

# Programme Summary

## Portugal - Programme for the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund

### 2021-2027 - CCI 2021PT14MFPR001

#### 1. Programme overview

Total allocation : EUR 539 899 522

EU contribution : EUR 392 572 022

National contribution : EUR 147 327 500

Portugal intends to implement all four EMFAF Priorities.

Priority	Specific objective	EU contribution
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.1.1 Strengthening economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fishing activities. All operations except those supported under Articles 17 and 19	50.200.000
	1.1.2 Strengthening economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fishing activities. Operations supported under Articles 17 and 19	10.000.000
	1.2 Increasing energy efficiency and reducing CO2 emissions through the replacement or modernisation of engines of fishing vessels	1.900.000
	1.3 Promoting the adjustment of fishing capacity to fishing opportunities in cases of permanent cessation of fishing activities and contributing to a fair standard of living in cases of temporary cessation of fishing activities	13.600.000
	1.4 Fostering efficient fisheries control and enforcement, including fighting against IUU fishing, as well as reliable data for knowledge-based decision-making	60.500.000
	1.5 Promoting a level-playing field for fishery and aquaculture products from the outermost regions	48.807.867
	1.6 Contributing to the protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems	10.190.000

2 Fostering sustainable aquaculture activities, and processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, thus contributing to food security in the Union	2.1 Promoting sustainable aquaculture activities, especially strengthening the competitiveness of aquaculture production, while ensuring that the activities are environmentally sustainable in the long term	66.000.000
	2.2 Promoting marketing, quality and added value of fisheries and aquaculture products, as well as processing of those products	74.500.000
3 Enabling a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and fostering the development of fishing and aquaculture communities	3.1 Enabling a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and fostering the sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture communities	33.750.000
4 Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling seas and oceans to be safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed	4.1 Strengthening sustainable sea and ocean management through the promotion of marine knowledge, maritime surveillance or coast guard cooperation	5.000.000
5.1 Technical assistance pursuant to Article 36(4) CPR	5.1 Technical assistance pursuant to Article 36(4) CPR	18.124.155

## 2. Programme Summary

Portugal establishes good links with the Common Fisheries Policy and Green Deal objectives and priorities in the programme strategy.

The programme focuses on the resilience of the fish industry, by adapting, restructuring and modernising the fleet and supporting infrastructure and boosting innovation in production. As regards actions for the fishing fleet and supporting infrastructure, the programme supports the improvement of energy efficiency, decarbonisation and green energy transition and the digitalisation of activities, in line with the decarbonisation roadmap and the objectives of the European Green Deal. Conservation of fisheries resources is also in the focus of the programme, along with reducing the impact of fishing on the marine environment, including through initiatives to improve gear selectivity. Initiatives relating to action in marine protected areas, reduction of litter and plastic at sea, restoration of coastal vegetation systems and the development of green infrastructure will contribute to the preservation of biodiversity, coastal ecosystems and landscapes, in line with the 2030 Biodiversity.

In view of the growing national and global demand for food, the aquaculture objectives focus on increasing the international economic competitiveness while minimising the environmental impact of business activity. Investments are planned in actions that contribute to increasing consumer appetite for aquaculture products and actions with a neutral or even positive impact of aquaculture on the environment, in particular through

integrated organic or multitrophic crops or circularity dynamics, as well as the promotion of food security, nutrition and public health.

In the context of the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products, the focus will be on investments in innovation, energy efficiency, circular economy, digitalisation and certification. These investments are also aligned with the main pillars of the European Green Deal. Moreover, actions to reduce food waste by introducing innovative solutions in the processing and marketing of fish clearly contribute to the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy.

Portugal will continue to support the sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture communities through support for the development and implementation of community-led local development strategies and for the diversification of the local economy and/or development of new sectors of the blue economy.

### **Outermost Regions**

9% of the Portuguese EMFAF budget is allocated for the compensation of additional costs in Madeira (EUR13.3 million) and Azores (EUR 34 million).

#### **Azores**

Azores intends to implement all four EMFAF Priorities with a budget of EUR40.4 million EMFAF support, which represents 10 % of the EMFAF allocation to Portugal.

In terms of investments, Azores will focus on support for professionals in the sector by providing them with better working and safety conditions and making the profession more attractive. Azores will also use EMFAF support to invest in port infrastructure and auction halls. Support for initiatives promoting partnerships between scientists and fishermen and capacity-building actions are also foreseen in the programme.

Azores plans on shifting the focus of aquaculture from supporting research and innovation to production although the budget is rather modest.

#### **Madeira**

Madeira intends to implement EMFAF Priorities 1, 2 and 3 with a budget of EUR13.2 million EMFAF support in total, representing 3% of the total EMFAF allocation for Portugal. For Madeira, Priority 4 will be implemented directly by the Portuguese Managing Authority.

Madeira will invest in start-up support for young fishermen, investments on board to promote health and safety, which may include collective actions, as well as investments in fishing ports and landing sites.

EMFAF support in aquaculture will focus on technological innovation, in particular recirculation systems, open sea crops, integrated water use and emerging technologies, paving the way for organic aquaculture with the aim of achieving greater sustainability in production.

### **3. Contribution to EU horizontal priorities**

#### **Resilience**

Portugal plans on addressing resilience through support to the adaption and restructuring of the fleet, for example installation or refurbishment of protection structures for the crew, including thermal/acoustic insulation, aids for loading and unloading and handling of weights on board, emergency equipment, mechanisms for the control of fishing equipment. Portugal will also invest in infrastructure to improve working conditions, for example increasing the safety and security of the unloading, berthing in fishing ports, including in small ports adapting them to the specific needs of small-scale fisheries, and to digitalise the management of fishing ports. Portugal will also support infrastructure to further develop aquaculture, in particular offshore aquaculture. Furthermore, Portugal will introduce innovative solutions for the processing and marketing of fish, notably for those contributing to the reduction of food waste.

#### **Green transition**

As regards support to the fishing fleet and infrastructure, the programme includes investments in energy efficiency, decarbonisation and transition to renewable energy as well as digitalisation of activities, in line with the Portuguese national decarbonisation roadmap and the objectives of the European Green Deal.

Portugal also plans on investing in the development of green infrastructure to preserve biodiversity, coastal ecosystems and landscapes.

The programme will contribute to good environmental status through the implementation, management and monitoring of marine protected areas (MPAs), the design, monitoring and updating of fisheries management plans in MPAs, NATURA 2000 sites, spatial protection areas and other areas identified for that purpose.

#### **Digital transition**

Digitalisation is well covered in the Portuguese programme with types of actions included in fisheries, processing and marketing, aquaculture and small-scale fisheries. Portugal intends to support investments on board or in equipment, in line with digitalisation and decarbonisation processes, that promote technical innovation and avoid or reduce unwanted catches. Productive investments in aquaculture, including digitalization as well as support for digitalization in coastal areas to boost the blue economy are also planned. Portugal will also invest in digitalization in the context of sustainability and conservation of stocks. Monitoring and controlling the effects of the exploitation of resources or pollution through digitalized and innovative technologies are amongst the objectives of the Portuguese control and data collection strategy.

#### **Added value**

Portugal will continue to make use of simplified cost options to increase the accessibility to funds and efficiency of programme management. Portugal will not make use of financial instruments, on the basis of a formal assessment), which concluded that the use of financial instruments would not bring added value to the EMFAF programme.

#### **4. Partnership Agreement**

The Portuguese Partnership agreement was adopted on 12 July 2022.