

Programme Summary

European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund - Programme for Cyprus

CCI 2021CY14MFPR001

1. Programme overview

Total allocation: 54.724.746 EUR

EU contribution: 38.307.322 EUR

National contribution: 16.417.424 EUR

CY implements all EMFAF Priorities (1, 2, 3 and 4)

Priority 1 (59,71%) – 22,87 MEUR

Priority 2 (11,45%) – 4,38 MEUR

Priority 3 (12,79%) – 4,90 MEUR

Priority 4 (10,6%) – 4,08 MEUR

TA (5,3%) – 2,06 MEUR

Priority	Specific objective	Union 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	3.514.000,00
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	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	3.073.000,00
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.4. Fostering efficient fisheries control and enforcement, including fighting against IUU fishing, as well as reliable data for knowledge-based decision-making	9.617.997,00
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.6. Contribute to the protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems	6.668.900,00

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	2.975.000,00
2. Fostering sustainable aquaculture activities, and processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, thus contributing to food security in the Union	2.2. Promoting marketing, quality and added value of fisheries and aquaculture products, as well as processing of those products	1.414.000,00
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	4.900.000,00
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	4.080.300,00
5.1. Technical assistance in accordance with Article 36(4) CPR	5.1. Technical assistance in accordance with Article 36(4) CPR	2.064.125,00

2. Programme Summary

CY took into consideration the EU policy priorities outlined in European Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies.

For Fisheries and Aquaculture funding proposals emphasis on decarbonisation is confirmed. Investments and pilot cases on LO/gear selectivity are proposed. Support on knowledge of marine environment exists, including buying a small research vessel. MPAs are clearly spelled out together with focus on making effective existing ones and paving the way for preparing new. Fleet measures exist: TC for additional actions on ICCAT albacore/crisis measures and PC for total scraping of the small CY trawler fleet sector to contribute on decarbonisation. Marine litter actions are focused on monitoring as other interventions planned from ERDF. Damage caused by fish-eating predators and ‘unexpected events’ like Covid-19 are well covered. Good Environmental Status actions are linked with support on the CY PAF interventions while links of Environment policy issues and complementarities with other funds are provided. Control and Data collection allocation is set at 25% of the programme budget and cover well CFP related needs. Aquaculture support gives links with reducing environmental impact of the sector, decarbonisation, circular economy and aim to diversification on new products. CLLD will continue (3 LAGs as in EMFF) with focus on fisheries related actions but taking into consideration also S3 and GES aims. Priority 4 covers maritime surveillance activities and marine knowledge. OSIs stated covers development of the CY fisheries control integrated information system (a must for CY Control Action plan).

Programme’s climate change contribution is 60%. SEA was approved and submitted together with the Programme. CY multiannual national plan for aquaculture was approved and submitted to COM.

Following our advice, CY elaborated Programme’s contribution to the EU policy priorities outlined in the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies, moved towards more ambitious and innovative actions and listed its commitments to EU horizontal priorities.

Resilience: Modernisation of the fishing fleet (investments in fishing vessels to improve safety, health, hygiene, working conditions and energy efficiency and decarbonisation, reduction electricity/thermal energy consumption by financing investments to improve refrigerators, vessel cooling systems), CLLDs interventions (such as actions exploiting the natural and man-made environment), actions to

support fishermen and businesses, vocational training and training programmes for fishermen, temporary cessation of fishing activities, cooperation networks of scientists and fishermen, investments in aquaculture for the diversification of farmed aquaculture species. Also, to increase the resilience of the sectors (fisheries, aquaculture, as well as processing and marketing) compensation support will be given for aid to businesses affected by exceptional events (e.g. Covid-19 pandemic) and for damages from mammals/birds.

Green transition: Fisheries: Management of existing marine protected areas (MPAs), such as installation management of Artificial Reefs (the enrichment and increase of existing artificial reef structures in the existing 7 MPAs, creation of artificial reefs, management of NATURA2000 sites, establishment of an information centre, studies on impact of tourism on NATURA2000, strengthening of Scientific Knowledge in MPAs through studies), work on marking/demarcation/expansion of new MPA areas (with full support on the 30% target), protection and restoration of marine biodiversity and ecosystems (on marine knowledge), clear references to the objectives of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, focus on improvement of marine knowledge (work to do thanks to the purchase of a research vessel) and explicit linking with PAFs and GES, link of GES with CLLDs. Restructuring of the fishing fleet through PC (full scrap of trawling sector), improvement of energy efficiency (investments/pilot studies to support decarbonisation e.g. gear selectivity), pilot survey for the commercial exploitation of alien species. Actions to train staff and to inform fishermen and the public (information campaigns to raise awareness of the need to combat illegal fishing and on the application of the rules of the common fisheries policy).

Aquaculture: modernisation of aquaculture units, advancement of spatial planning, investments to improve working conditions and safety, investments to improve and modernise animal health and welfare, investments to improve the quality/add value of aquaculture products and support circular economy, investments in the installation of renewable energy systems in aquaculture plants, decarbonisation of sector, actions relating to the establishment of a producer organisation, support for decarbonisation of processing sector, support on marketing of fishery and aquaculture products.

Digital transition: Development of an integrated fisheries management system, investments in tracking and tracing systems (VMS/ERS), support for CCTV/REMs, strengthening and acquiring scientific knowledge through cooperation between

scientists and fishermen, data collection for fisheries management and scientific purposes, pilot surveys and studies, as well as the creation of an electronic catalogue of Cypriot fisheries catches, smart specialisation strategies for Blue Economy under CLLD, purchase of new patrol vehicles/modernising existing vessels. Innovation through Fisheries Control interventions and investments on fishing/aquaculture and processing sectors.

Added value of public investment: Cyprus will not use FIs (CY conducted an ex-ante in 2017 which demonstrated no need for FIs). CY committed to conduct a new ex-ante evaluation of FIs in aquaculture and in processing. SCOs will be used for compensations (e.g. compensations for ‘unexpected events’ like Covid-19 outbreak, damages from mammals).

3. Partnership Agreement (PA)

CY PA was formally submitted on 30 December 2021 and was adopted on 8 July 2022.

The EMFAF is mentioned under the PA Policy Objectives 2 and 5.