2014 Article 5	508/2014 Article 5(a): Promoting competitive, environmentally sustainable, economically viable and socially responsible fisheries and aquaculture	UP1, 2, 5	1, 2, 5
	508/2014 Article 5(b): Fostering the implementation of the CFP	UP3	3
	508/2014 Article 5(c): Promoting a balanced and inclusive territorial development of fisheries and aquaculture areas	UP4	4
	508/2014 Article 5(d): Fostering the development and implementation of the Union's IMP in a manner complementary to cohesion policy and to the CFP	UP6	6
Specific topics	Small-scale coastal fisheries	26, 28, 29(1,2), 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 38, 39, 40(1)(a,b-g,h,i), 41(1)(a-c), 41(2), 42, 43(1), 43(3), 63, 69, 70, 76. All operations with fleet register number filtered by the size of vessel (<12m)	1,3,4,5
	Outermost regions	NUTS codes (outermost regions for ES, FR, PT)	
	Innovation	26, 28, 39, 47	1,2

²⁶ EC 508/2014 Article 13(7): limited allocation possible.

Policies	Objectives	EMFF Article 508/2014	UP
	Landing obligation (narrow approach)	37, 38, 39, 68 – partially, based on Infosys codes relevant to LO 42, 43(2) – all operations	1,5
	Landing obligation (broader approach)	37, 38, 39, 42, 43(2), 68 – partially, based on Infosys code relevant to LO	1,5
	Energy efficiency	41(1)(a-c), 41(2), 43(1,3), 48(1)(e,i,j), 48(1)(k), 53	1,2
	Climate change adaptation	38(1)(c,d), 43(1,3), 43(2)	1
Horizontal principles	Gender equality and non-discrimination	29(1,2)	1
	Sustainability	26, 27, 29, 30, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41	1
		47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 57	2
		63	4
		68	5

10.2 Annex 2 EMFF implementation per Member State

10.2.1 EMFF implementation per Member State (Infosys)

MS	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
AT	6 965 000	7 467 928	107.2	6 540 650	93.9	225
BE	41 746 051	46 801 701	112.1	32 291 358	77.4	373
BG	80 823 727	68 382 629	84.6	46 613 796	57.7	709
CY	39 715 209	38 328 907	96.5	24 858 399	62.6	1 580
CZ	31 108 015	32 519 439	104.5	24 175 516	77.7	1 230
DE	219 596 276	176 483 872	80.4	154 333 304	70.3	3 090
DK	208 355 420	199 430 261	95.7	152 687 987	73.3	2 136
EE	100 970 418	91 351 760	90.5	76 357 615	75.6	1 795
EL	379 745 523	506 964 295	133.5	188 926 497	49.8	9 989
ES	1 057 143 957	941 826 032	89.1	706 311 509	66.8	22 829
FI	74 393 168	72 397 956	97.3	68 078 366	91.5	3 150
FR	587 980 173	582 546 255	99.1	396 554 067	67.4	6 976
HR	252 643 138	275 639 703	109.1	149 358 042	59.1	4 450
HU	38 412 223	39 359 567	102.5	21 145 037	55.0	222
IE	147 601 979	146 869 833	99.5	138 084 261	93.6	3 320
IT	537 262 559	514 887 854	95.8	328 575 997	61.2	20 270
LT	63 432 222	54 134 459	85.3	39 209 364	61.8	834
LV	139 833 742	163 348 583	116.8	89 899 865	64.3	1 268
MT	22 627 422	21 896 577	96.8	19 279 900	85.2	114
NL	101 523 244	102 373 027	100.8	70 385 056	69.3	536
PL	531 219 456	540 822 203	101.8	335 008 208	63.1	12 330
PT	392 485 464	416 954 121	106.2	286 286 161	72.9	9 156
RO	168 421 371	162 343 815	96.4	111 460 498	66.2	725
SE	120 156 004	108 943 864	90.7	100 883 880	84.0	1 076
SI	21 777 441	21 436 974	98.4	15 220 351	69.9	196
SK	9 386 728	3 002 623	32.0	2 893 176	30.8	27
UK	243 139 437	226 906 947	93.3	192 364 909	79.1	2 949
Total	5 618 465 367	5 563 421 187	99.0	3 777 783 769	67.2	111 555

Source: AIR/Infosys

10.2.2 EMFF implementation per Member State (AIR)

MS	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
AT	6 965 000	7 429 116	106.7	6 507 376	93.4	218
BE	41 746 051	46 420 443	111.2	31 963 291	76.6	373
BG	80 823 727	68 577 812	84.8	47 473 066	58.7	713
CY	39 715 209	38 298 607	96.4	24 884 825	62.7	1 580
CZ	31 108 015	39 479 534	126.9	26 079 572	83.8	1 230
DE	219 596 276	192 618 496	87.7	164 990 477	75.1	3 271
DK	208 355 420	202 968 255	97.4	156 397 375	75.1	2 062
EE	100 970 418	94 985 467	94.1	79 575 504	78.8	1 811
EL	379 745 523	504 578 012	132.9	196 708 984	51.8	9 989
ES	1 057 143 957	924 370 591	87.4	689 044 014	65.2	22 184
FI	74 393 168	73 848 715	99.3	70 084 844	94.2	3 150
FR	587 980 173	582 562 370	99.1	394 274 294	67.1	8 139
HR	252 643 138	222 842 115	88.2	153 650 958	60.8	3 045
HU	38 412 223	33 855 122	88.1	21 145 045	55.0	222
IE	147 601 979	142 785 974	96.7	131 258 350	88.9	3 160
IT	537 262 559	489 873 112	91.2	315 841 711	58.8	16 091
LT	63 432 222	54 159 384	85.4	39 234 289	61.9	837
LV	139 833 742	131 558 714	94.1	89 646 461	64.1	1 122
MT	22 627 422	21 989 043	97.2	16 336 206	72.2	36
NL	101 523 244	102 340 784	100.8	70 480 284	69.4	511
PL	531 219 456	447 958 556	84.3	333 832 026	62.8	11 900
PT	392 485 464	402 640 391	102.6	295 160 997	75.2	8 451
RO	168 421 371	152 563 278	90.6	111 805 487	66.4	725
SE	120 156 004	120 530 506	100.3	92 626 778	77.1	1 076
SI	21 777 441	21 066 822	96.7	15 223 035	69.9	117
SK	9 386 728	3 002 623	32.0	3 002 623	32.0	27
UK	243 139 437	234 767 165	96.6	190 680 345	78.4	2 949
Total	5 618 465 367	5 358 071 004	95.4	3 767 908 216	67.1	104 989

Source: AIR 2022

10.3 Annex 3 EMFF implementation per measure

10.3.1 EMFF implementation per measure (Infosys)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 26	55 160 029	51 038 696	92.5	26 901 570	48.8	336
Article 27	8 713 021	7 531 546	86.4	5 202 191	59.7	79
Article 28	52 848 530	54 311 695	102.8	30 039 441	56.8	200
Article 29(1)(2)	21 085 141	17 627 050	83.6	13 313 081	63.1	1 176
Article 29(3)	4 164 835	455 021	10.9	48 482	1.2	49
Article 30	13 140 576	10 496 459	79.9	6 252 102	47.6	358
Article 31	12 947 284	8 751 012	67.6	8 339 507	64.4	293
Article 32	51 419 205	49 301 321	95.9	36 888 986	71.7	3 595
Article 33	242 718 652	227 320 176	93.7	206 481 226	85.1	44 173
Article 34	89 761 795	114 819 559	127.9	85 391 027	95.1	1 784
Article 35	392 946		–		–	
Article 36	8 398 765	7 563 527	90.1	6 146 347	73.2	17
Article 37	31 325 540	32 568 234	104.0	26 525 507	84.7	375
Article 38	28 638 551	23 865 290	83.3	20 502 182	71.6	1 774
Article 39	42 359 252	40 103 657	94.7	20 541 743	48.5	195
Article 40(1)(a)	23 551 882	22 660 979	96.2	19 005 019	80.7	535
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	249 466 768	236 155 446	94.7	142 980 974	57.3	2 714
Article 40(1)(h)	6 890 716	5 543 352	80.4	5 347 098	77.6	2 712
Article 41(1)(a-c)	17 090 666	16 166 142	94.6	10 765 382	63.0	1 206
Article 41(2)	6 572 390	3 241 692	49.3	2 763 412	42.0	724
Article 42	68 004 736	61 257 871	90.1	48 647 294	71.5	2 722
Article 43(1.3)	385 570 559	457 980 064	118.8	221 108 165	57.3	1 539
Article 43(2)	27 933 451	19 855 107	71.1	16 916 863	60.6	64
Article 47	148 101 269	140 576 892	94.9	74 046 974	50.0	613
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	555 943 656	585 459 593	105.3	332 598 305	59.8	6 251
Article 48(1)(e,i,j)	53 641 991	57 552 260	107.3	26 444 170	49.3	283
Article 48(1)(k)	15 282 962	7 282 744	47.7	3 703 523	24.2	258
Article 49	19 330 159	17 780 842	92.0	9 792 350	50.7	124
Article 50	12 550 439	9 925 945	79.1	6 460 472	51.5	201
Article 51	28 051 067	20 775 200	74.1	9 989 620	35.6	104
Article 52	14 754 247	19 633 740	133.1	4 564 250	30.9	84
Article 53	1 968 350	9 000	0.5	6 000	0.3	1
Article 54	99 666 112	96 914 886	97.2	89 745 201	90.0	2 063
Article 55	66 882 658	64 576 461	96.6	61 767 053	92.4	2 795
Article 56	27 090 386	19 813 602	73.1	13 591 689	50.2	276
Article 57	10 337 798	5 077 017	49.1	4 167 313	40.3	105

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate %	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate %	Number of operations
Article 62(1)(a)	5 109 422	5 307 394	103.9	4 399 004	86.1	262
Article 63 CLLD	532 265 560	573 226 079	107.7	301 565 628	56.7	13 169
Article 64	14 389 748	12 424 357	86.3	5 780 245	40.2	489
Article 66	109 221 917	104 882 265	96.0	87 565 162	80.2	618
Article 67	27 413 908	14 828 715	54.1	14 643 382	53.4	70
Article 68	262 028 430	175 766 477	67.1	123 904 944	47.3	5 001
Article 69	577 057 666	565 713 519	98.0	374 794 339	64.9	3 429
Article 70	192 500 000	174 108 511	90.4	169 925 743	88.3	4 894
Article 76	495 518 993	539 559 010	108.9	355 300 989	71.7	1 254
Article 77	573 822 045	578 546 416	100.8	517 789 494	90.2	281
Article 78	263 037 365	242 410 843	92.2	180 779 850	68.7	2 041
Article 80(1)(a)	17 095 319	17 692 450	103.5	8 860 671	51.8	35
Article 80(1)(b)	13 229 758	11 875 921	89.8	9 681 362	73.2	79
Article 80(1)(c)	34 018 852	33 087 151	97.3	25 808 436	75.9	155
Total	5 618 465 367	5 563 421 187	99.0	3 777 783 769	67.2	111 555

Source: AIR/Infosys 2022

10.3.2 EMFF implementation per measure (AIR)

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate (%)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate (%)	Number of operations
Article 26	55 160 029	48 754 127	88.4	26 907 651	48.8	322
Article 27	8 713 021	7 539 753	86.5	5 139 456	59.0	78
Article 28	52 848 530	54 650 900	103.4	35 677 846	67.5	195
Article 29(1)(2)	21 085 141	17 773 170	84.3	13 238 555	62.8	1 029
Article 29(3)	4 164 835	452 451	10.9	47 215	1.1	43
Article 30	13 140 576	9 247 535	70.4	6 225 479	47.4	341
Article 31	12 947 284	8 725 887	67.4	8 311 773	64.2	292
Article 32	51 419 205	47 006 226	91.4	36 798 595	71.6	3 473
Article 33	242 718 652	205 582 815	84.7	192 819 369	79.4	39 571
Article 34	89 761 795	108 535 240	120.9	85 721 352	95.5	1 770
Article 35	392 946		–		–	
Article 36	8 398 765	7 509 797	89.4	5 211 998	62.1	17
Article 37	31 325 540	34 301 695	109.5	27 384 532	87.4	390
Article 38	28 638 551	23 762 030	83.0	20 564 102	71.8	1 748
Article 39	42 359 252	40 764 148	96.2	20 796 658	49.1	187
Article 40(1)(a)	23 551 882	21 709 297	92.2	18 906 571	80.3	534
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	249 466 768	239 127 410	95.9	144 620 463	58.0	2 667
Article 40(1)(h)	6 890 716	5 655 274	82.1	5 475 986	79.5	2 712
Article 41(1)(a-c)	17 090 666	15 787 360	92.4	11 013 373	64.4	1 183
Article 41(2)	6 572 390	4 057 703	61.7	3 550 411	54.0	710
Article 42	68 004 736	57 645 380	84.8	48 687 078	71.6	2 697
Article 43(1,3)	385 570 559	414 273 285	107.4	218 265 811	56.6	1 503
Article 43(2)	27 933 451	19 719 824	70.6	16 777 781	60.1	63
Article 47	148 101 269	144 650 975	97.7	76 726 948	51.8	598
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	555 943 656	559 484 736	100.6	346 224 494	62.3	6 754
Article 48(1)(e,i,j)	53 641 991	55 270 563	103.0	25 481 991	47.5	282
Article 48(1)(k)	15 282 962	6 817 979	44.6	3 833 114	25.1	250
Article 49	19 330 159	17 574 136	90.9	9 794 887	50.7	124
Article 50	12 550 439	10 099 191	80.5	6 408 519	51.1	188
Article 51	28 051 067	18 781 895	67.0	9 538 329	34.0	102
Article 52	14 754 247	18 636 184	126.3	4 969 466	33.7	84
Article 53	1 968 350	9 000	0.5	6 000	0.3	1

EMFF Article	Total EMFF allocation (EUR) (AIR, 2022)	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (AIR, 31/12/2022)	Commitment rate (%)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Absorption rate (%)	Number of operations
Article 54	99 666 112	92 467 024	92.8	89 743 783	90.0	1 511
Article 55	66 882 658	57 044 277	85.3	55 156 593	82.5	2 178
Article 56	27 090 386	21 382 000	78.9	13 778 005	50.9	276
Article 57	10 337 798	5 010 977	48.5	4 176 577	40.4	105
Article 62(1)(a)	5 109 422	5 183 583	101.5	4 326 442	84.7	261
Article 63 CLLD	532 265 560	548 575 675	103.1	307 870 238	57.8	12 385
Article 64	14 389 748	11 955 306	83.1	5 619 880	39.1	431
Article 66	109 221 917	103 667 905	94.9	87 557 691	80.2	543
Article 67	27 413 908	14 826 211	54.1	14 643 382	53.4	57
Article 68	262 028 430	167 597 972	64.0	120 349 585	45.9	4 922
Article 69	577 057 666	541 663 371	93.9	371 310 308	64.3	3 307
Article 70	192 500 000	173 301 543	90.0	169 925 743	88.3	5 407
Article 76	495 518 993	506 679 656	102.3	341 149 540	68.8	1 130
Article 77	573 822 045	576 491 899	100.5	513 163 878	89.4	258
Article 78	263 037 365	245 408 602	93.3	189 650 766	72.1	2 057
Article 80(1)(a)	17 095 319	16 406 190	96.0	8 075 097	47.2	32
Article 80(1)(b)	13 229 758	12 137 273	91.7	9 451 311	71.4	78
Article 80(1)(c)	34 018 852	34 365 577	101.0	26 833 593	78.9	143
Total	5 618 465 367	5 358 071 004	95.4	3 767 908 216	67.1	104 989

Source: AIR 2022

10.4 Annex 4 Types of operations per selected article

Article 38: Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species

Type of investment	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Selectivity of gear	12 992 559	10 421 851	1 014
Protecting gear and catches from mammals and birds	4 397 693	3 995 309	351
Reduce discards or deal with unwanted catches	4 380 196	4 378 285	296
Eliminating impacts on ecosystem and sea bed	2 077 058	1 695 381	112
Fish aggregating device in outermost regions	17 784	11 356	1
Total	23 865 290	20 502 182	1 774

Article 40(1)(b-g,i): Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Other actions enhancing biodiversity	90 405 134	43 456 644	1 205
Increasing awareness	74 831 471	46 951 279	1 116
Investment in facilities	31 579 089	26 465 376	55
Management of Natura 2000	15 245 278	10 305 074	96
Management of MPAs	10 976 209	6 909 456	113
Management plans for Natura 2000 and SPA	6 768 666	4 090 077	63
Management of resources	4 498 243	3 134 903	62
N/A	1 851 355	1 158 158	2
Total	236 155 446	142 470 968	2 712

Article 41(2): Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Replacement of engine	2 561 817	2 116 367	617
Modernisation	679 875	647 044	107
Total	3 241 692	2 763 412	724

Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h): Productive investments in aquaculture

Type of investment	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Productive	374 442 648	205 318 477	3 171
Modernisation	173 955 568	100 318 839	2 446
Diversification	10 322 567	6 970 301	138
Quality of products	10 077 955	8 514 464	142
Restoration	6 687 486	4 902 969	109
Animal health	5 047 182	3 241 166	147
Complementary activities	4 710 075	2 857 189	67
N/A	–	262 963	29
Total	585 243 479	332 386 367	6 249

Article 48(1)(e,i,j): Productive investments in aquaculture – resource efficiency

Type of investment	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Closed systems	36 772 547	13 801 206	141
Environmental and resources	14 067 353	8 092 196	92
Water usage and quality	6 712 360	4 404 295	49
N/A	–	146 472	1
Total	57 552 260	26 444 170	283

Article 54: Aquaculture providing environmental services

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Aquaculture operations including conservation and improvement of environment and biodiversity	56 606 332	54 347 835	1 535
Aquaculture in Natura 2000 areas	39 132 573	34 331 393	494
Ex-situ conservation and reproduction	1 175 981	1 009 233	33
Total	96 914 886	89 688 461	2 062

Article 63: Implementation of local development strategies

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Adding value	162 842 471	79 853 741	3 776
Diversification	145 484 736	72 400 302	3 518
Socio-cultural	105 543 219	60 397 372	3 655
Running costs and animation	90 223 575	52 523 636	605
Environment	55 620 087	28 568 020	1 313
Governance	11 126 852	6 167 239	280
N/A	9 945	9 945	1
Total	570 850 885	299 920 256	13 148

Article 69: Processing of fisheries and aquaculture products

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
New or improved products, processes or management system	321 983 092	196 509 723	1 907
Improve safety, hygiene, health, working conditions	110 168 724	81 999 363	743
Energy saving or reducing impact on the environment	91 070 586	59 042 352	594
Processing catches not for human consumption	20 736 667	18 530 480	30
Processing of organic aquaculture products	13 028 745	11 573 248	82
Processing by-products	8 722 260	7 094 909	70
N/A	3 444	44 264	3
Total	565 713 519	374 794 339	3 429

Article 68: Marketing measures

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Communication and promotional campaigns	65 906 981	47 940 854	858
Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on species with marketing potential)	55 344 636	37 999 648	930
Promoting quality and value-added (focus on direct marketing)	20 884 522	16 301 716	2 238
Promoting quality and value-added (focus on certification and promotion sustainable products)	10 331 394	6 358 774	107
Standard contracts	5 225 771	4 242 885	621
Traceability and eco-labels	4 040 596	2 566 236	57
Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on products with low impact or organic products)	3 305 345	1 555 981	40
Find new markets and improve marketing conditions (focus on unwanted catches)	3 049 832	2 066 165	30
Promoting quality and value added (focus on packaging)	2 161 837	985 719	28
Create Producers Organisations, associations or inter-branch organisations	2 038 391	1 824 193	29
Promoting quality and value-added (focus on quality schemes)	1 780 814	936 699	37
Transparency of production	1 578 807	912 254	18
N/A	117 551	213 821	8
Total	175 766 477	123 904 944	5 001

Article 76: Control and enforcement

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
Purchase, installation and development of technology	131 326 337	84 571 254	197
Purchase of other control means	112 215 110	71 560 037	178
Operational costs	96 150 609	72 326 750	69
Modernisation and purchase of patrol vessels, aircrafts and helicopters	84 132 202	38 810 763	81

Development, purchase and installation of the components to ensure data transmission	39 037 046	28 628 710	433
Implementation of programmes for exchanging and analysing data	29 431 732	21 246 405	25
Implementation of an action plan	17 730 724	16 357 555	21
Development, purchase and installation of the components necessary to ensure traceability	12 349 839	8 867 325	133
Development of innovative control and monitoring systems and pilot projects	9 696 129	8 263 756	48
Training and exchange programmes	4 167 300	2 618 237	35
Seminars and media tools	2 973 757	1 928 048	30
Cost/benefit analyses and assessments of audits	348 225	122 147	4
Total	539 559 010	355 300 989	1 254

Article 80(1)(b): Promotion of protection of marine environment and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources

Type of operation	Total EMFF committed by Managing Authority (EUR) (Infosys, 31/12/2022)	Total eligible EMFF expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations
MPA	8 490 582	7 013 857	52
Natura 2000	3 385 339	2 667 505	27
Total	11 875 921	9 681 362	79

10.5 Annex 5: EMFF common result indicators (Infosys data)

UP1 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	1.4.a	Change in unwanted catches	tonnes	-25 748	20 253	-78.7%	8 353	-32.4%
1	1.4.b	Change in unwanted catches	% ²⁷	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	1.10.a	Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives	km ²	31 632	120 707	381.6%	24 084	76.1%
2	1.10.b	Change in the coverage of other spatial protection measures under Article 13(4) of the Directive 2008/56/EC	km ²	291 074	11 203	3.8%	10 849	3.7%
3	1.3	Change in net profits	thousand euros	11 499	2 719	23.6%	2 729	23.7%
3	1.6	Change in the % of unbalanced fleets	%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
4	1.1	Change in the value of production	thousand euros	104 397	30 076 894	28 810.1%	815 214 803	780 878.6%
4	1.2	Change in the volume of production	tonnes	59 165	6 726 015	11 368.2%	2 853	4.8%
4	1.3	Change in net profits	thousand euros	33 331	778 244	2 334.9%	442 214	1 326.7%
4	1.7	Employment created (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	2 648	2 958	111.7%	1 980	74.8%
4	1.8	Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	18 587	50 496	271.7%	32 719	176.0%
4	1.9.a	Change in the number of work-related injuries and accidents	number	-328	724	-220.9%	703	-214.3%
5	1.1	Change in the value of production	thousand euros	47 892	777 974	1 624.4%	163 425	341.2%
5	1.2	Change in the volume of production	tonnes	45 347	120 484	265.7%	1 324	2.9%
5	1.3	Change in net profits	thousand euros	24 338	222 587	914.6%	31 570	129.7%

²⁷ Aggregated values are not available for all common result indicators that are expressed as percentages.

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
6	1.7	Employment created (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	1 256	2 175	173.2%	1 145	91.2%
6	1.8	Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	3 626	8 139	224.5%	5 521	152.3%
6	1.9.a	Change in the number of work-related injuries and accidents	number	-166	363	-218.5%	-30	18.1%

Source: Infosys 2022

UP2 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	2.1	Change in volume of aquaculture production	tonnes	127 659	5 072 081	3973.2%	5 005 155	3920.7%
1	2.2	Change in value of aquaculture production	thousand euros	342 578	480 329	140.2%	18 236	5.3%
1	2.3	Change in net profit	thousand euros	70 328	332 606	472.9%	3 583	5.1%
2	2.4	Change in volume of aquaculture production	tonnes	284 749	1 817 112	638.1%	11 439 641	4 017.4%
2	2.2	Change in value of aquaculture production	thousand euros	892 651	67 647 904	7 578.3%	37 257 160	4 173.8%
2	2.3	Change in net profit	thousand euros	134 891	9 942 656	7 370.9%	7 706 282	5 713.0%
2	2.8	Employment created	FTE	1 253	2 439	194.7%	888	70.9%
2	2.9	Employment maintained	FTE	9 085	11 066	121.8%	7 703	84.8%
3	2.4	Change in the volume of production organic aquaculture	tonnes	7 014	90 142	1285.3%	15 615	222.6%
3	2.5	Change in the volume of production recirculation system	tonnes	18 241	5 502	30.2%	2 225	12.2%
3	2.6	Change in the volume of aquaculture production certified under voluntary sustainability schemes	tonnes	1 265	15 266	1 206.8%	14 372	1 136.2%
3	2.7	Aquaculture farms providing environmental services	number	31	30	96.0%	18	57.6%
3	2.8	Employment created	FTE	484	652	134.7%	389	80.4%

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
3	2.9	Employment maintained	FTE	3 265	384	11.8%	184	5.6%
4	2.1	Change in volume of aquaculture production	tonnes	114 002	38 144	33.5%	13 238	11.6%
4	2.2	Change in value of aquaculture production	thousand euros	277 432	1 032 023	372.0%	187 400	67.5%
4	2.4	Change in the volume of production organic aquaculture	tonnes	3 090	7	0.2%	4	0.1%
4	2.5	Change in the volume of production recirculation system	tonnes	26	50	192.3%		0.0%
4	2.6	Change in the volume of aquaculture production certified under voluntary sustainability schemes	tonnes	600	6	1.0%	3	0.5%
4	2.7	Aquaculture farms providing environmental services	number	1 165	563	48.3%	387	33.2%
5	2.8	Employment created	FTE	478	106	22.2%	16	3.4%
5	2.9	Employment maintained	FTE	2 498	1 022	40.9%	812	32.5%

Source: Infosys 2022

UP3 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	3.B.1	Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls	%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
2	3.A.1	Number of serious infringements detected	number	7 519	4 099	54.5%	1 527	20.3%

Source: Infosys 2022

UP4 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	4.1	Employment created (FTE)	FTE	3 301	10 446	316.5%	8 466	256.5%
1	4.2	Employment maintained (FTE)	FTE	9 310	19 164	205.8%	14 583	156.6%
1	4.3	Businesses created	number	771	2 315	300.2%	1 211	157.1%

Source: Infosys 2022

UP5 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	5.1.a	Change in value of first sales in POs	thousand euros	606 445	443 871 049	73 192.4%	175 843 274	28 995.8%
1	5.1.b	Change in volume of first sales in POs	tonnes	328 886	1 684 508	512.2%	-138 243 167	-42 033.8%
1	5.1.c	Change in value of first sales in non-POs	thousand euros	106 930	4 575 989	4 279.4%	1 133 709	1 060.2%
1	5.1.d	Change in volume of first sales in non-POs	tonnes	51 118	1 225 636	2 397.7%	1 531 017	2 995.1%
2	5.1.a	Change in value of first sales in POs	thousand euros	49 750	686 214	1 379.3%	359 656	722.9%
2	5.1.b	Change in volume of first sales in POs	tonnes	27 478	1 327 165	4 830.0%	75 730	275.6%
2	5.1.c	Change in value of first sales in non-POs	thousand euros	239 602	50 974 637	21 274.7%	72 136 161	30 106.7%
2	5.1.d	Change in volume of first sales in non-POs	tonnes	108 813	17 404 591	15 995.0%	2 813 041	2 585.2%

Source: Infosys 2022

UP6 Result indicators

SO	RI	RI description	RI unit	Target value (a)	RI ex-ante (b)	(c) =b/a	RI ex-post (d)	(e) =d/a
1	6.1	Increase in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain	%	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
1	6.2.a	Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives	km ²	25 600	20 800	81.3%	21 256	83.0%
1	6.2.b	Change in the coverage of other spatial protection measures under Article 13(4) of the Directive 2008/56/EC	km ²	146 575	520 215	354.9%	573 084	391.0%

Source: Infosys 2022

10.6 Annex 6 EMFF common result indicators (AIR data)

Common result indicator	Measurement unit	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
UP 1			
Change in fuel efficiency of fish capture	litres fuel/tonnes landed catch	118 708.94	-8 324 976.52
Change in net profits	thousand EUR	69 148.33	577 369.91
Change in the % of unbalanced fleets	% ²⁸	n/a	n/a
Change in the % of work-related injuries and accidents in relation to total fishers	%		
Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives	km ²	31 631.68	3 958.02
Change in the coverage of other spatial protection measures under Article 13(4) of the Directive 2008/56/EC	km ²	291 074.00	840.80
Change in the number of work-related injuries and accidents	number	-490.01	-445.20
Change in the value of production	thousand EUR	106 289.27	12 069 235.43
Change in the volume of production	tonnes	38 511.96	2 570 651.69
Change in unwanted catches (%)	%	n/a	n/a
Change in unwanted catches (tonnes)	tonnes	-15 747.70	2 498.91
Employment created (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	1 749.34	2 416.94
Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	19 783.00	27 154.46
UP 2			
Aquaculture farms providing environmental services	number	1 200.48	1 213.60
Change in net profit	thousand EUR	109 619.22	4 955 315.98
Change in the volume of aquaculture production certified under voluntary sustainability schemes	tonnes	1 864.98	1 419.28
Change in the volume of production organic aquaculture	tonnes	3 603.16	6 377.89
Change in the volume of production recirculation system	tonnes	18 335.82	4 824.06
Change in value of aquaculture production	thousand EUR	1 176 761.06	45 419 270.27
Change in volume of aquaculture production	tonnes	391 419.82	326 646.26
Employment created	FTE	984.47	1 128.51
Employment maintained	FTE	14 148.00	6 264.30
UP 3			
Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls	%	n/a	n/a
Landings that have been the subject to physical control	%	n/a	n/a
Number of serious infringements detected	number	6 521.01	13 740.00
UP 4			
Businesses created	number	771.00	839.00
Employment created (FTE)	FTE	3 151.00	4 104.96
Employment maintained (FTE)	FTE	9 300.20	14 507.51

²⁸ Aggregated values are not available for all common result indicators that are expressed as percentages.

Common result indicator	Measurement unit	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
UP 5			
Change in value of first sales in non-POs	thousand EUR	306 532.11	14 372 655.64
Change in value of first sales in POs	thousand EUR	656 194.17	6 558 551.26
Change in volume of first sales in non-POs	tonnes	99 930.39	5 586 219.41
Change in volume of first sales in POs	tonnes	356 363.40	35 728 779.42
UP 6			
Change in the coverage of Natura 2000 areas designated under the Birds and Habitats directives	km ²	25 600.00	20 964.00
Change in the coverage of other spatial protection measures under Article 13(4) of the Directive 2008/56/EC	km ²	142 440.00	22 620.00
Increase in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain	%	n/a	n/a

Source: AIR 2022

10.7 Annex 7 EMFF programme specific result indicators (AIR data)

MS specific result indicators	Specific result indicator (working translation)	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
UP 1			
Aantal obstakels die vismigratie beletten in de rivierbeding van de Maas en de Rijn	Number of obstacles preventing fish migration in the Meuse and Rhine riverbed	-8	-19
Area of the sites restored under the MAHOP		1 000	175.7
Asistentes a actividades de formación	Attendees at training activities	7 240	13 944
Buques pesqueros afectados	Affected fishing vessels	42	138
Creación de nuevas Redes y Asociaciones	Creation of new Networks and Associations	21	9
Ilość użytego materiału zarybieniowego	The amount of restocking material used	7	0
Innovaatilised tooted, protsessid	Innovative products, processes	6	10
Investicinē žvejybos Baltijos jūroje grāža (ROI)	Return on investment (ROI) of fishing in the Baltic Sea	11.2	-
Isstrādātas inovācijas	Developed innovations	11	9
Kuro sunaudojimo (litrai/ iškrautam kg) efektyvumo padidėjimas	Increase in efficiency of fuel consumption (litres/kg landed)	5	0
Mere viden om fiskeriets påvirkning af og samspil med det marine økosystem	More knowledge about fishing's impact on and interaction with the marine ecosystem	5	3
Muutus kalapüügi kütusesäästlikkuses	Change in fishing fuel efficiency	-2.95	-7.75
N° of businesses maintained		178	132
Nerštaviečių ir migruojančių rūšių migracijos kelių atkūrimas	Restoration of spawning grounds and migration routes of migratory species	5	3
Number of protected areas Natura 2000 covered by operations		17	18
Number of sites restored under the MAHOP		15	10
Number of vessels having purchased the gear referred to in Article 38(1)(a)-c		200	258
Number of vessels having purchased the gear referred to in Article 38(1)(d)		20	8
Odsetek wyłowionych sieci-widm	Percentage of ghost nets retrieved	50	-
Ohranjeno število plovil privezanih v ribiških pristaniščih	Maintained number of vessels moored in fishing ports	33	33
Omfang af opnået god økologisk tilstand	Extent of achieved good ecological status	1 700	1 546
Ostu skaits, kurās attīstīta infrastruktūra	Number of ports with developed infrastructure	7	9
Partnerlusvõrgustiku tegevustes osalevad ettevõtjad	Entrepreneurs participating in the activities of the partnership network	350	485
Pescadores afectados	Affected fishers	41 209	242 236
Pescadores afectados por sustitución de motor en buques menores de 12 metros	Fishers affected by engine replacement in vessels less than 12 metres	47	54
Pescadores que se benefician de la operación	Fishers benefiting from the operation	2 456	4 897
Pesquerías analizadas	Fisheries analysed	9	11
Povečano število plovil privezanih v ribiških pristaniščih	Increased number of vessels moored in fishing ports	3	0
Selektiivsed (sh hülgekindlad) püügivahendid	Selective (including seal-proof) fishing gear	830	837

MS specific result indicators	Specific result indicator (working translation)	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
Številno ribičev vključenih v operacijo	Number of fishers involved in the operation	15	5
Taastatud kudealad (sh kunstkoelmud)	Restored spawning grounds (incl. artificial nests)	15	11
Variación del valor de la producción	Change in the value of production	2 000	10 155
Variación en % de los buques en desequilibrio	Change in % of vessels in imbalance	-14.4	-82.87
Viden om og til fremme af reduktion af uønskede fangster og landingsforpligtelse	Knowledge and promotion of the reduction of unwanted catches and landing obligations	8	8
Zmiana odsetka podmiotów, która skorzysta z projektów wymiany doświadczeń	Change in the percentage of entities that will benefit from experience exchange projects	14.22	-
Zmiana odsetka portów i przystani, w których zapewniono możliwość odbioru niechcianych połowów	Change in the percentage of ports and harbours where unwanted catches can be received	9.72	-
Zmiana w % niezrównoważonych flot	Change in the percentage of unsustainable fleets	-30.65	-
Zmiana zasięgu obszarów o ulepszonym zarządzaniu	Change in coverage of areas with improved management	7 361	6 578
Zušu krājumu pārvaldības pasākumu īstenošana atbilstoši paredzētajam Zivju resursu mākslīgās atražošanas plānā 2017.–2020. gadam	Implementation of eel stock management measures in accordance with the planned Fish Resources Artificial Reproduction Plan for the years 2017-2020.	2.4	2.4
UP2			
Ændring i mængden af økologisk akvakulturproduktion	Change in the amount of organic aquaculture production	3 000	2 220
Ændring i mængden af produktion fra recirkulerede anlæg	Change in the amount of production from recirculation systems	15 000	7 856
Anlagen – Becken und Fließkanäle	Facilities – basins and flow channels	430 000	41 596.46
Anlagen – Gehege und Kreislaufanlagen	Facilities – closed and recirculation systems	7 000	13 907.01
Anlagen – Teiche	Facilities – ponds	1 900	320.39
Aquaculture farms providing environmental services		17 524	15 376.69
Asistentes que participan en las actividades de formación	Attendees participating in training activities	546	661
Beschäftigung in Aquakultur	Employment in aquaculture	240	324.89
Change in net profits		1 706	0
Change in the value of production		16 500	25.24
Cuantificación de la energía renovable en el proyecto	Quantification of renewable energy in the project	327	327.55
Employment maintained		153	0
Explotaciones afectadas	Affected holdings	4	0
Ferme de acvacultură afectate de pierderi de venituri din vânzări în contextul epidemiei de Covid-19	Aquaculture farms affected by loss of sales revenue in the context of the Covid-19 epidemic	161	24

MS specific result indicators	Specific result indicator (working translation)	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
Förändrad produktionsvolym inom recirkulerande vattenbrukssystem genom startstöd	Changed production volume within recirculating aquaculture systems through start-up support	50	90
Innovaatilised tooted, protsessid	Innovative products, processes	4	2
Issträdātas inovācijas	Developed innovations	6	4
Isveidoti konsultāciju pakalpojumi	Established consulting services	4	4
Množství vysazeného úhoře	Amount of eel planted	5 000	6 245.71
N° of businesses maintained		74	109
N° of jobs maintained		74	510
Number of trained people		2 400	2 617
Partnerlusvõrgustiku tegevustes osalevad ettevõtjad	Entrepreneurs participating in the activities of the partnership network	49	55
Počet rybochovných zariadení využívaných na hospodársky chov rýb	Number of fish farming facilities used for commercial fish farming	6	8
Počet udržaných pracovných miest na plný úväzok	Number of full-time jobs maintained	28	54
Production value of intensive aquaculture systems		2 152	3 814.45
Production volume of intensive aquaculture system		795	1 306.79
Projekte	Projects	10	2
Reduction of energy consumption in aquaculture facilities incl. moving towards renewable energy		5	–
Relación Privado / Público de los beneficiarios	Private / Public relationship of the beneficiaries	1	1.5
Tauidvaba staatuse saanud ettevõtete osakaal kogu sektori ettevõtete arvust	The share of companies with disease-free status out of the total number of companies in the sector	100	0
Udržení objemu akvakulturní produkce	Maintaining the volume of aquaculture production	18 440	18 106.37
Zmena v počte rybníkov využívaných na hospodársky chov rýb	Change in the number of ponds used for commercial fish farming	5	0
Zmena v počte rybochovných zariadení využívaných na hospodársky chov rýb	Change in the number of fish farming facilities used for commercial fish farming	28	0
Zmiana odsetka podmiotów wdrażających innowacje		100	–
UP3			
Anzahl einschlägiger wissenschaftlicher Arbeiten	Number of relevant scientific papers	144	7
Festgestellte schwerwiegende Verstöße im Aquakulturbereich auf Basis der Analytik hinsichtlich Rückverfolgbarkeit	Identified serious violations in the aquaculture sector based on analytics with regard to traceability	5	1
Procentní podíl proškolených kontrolorů v oblasti sledovatelnosti produktů v oblasti akvakultury	Percentage of inspectors trained in aquaculture product traceability	20	0
Value of first sales of POs		415	375
Volume of first sales of POs		70	76

MS specific result indicators	Specific result indicator (working translation)	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
Volume of processed fish of domestic origin		80	99
UP4			
Población total abarcada por el GALP	Total population covered by the FLAG	2 710 845	3 453 878
Proyectos de diversificación de las actividades económicas en la zona	Projects for the diversification of economic activities in the area	300	465
UP5			
Ændring i mængden af akvakulturproduktion, der er certificeret (ASC)	Change in the amount of aquaculture production certified (ASC)	15 000	20 449
Annual value of turnover of EU-marketed production		26 600	15 521
Area of fish farms providing environmental services		1 600	1 713.24
Beschäftigte in Verarbeitung und Vermarktung	Employees in processing and marketing	290	115.4
Bevaret beskæftigelse	Preserved employment	30	646
Employment (FTE)		1	1.42
Empresas beneficiadas	Companies benefited	250	318
Empresas y otras entidades que se benefician de la operación	Companies and other entities that benefit from the operation	20 244	35 072
Erhaltene Arbeitsplätze	Employment maintained	336	674.4
Fish consumption		2	0
Geschaffene Arbeitsplätze	Employment created	118	32
Hodnota produkcie v spracovaní produktov rybolovu a akvakultúry	Production value in the processing of fishery and aquaculture products	0.5	257.54
Increase in the estimated per capita fish consumption		10	7.34
Lisandväärtus töötaja kohta	Value of employee	144	35
N° of businesses maintained		17	760
N° of jobs maintained		8	0.5
Objem produkcie v spracovaní produktov rybolovu a akvakultúry	Volume of production in the processing of fishery and aquaculture products	380	1 343.58
Pro Kopf Verbrauch	Per capita consumption	526	650
Produkce zpracovaných ryb	Production of processed fish	6	1
Proyectos subvencionados	Subsidised projects	265 671	274 220.88
Unități de procesare afectate de pierderi de venituri din vânzări în contextul epidemiei de Covid-19	Processing units affected by loss of sales revenue in the context of the Covid-19 epidemic	106	0
Volumen de la producción compensada	Compensated production volume	27	0
Zmena v spotrebe rýb a rybích produktov na obyvateľa	Change in consumption of fish and fish products per capita	1	0
Zmiana w zysku netto	Change in net profit	1 500	3 969
Zvejas un akvakultūras produktu apstrādes uzņēmumi, kas veikuši investīcijas	Fishery and aquaculture product processing companies that have made investments	25	35.64
UP6			

MS specific result indicators	Specific result indicator (working translation)	RI target (ex-ante) value	RI cumulative (ex-post) value
Development of a database on the marine environment		1	1
Kvalitatīvie raksturlielumi laba jūras vides stāvokļa noteikšanai, kuros uzlabotas zināšanas par jūras vides stāvokli	Qualitative characteristics for determining good marine environmental status in which knowledge about marine environmental status is improved	11	11
Número de Km ² cartografiados de superficie marina	Number of km ² mapping of marine surface	125 000	128 022.94
Sprememba v pokritosti z izboljšanim statusom upravljanja/ohranjanja	Change in coverage with improved management/maintenance status	0.5	0.5
Zmiana zasięgu obszarów o ulepszonym zarządzaniu	Change in coverage of areas with improved management	3 059.69	0

Source: AIR 2022

10.8 Annex 8 EMFF Articles

EMFF Article (short name)	EMFF Article (long name)
Article 26	Article 26 Innovation (+ Article 44(3) Inland fishing)
Article 27	Article 27 Advisory services (+ Article 44(3) Inland fishing)
Article 28	Article 28 Partnerships between fishermen and scientists (+ Article 44(3) Inland fishing)
Article 29(1)(2)	Article 29(1) + 29.2 Promoting human capital and social dialogue – training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ Article 44(1)(a) Inland fishing)
Article 29(3)	Article 29(3) Promoting human capital and social dialogue – trainees on board of SSCF vessels/social dialogue (+ Article 44(1)(a) Inland fishing)
Article 30	Article 30 Diversification and new forms of income (+ Article 44(4) Inland fishing)
Article 31	Article 31 Start-up support for young fishermen (+ Article 44(2) Inland fishing)
Article 32	Article 32 Health and safety (+ Article 44(1)(b) Inland fishing)
Article 33	Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities
Article 34	Article 34 Permanent cessation of fishing activities
Article 35	Article 35 Mutual funds for adverse climatic events and environmental incidents
Article 36	Article 36 Support to systems of allocation of fishing opportunities
Article 37	Article 37 Support for the design and implementation of conservation measures
Article 38	Article 38 Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species (+ Article 44(1)(c) Inland fishing)
Article 39	Article 39 Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ Article 44(1)(c) Inland fishing)
Article 40(1)(a)	Article 40(1)(a) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – collection of lost fishing gear and marine litter
Article 40(1)(b-g,i)	Article 40(1)(b)-g, i Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – contribution to a better management or conservation, construction, installation or modernisation of static or movable facilities, preparation of protection and management plans relate
Article 40(1)(h)	Article 40(1)(h) Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – schemes for the compensation of damage to catches caused by mammals and birds
Article 41(1)(a) to (c)	Article 41(1)(a), b, c Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change – on board investments; energy efficiency audits and schemes; studies to assess the contribution of alternative propulsion systems and hull designs (+ Article 44(1)(d) Inland fishing)
Article 41(2) and Article 44(1)(d)	Article 41(2) Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change – Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (+ Article 44(1)(d) Inland fishing)
Article 42	Article 42 Added value, product quality and use of unwanted catches (+ Article 44(1)(e) Inland fishing)
Article 43(1) and (3)	Article 43(1) + 3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters – investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ Article 44(1)(f) Inland fishing)
Article 43(2)	Article 43(2) Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters – investments to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches
Article 47	Article 47 Innovation
Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h)	Article 48(1)(a-d,f-h) Productive investments in aquaculture
Article 48(1)(e,i,j)	Article 48(1)(e,i,j) Productive investments in aquaculture – resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use

EMFF Article (short name)	EMFF Article (long name)
Article 48(1)(k)	Article 48(1)(k) Productive investments in aquaculture – increasing energy efficiency, renewable energy
Article 49	Article 49 Management, relief and advisory services for aquaculture farms
Article 50	Article 50 Promoting human capital and networking
Article 51	Article 51 Increasing the potential of aquaculture sites
Article 52	Article 52 Encouraging new sustainable aquaculture farmers
Article 53	Article 53 Conversion to eco-management and audit schemes and organic aquaculture
Article 54	Article 54 Aquaculture providing environmental services
Article 55	Article 55 Public health measures
Article 56	Article 56 Animal health and welfare measures
Article 57	Article 57 Aquaculture stock insurance
Article 62(1)(a)	Article 62(1)(a) Preparatory support
Article 63	Article 63 Implementation of local development strategies
Article 64	Article 64 Cooperation activities
Article 66	Article 66 Production and marketing plans
Article 67	Article 67 Storage aid
Article 68	Article 68 Marketing measures
Article 69	Article 69 Processing of fisheries and aquaculture products
Article 70	Article 70 Compensation regime
Article 76	Article 76 Control and enforcement
Article 77	Article 77 Data collection
Article 78	Article 78 Technical assistance, MSs initiative
Article 80(1)(a)	Article 80(1)(a) Integrating Maritime Surveillance
Article 80(1)(b)	Article 80(1)(b) Promotion of the protection of marine environment, and the sustainable use of marine and coastal resources
Article 80(1)(c)	Article 80(1)(c) Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment