European Fisheries Fund 2007 - 2013

Priority Axis 1 Measure for the Adaptation of the Maltese Community Fishing Fleet Permanent Cessation of Fishing Activities Scheme

Tuna Fishing Effort Adjustment Plan





Implementation Procedure

The plan was forwarded for comments to:

- The Commission
- The Fisheries Advisory Board
- Fisheries Cooperatives
- It was approved by:
 - Permanent Secretary and Hon. Minister
- Published on the Government Gazette and on the Ministry's website





Plan Objectives

Adjustment of the fisheries capacity for Blue Fin Tuna

Reduction of the number of Blue Fin Tuna Licences for operative and active vessels, and currently actively involved in the actual take up of wild fish stocks fishing

 Vessels have to be 5 years old or over and registered in the MFA or MFB category;



Plan Objectives

- Defines the actions that the Maltese fisheries administration intends to implement
- Is a continuation of the Maltese Fisheries Management Plan (Action Plan) as approved by the Ministry responsible for the sector, and as submitted to the European Commission in May 2008
- Considers the conservation and exploitation of living resources where activities are practiced in Community waters





Plan Objectives

Adopts plans to conserve BFT in view of the depletion of stocks in the Mediterranean Sea and achieve a higher sustainability in fisheries for BFT

Actions lead to a definite reduction of BFT licences

- The plan gives a description of the registered BFT licences
- Describes research in the BFT quantities according to a report issued by ICCAT and GFCM





Priority and Approved Amount

A total of 1,000,000 Euro are available to implement this FEAP

 During the evaluation procedure those vessels who have a BFT licence will be granted an extra 20 points





Assumption of the number of BFT licences to be removed from the Register

Overall Length	No. Of Fishing Vessels	Gross Tonnage	Engine Capacity
< 11.99m	2 from a total of 33	5	220
>12m	7 from a total of 49	155	1,070



Conclusion

The implementation of the plan aims to reduce the BFT fishing capacity in Malta

Reduce a significant amount of the negative impact on the environment through more sustainable BFT fishing activities

Reduce the number of by-catches out of season such as dolphin fish, sharks, turtles, small tuna and other unvalued fish

> European Fisheries Fund 2007-2013 Event part financed by the European Union Co-financing rate: 75% EU Funds; 25% National Funds Investing in sustainable fisheries

