

# EFF Ex post evaluation

EMFF Expert Group

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the evaluation partnership 



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# Objectives and scope

- As stated in Art. 50 of the EFF regulation, the ex post evaluation will:
  - Examine the degree of utilisation of resources,
  - Examine the effectiveness and efficiency of the OPs,
  - Examine the impact of the OPs in relation to:
    - sustainable balance between resources and the fishing capacity,
    - sustainable development of aquaculture and inland fishing,
    - competitiveness,
    - protection and enhancement of the environment and natural resources,
    - improvement of the quality of life in areas dependent on fisheries,
    - equality between men and women
  - Identify the factors which contributed to the success or failure of the OPs, including from the point of view of sustainability, and best practice
- The evaluation will cover **all the EFF measures and the 27 MS with an OP**
- **Analysis by spending categories (fisheries, aquaculture, processing, common interest, community development and technical assistance) rather than by axis**

# Four main phases

## A. Inception

- Analysis of the intervention logic
- Preliminary data collection: AIR, Art. 40 data from the last data call, Desk officer survey, MA survey, literature review
- Evaluation question matrices
- Data collection plan

## B. Data collection

- 2 to 4 MA interviews + analysis of national documents in all 27 MS
- Stakeholder interviews/focus groups in 8 MS
- Beneficiary/stakeholder online surveys
- Open public consultation organised by DG MARE

## C. Analysis

- Financial execution and implementation issues
- Output and results at measure level and by spending categories
- 8 case studies
- Regulatory evaluation questions on effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, EU added-value and sustainability

## D. Judgment and recommendations

# **DATA COLLECTION**

# Use of secondary data

- Monitoring and financial data : Art. 40 and AIR
  - Identify data gaps, errors and inconsistencies
  - Harmonise data from different MS when possible
  - Estimate data to fulfil data gaps when possible
  - Organise the data by spending category (fisheries, aquaculture, processing, common interest, community development, technical assistance)
- Use of national reports and evaluations:
  - Collect OPs, previous evaluations, implementation reports and other relevant reports at EU and national level
  - Organise the information in a standard form to allow compilation and comparison at EU level through detailed grids filled in by country experts for each MS
- Existing statistical data (e.g. Eurostat, STECF reports, Fleet AER, etc.)

# Data collection involving MAs

- 1st e-mail survey sent to **all MAs in September**
  - Objective: provide elements to refine the data collection strategy and the methodology of the different tasks and allow to focus on most relevant issues/measures for the data collection phase in each MS
  - 16 MAs/27 have returned the survey as of 30/10/2015
- List of relevant studies beyond mandatory evaluations
- Possibility to access beneficiary contact information, including email addresses
- Article 40 data at operation level for specific measures and MS (the Commission's data calls only provide aggregated data)
- 2 interviews with MAs (+ 2 interviews with regional authorities in some MS): one focusing on implementation issues and one focusing on the EFF achievements

# Data collection from beneficiaries and stakeholders

- Online surveys will be conducted to collect information from stakeholders:
  - EU-wide PO survey (contacts provided by DG MARE)
  - EU-wide FLAG survey (contacts provided by FARNET)
  - Targeted online surveys for economic operators when possible (contacts provided by MAs or possibly industry representatives)
- Interview with industry representatives at EU level (AIPCE, EAPO, FEAP)
- Additional fieldwork will be conducted in 8 MS (list to be validated by the Steering Committee on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November)
  - Objective is to feed into the thematic case studies and EQ → focus will vary depending on the relevant topics in the MS
  - Focus groups and face-to-face interviews with relevant stakeholders
  - The main selection criteria has been the relevance of the final combination of MS/topics for the case studies and the analysis by spending category



# Open public consultation

- Objective: provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to provide feedback and potentially cover blind spots for the evaluation
- The consultation will be carried out by DG MARE early in 2016
- The evaluators will analyse the consultation outcomes using:
  - Statistical techniques for closed questions and profile data
  - Qualitative analysis using a specialised software: Atlas.ti, which allows to code and analyse text data
- Outputs:
  - Summary of the methodology used for the consultation
  - Typology of the stakeholders who will have contributed
  - Analysis of the stakeholders' contributions by topic/ spending category

# **KEY POINTS OF THE METHODOLOGY**

# Implementation of the EFF

- Objective: detailed description of the EFF spending, description of methods of implementation
- Focus on dynamics through the programming period (re-programming, evolution of consumption rates, etc..)
- Outputs:
  - Detailed tables on financial execution by measure/action of the programme until 31/12/2015;
  - A typology of programmes;
  - An analysis of the main dynamics observed during the course of the programming period;
  - Identification of main implementation issues and the reasons behind them
  - Identification of best practices
- Sources: MA, desk officers, national documents, interim evaluation, Art. 40 data

# Analysis by category of spending

- Objectives:
  - to conduct an evaluation of the outputs and results (types of projects and actions implemented and changes achieved directly from these actions) by category of spending.
  - ‘what’ was done ‘how’ and ‘what came out of it’?
- Outputs:
  - Characterisation of projects implemented;
  - Assessment of the achievements that can be directly related to the projects implemented (e.g. number of jobs created in fish farms having benefitted from measure 2.1): will rely on a mix of quantitative and qualitative analysis
  - Conclusion by spending category on the EFF outputs and results
- Sources: Art. 40 data, AIR, literature review, beneficiary/stakeholder surveys, MA survey and interviews, fieldwork, available statistics, extrapolations

# Case studies

- Objective: analyse in details the implementation and results of a few specific measures
- Case studies will involve in-depth analyses on specific measures, some using counterfactual analyses
- Outputs: 8 case studies specified in the ToR:
  - Engine replacement
  - Small-scale fishing fleet
  - Aquaculture
  - Socio-economic measures
  - Gender dimension
  - Development of new market and promotional campaigns
  - Port infrastructure
  - Pilot projects
- Sources: Art. 40 data, AIR, literature review, beneficiary/stakeholder surveys, MA survey and interviews, available statistics, extrapolations

# Evaluation questions

- Objective: assess the effectiveness, efficiency, relevance, coherence, added value and sustainability of the intervention
- Outputs: Answers to all the evaluation questions, highlighting whenever possible the impact of the EFF intervention on stakeholders' behaviour and on the general socio-economic and environmental context, the reasons why or in which context some measures or some implementation procedures worked and did not work, lessons learnt and examples of good practices, the need for adaptation in the future (in relation to a different context, new policy objectives, etc..)
- Main Sources:
  - Case studies and analyses by spending categories for the effectiveness and relevance questions (e.g. measures with low take-up)
  - Financial data, analyses by spending categories and MA interviews for the efficiency question
  - Context analyses based on desk-based research, MA interviews and stakeholders feedback (interviews, focus groups, stakeholder consultation..)

# Main dates

- Inception report submitted on 6/11/2015,
- Interim phase: 16/11/2015 – 30/04/2016:
  - Data collection: 16/11/2015- 19/02/2016
  - Analysis of implementation, results by spending category and case studies: 1/2/2016-30/04/2016
- Final phase (Evaluation questions and judgement and recommendations): 16/05/2016-12/08/2016
- Final report to be submitted on 9/12/2016