Summary of the Operational programme for support from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund in Portugal

Main objectives:

The Operational Programme (OP) for the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) in Portugal for 2014-2020 aims at achieving key national development priorities along with the EU's "Europe 2020" objectives. The OP will support the reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the implementation of the EU's Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in Portugal. The OP's main objectives include enhancing the competitiveness and viability of the fisheries and aquaculture business in Portugal, strengthening technological development, innovation and transfer of knowledge to fishery and aquaculture businesses, and improving the common markets organisation.

Funding priorities:

The Portuguese OP is organised around the following priorities:

- Union Priority 1 (UP1): € 103.6 million (26.4% of the total EMFF allocation) will aim at achieving a better balance between fisheries activities and environmental protection and sustainability. Support will focus on innovation, energy savings and scientific knowledge. The OP will also support measures that adjust fleet capacity to resources, investments in port infrastructures in line with requirements under the EU's newly introduced landing obligation, and improving traceability of fisheries products and processing.
- Union Priority 2 (UP2): € 59.0 million (15.0% of the EMFF allocation) will go towards meeting the objectives of the Portuguese national strategic plan for aquaculture. Actions will aim to improve communication in the aquaculture sector, boost the development of aquaculture and improve marine spatial planning. Support will focus on technological development, innovation and knowledge transfer, and investment in aquaculture businesses.
- Union Priority 3 (UP3): € 55.5 million (14.1% of the EMFF allocation) will go towards compliance with CFP rules regarding control and data collection. Funding will improve data collection and management, including through the rationalisation of databases. The EMFF will support Portugal in implementing its action plan for control, which will reinforce administrative capacity and the effectiveness of fisheries control and inspection.
- Union Priority 4 (UP4): € 35.0 million (8.9% of the EMFF allocation) will help local development initiatives to maintain and create jobs, reinforce the position of fisheries and aquaculture within the development of coastal territories, and increase added value through innovative projects and research.
- Union Priority 5 (UP5): € 111.2 million (28.3% of the EMFF allocation) will go towards improving the marketing, diversification and valorisation of seafood products. The Portuguese OP gives a central role to producer organisations, which currently place almost 58% of the Portuguese production on the market. The OP will reinforce these organisations across the country and support the implementation of

production and marketing plans. Compensation for additional costs in Portugal's two outermost regions of the Azores and Madeira has almost doubled compared to the 2007-2013 period.

- Union Priority 6 (UP6): € 5.3 million (1.4% of the EMFF allocation) will go towards strengthening the efficiency of maritime surveillance, widening the network of marine protected areas and improving knowledge on the marine environment and interactions with human activities.
- € 22.8 million (5.8% of the EMFF allocation) are allocated to technical assistance in order to reinforce implementation and ensure efficient administration of the EU funding. This includes support for measures that reduce the burden on beneficiaries, for improving e-administration, and for publicity and information measures.

Financial information

Total OP budget: EUR 507 807 536

Total EU contribution: EUR 392 485 464

Total National contribution: EUR 115 322 072

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