

# ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION REPORT FOR THE EMFF

CCI	2014MT14MFOP001
Title	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund - Operational Programme for Malta
Version	2016.0
Date of approval of the report by the Monitoring Committee (Art 113.d of EMFF)	19-May-2017

<b>2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>4</b>
<b>3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNION PRIORITIES</b> .....	<b>8</b>
3.1. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013).....	8
3.2. RESULT, OUTPUT AND FINANCIAL INDICATORS FOR EMFF (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013) .....	12
<i>Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 2</i> .....	12
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 3</i> .....	13
<i>Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 5</i> .....	13
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1</i> .....	14
<i>Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 6</i> .....	14
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1</i> .....	15
<i>Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 1</i> .....	15
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1</i> .....	17
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 4</i> .....	17
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 5</i> .....	18
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 6</i> .....	18
<i>Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 3</i> .....	19
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1</i> .....	20
<i>Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 2</i> .....	20
<i>Table 3: Financial indicators for EMFF</i> .....	21
3.3. FINANCIAL DATA.....	22
<i>Table 4: Financial data for the EMFF</i> .....	22
<i>Table 5: Cost of operations implemented outside the programme area (Article 70 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)</i> .....	26
<b>4. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN</b> .....	<b>27</b>
4.1. ACTIONS TAKEN TO FULFIL THE EX-ANTE CONDITIONALITIES (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013) .....	27
<i>Table 6: Actions taken to fulfil applicable EMFF-specific ex-ante conditionalities</i> .....	27
4.2. ISSUES WHICH AFFECT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND THE CORRECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013) .....	28
<b>5. INFORMATION ON SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS AND REMEDY ACTIONS (ARTICLE 114(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014)</b> .....	<b>29</b>
<b>6. INFORMATION ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO COMPLY WITH ARTICLE 41(8) (ARTICLE 114(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014)</b> .....	<b>30</b>
<b>7. INFORMATION ON THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO ENSURE THE PUBLICATION OF BENEFICIARIES (ARTICLE 114(2) ) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014)</b> .....	<b>31</b>
<b>8. ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO THE EVALUATION PLAN AND SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS (ARTICLE 114(2)) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014, ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>32</b>
<b>9. CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (ARTICLE 50(9) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>35</b>
<b>10. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ARTICLE 46(1) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>36</b>
<b>11. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>37</b>
11.1. ASSESSMENT OF DATA AND PROGRESS TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME .....	37
11.2. ASSESSMENT WHETHER PROGRESS MADE TOWARD MILESTONES AND TARGETS IS SUFFICIENT TO ENSURE THEIR EVENTUAL FULFILMENT, INDICATING ANY REMEDIAL ACTIONS TAKEN OR PLANNED .....	42
<b>12. HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES OF IMPLEMENTATION (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)</b> .....	<b>47</b>

12.1.	AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN ARTICLE 5 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 ON PARTNERSHIP AND MULTI-LEVEL GOVERNANCE, WITH PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON THE ROLE OF PARTNERS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME. ....	47
12.2.	AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN ARTICLE 7 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 ON PROMOTION OF EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN AND NON-DISCRIMINATION, INCLUDING ACCESSIBILITY FOR DISABLED PERSONS AS WELL AS THE ARRANGEMENTS IMPLEMENTED TO ENSURE THE INTEGRATION OF THE GENDER PERSPECTIVE IN THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME. ....	48
12.3.	AN ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SPECIFIC ACTIONS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRINCIPLES SET OUT IN ARTICLE 8 OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013 ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, INCLUDING AN OVERVIEW OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO PROMOTE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT. ....	49
<b>13.</b>	<b>REPORTING ON SUPPORT USED FOR CLIMATE CHANGE OBJECTIVES (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013).....</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>14.</b>	<b>SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH (ARTICLE 50(5) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013) .....</b>	<b>52</b>
<b>15.</b>	<b>ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME — PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013) .....</b>	<b>53</b>
	DOCUMENTS .....	54
	LATEST VALIDATION RESULTS .....	55

## 2. OVERVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

Key information on the implementation of the Operational Programme for the year concerned, including on financial instruments, with relation to the financial and indicator data.

In line with the EMFF Regulation, the Funds and Programmes Division [FPD] as the Managing Authority [MA] is responsible for drawing up the Annual Implementation Report [AIR] for its subsequent examination and approval by the Monitoring Committee and submission to the Commission by 31 May from 2016 until and including 2023. In this regard, the MA is hereby presenting the second AIR for the EMFF OP in Malta covering the third year of the EMFF implementation, whose format is set on the model presented in Article 2 of Regulation [EU] No.1362/2014. The main objective of this AIR is to provide key stakeholders with information on the implementation of the Programme between 2016, in accordance with Article 114[1] of Reg.[EU] No.508/2014.

During 2016, three calls were issued, namely under [i] Article 77; [ii] Article **80.1.c** and [iii] Article 43.1 + 3 of Reg. (EU) No 508/2014. Under UP3 and on the basis of Article 77 of Reg. [EU] No. 508/2014, the EMFF MA launched a *restricted* call for applications for the DFA in order to start processing requests for reimbursements for activities implemented during 2014-2016 in line with the National Programme 2014-2016[1]. The Beneficiary, the Fisheries Resource Unit [FRU] within the DFA is responsible for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and to provide support for scientific advice regarding the Common Fisheries Policy. This operation includes the collection, use and management of fisheries data in line with Council Regulation EC No.199/2008 and Commission Decision [2010/93/EU] and as outlined in the National Programme for the collection of primary biological, technical, environmental and socio-economic data in the fisheries sector of the Republic of Malta, 2014 - 2016 National Programme. The total eligible expenditure allocated to this call was € 1,822,425 of which 80% EU contribution will amount to € 1,457,940.

The second call for 2016 was issued by the MA on 9 June for UP 6, Article 80.1.c of Regulation (EU) No.508/2014. The awarded operation is being implemented by ERA and aims at initiating the implementation of sustained environmental monitoring in marine waters with the objective of assessing the state of Malta's marine waters on a continuous basis and addressing current knowledge gaps. This monitoring intends to provide a sound knowledge base for effective management of anthropogenic activities and work towards achievement of Good Environmental Status in marine waters. The operation also seeks the development of a database system on the marine environment. The total eligible expenditure allocated to this call was €1,600,000.00 of which 75% EU contribution will amount to €1,200,000.

On 20 October 2016, a restricted call was issued for MTI and MSDEC in relation to UP 1, Article 43.1 + 3 of Regulation (EU) No 508/2014- Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen. The closing date for this call was 30

November 2016 whereby 2 applications were submitted, one by each organisation.

In accordance with Article 97 of the EMFF Reg. No. 508/2014, the MA shall provide information on and publicise the OP and operations and the Community contribution. The information shall be addressed to the general public and it shall aim to highlight the role of the EU and ensure the transparency of assistance from the EMFF. The MA must also ensure publicity for the operational programme by informing beneficiaries of the Union contribution and the general public of the role played by the Union in the programme.

In this regard, the MA online EMFF webpage[2] includes information ranging from regulations, publications, reports, EMFF supporting documentation, list of selected operations[3] as laid down in Article 119 of Reg. [EU] No.508/2014 and other miscellaneous documents pertaining to EMFF upcoming calls. Additionally with the aim of informing potential beneficiaries about funding opportunities under the EMFF OP, the MA participated in 'Festa Hut' in Marsaxlokk on 11 September 2016 during which promotional material and generic information were disseminated with the general public and prospective applicants for upcoming calls.

In order to continue steering its way into the EMFF OP, in 2016 the MA continued working on a number of crucial documents. The EMFF MoP (2014-2020) was concluded and uploaded online in 2016 on the MA's website[4]: The EMFF National Eligibility Rules document was also updated with the second version of such document uploaded on the MA's website.

With the aim of attaining its formal designation as MA the Description of Management and Control Systems was finalised in October 2016. This document, together with the MA's and CA's MoPs, the Risk Register & Fraud Risk Assessment and the EMFF Database were an integral part for the official designation of the MA and CA. The audit report and opinion prepared by the Audit Body for the Designation Procedure of the EMFF OP in Malta was issued by IAID on 18 October 2016 stating that the EMFF MA and the CA are to be designated for the programme and that they comply with the designation criteria relating to internal control environment, risk management, management and control activities and monitoring set out in Annex XIII to Regulation [EU] No.1303/2013. The formal notification by the MS to the Commission was uploaded on SFC on 26 October 2016.

Development and testing of the modules comprising the EMFF Database was conducted during 2015 and 2016. The EMFF Database 2014-2020 is operational and Technical Assistance payments started being processed Q1 of 2017. Following meetings held with major stakeholders namely the MA, Treasury and CA access and user rights to the EMFF DB test and live environment were given.

Payments in relation to calls issued in 2016 are expected to be processed by mid-2017.

Local and external training of MA officials and stakeholders continued in 2016 so as to increase institutional knowledge and better understanding of the EMFF regulatory requirements. The Annual Review Meeting with EC representatives was held on 10 November with aspects of implementation discussed and subsequently followed by the MA. The 2nd EMFF MC Meeting was held on 11 November whereby the first set of proposed amendments to the OP was approved by the MC.

In 2016, the CA received two pre-financing payments, namely [i] €212,697 (initial pre-financing) and [ii] €425,395.54 (annual pre-financing).

[1] Commission Decision C(2013)5568 of 30th August 2013

[2]  
<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Pages/EMFF-2014-2020.aspx>

[3]  
<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/List%20of%20Operations%2026102016.pdf>

[4]

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Pages/EMFF-2014-2020.aspx>

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNION PRIORITIES

#### 3.1. Overview of the implementation (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Information should be provided as short and general commentary on the implementation of the Union priorities and technical assistance for the year(s) concerned with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems.

Union priority	Key information on the implementation of the priority with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	<p>A call for proposals for Article 43.1+3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ art. 44.1.f Inland fishing), was issued with a call deadline for the 30th November 2016. Two applications were submitted, one by MTI for the <b>Refurbishment and upgrading of slipways in the port of Marsaxlokk</b> and another by MSDEC for <b>The Construction and Finishing of a Fish Landing Site in the Marsaxlokk Designated Port</b>.</p> <p>Subsequent to the receipt of applications within the closing deadline, completeness checks and validity checks were undertaken. Evaluations were subsequently conducted in 2017 by the Project Selection Committee.</p> <p>Due to the fact that only two applications were received in 2016 out of the expected four operations as outlined in the EMFF OP and also taking into consideration requests for extensions of the call for applications made by MTI for the remaining expected two proposals (breakwaters), the MA would like to note that the call for proposals for measures to be implemented under UP1 Article 43 was extended to 28th April 2017 in order to ensure completeness and quality of applications received.</p> <p>In addition with reference to other measures falling under this UP, in line with the EMFF OP adopted in March 2015 the MA would also like to note that further calls were and are planned to be issued between 2017 and 2018 in line with the Calls and Disbursement plan sent to the EC in November 2016. This was also discussed with EC representatives during the Annual Review Meeting held</p>



Union priority	Key information on the implementation of the priority with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
	on the 10th November 2016.
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	<p>Due to the fact that calls were not issued in 2016, information on the implementation of this priority on key development, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems cannot be provided.</p> <p>The relevant calls for proposals for UP2 Article 48.1.e.i.j Productive investment in aquaculture- resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use are expected to be issued between 2017 and 2018 in line with the Calls and Disbursement plan sent to the EC in November 2016 and as discussed with EC representatives during the Annual Review Meeting held on the 10th November 2016.</p> <p>The call/s issued shall also take into consideration proposed OP amendments to be approved by the MC and EC in 2017.</p>
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	<p>On 11th March 2016, a restricted call for proposals was issued for the implementation of Article 77 Data Collection of the Regulation [EU] No 508/2014 covering the 2014 - 2016 period with a closing deadline of 29th April 2016. Upon receipt of application within the deadline, a completeness and a validity check were conducted by the MA. Subsequently the application underwent an evaluation by the PSC in line with the applicable Admissibility and Selection Criteria.</p> <p>Following grant award of the proposed operation, the respective grant agreement was signed by the applicant. In order to ensure clarity and avoid unnecessary delays or issues, meetings were held with stakeholders prior to the call deadline to provide information and guidance to the applicant. MA officials maintained contact with the beneficiary following award of operation to ensure smooth transition of the implemented operation and processing of payments.</p>

Union priority	Key information on the implementation of the priority with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
	<p>A second restricted call under Article 77 was also issued for the 2017-2020 period on 3rd March 2017.</p> <p>With reference to the implementation of Article 76 – Control &amp; Enforcement, calls are foreseen to be issued in 2017, taking into consideration OP amendments to be approved by the MC and EC. Throughout 2016, the MA kept in contact with the beneficiary (restricted call) through meetings and exchanges taking into consideration the issuance of calls and proposed amendments to OP.</p>
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	A call for proposals targeting Article 68 Marketing Measures is expected to be issued in 2017 in line with the Calls and Disbursement plan sent to the EC in November 2016 and as discussed with EC representatives during the Annual Review Meeting held on the 10th November 2016.
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	<p>A call for proposals under UP 6 Article 80.1.c – Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment was issued on 9th June 2016 with a closing deadline 10th August 2016. Following receipt of application received within the deadline, and following a completeness and validity check conducted by the MA, the proposal was evaluated by the PSC in accordance to the applicable rules and selection criteria.</p> <p>Following grant award of the proposed operation, a grant agreement was signed by the applicant. In order to ensure clarity and avoid unnecessary delays or issues, meetings were held with stakeholders including the Line Ministry prior to the call deadline to provide the necessary information and guidance to the applicant. Contact with the beneficiary was maintained by MA officials following award of operation to ensure smooth transition of the implemented operation and taking into consideration operation closure deadlines set and milestones to be achieved for 2018.</p>
7 - Technical assistance	2016 till 2023 shall see the continued implementation of this Union Priority through the measures of technical assistance referred to in

Union priority	Key information on the implementation of the priority with reference to key developments, significant problems and steps taken to address these problems
	<p>Article 59[1] of Regulation [EU] No 1303/2013 in accordance with the EMFF OP.</p> <p>In 2016, a call for quotations was issued for the procurement of the promotional items distributed during the Festa Hut event which included travel mugs, USB drives and caps, all bearing the Fund's promotional visibility. With the aim of promoting further the EMFF Programme, in October 2016, a call for quotations was issued for the <i>Procurement of Roll-up Banner</i> [design and printing] which was subsequently used during the EMFF Monitoring Committee Meeting held on 11th November 2016. In Quarter 4 2016, a call for quotations was also issued for the Provision of Diaries together with artwork (MA logo and co-financing banner) for the Year 2017 which were subsequently disseminated amongst potential beneficiaries.</p> <p>Procured items of expenditure mentioned in the previous section, namely promotional material including the EMFF Roll-up Banner were co-financed through the EMFF TA (2014-2020). In this regard, payments claims received by the MA in 2016 for these expenses together with Monitoring Committee meeting logistical expenses, IT related payment claims and reimbursement requests for salaries started being processed by the MA in 2016.</p>

### 3.2. Result, output and financial indicators for EMFF (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Union priority	2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture
----------------	--

*Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 2*

Specific objective	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016
3 - Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture	2.10 - Change in net profits	thousand Euros	420.00000	0.00000	0.00000

Specific objective	Result indicator	2015	2014
3 - Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture	2.10 - Change in net profits	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	3 - Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture
---------------------------	---

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 3

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
02 - Article 48.1.e, i, j Productive investments in aquaculture - resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	06	2.2 - N° of projects on productive investments in aquaculture	✓	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
02 - Article 48.1.e, i, j Productive investments in aquaculture - resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	06	2.2 - N° of projects on productive investments in aquaculture	0.00

Union priority	5 - Fostering marketing and processing
----------------	--

Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 5

Specific objective	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.c - Change in value of first sales in non-POs	thousand Euros	1,000.00000	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.d - Change in volume of first sales in non-POs	tonnes	200.00000	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.e - Increase in the estimated per capita fish consumption	Kgs	0.50000	0.00000	0.00000

Specific objective	Result indicator	2015	2014
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.c - Change in value of first sales in non-POs	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.d - Change in volume of first sales in non-POs	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	5.1.e - Increase in the estimated per capita fish consumption	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products
---------------------------	---

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
02 - Article 67 Storage aid	03	5.2 - N° of projects on marketing measures and storage aid		1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
03 - Article 68 Marketing measures	03	5.2 - N° of projects on marketing measures and storage aid	✓	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
02 - Article 67 Storage aid	03	5.2 - N° of projects on marketing measures and storage aid	0.00
03 - Article 68 Marketing measures	03	5.2 - N° of projects on marketing measures and storage aid	0.00

<b>Union priority</b>	6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy
-----------------------	--

Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 6

Specific objective	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016
1 - Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	6.3 - Development of a database on the marine environment	number	1.00000	0.00000	0.00000

Specific objective	Result indicator	2015	2014
1 - Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	6.3 - Development of a database on the marine environment	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	1 - Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy
---------------------------	--

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
03 - Article 80.1.c Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	06	6.2 - N° projects on the protection and improvement of knowledge on marine environment	✓	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
03 - Article 80.1.c Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	06	6.2 - N° projects on the protection and improvement of knowledge on marine environment	0.00

<b>Union priority</b>	1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries
-----------------------	--

Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 1

Specific objective	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016
1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	1.4.a - Change in unwanted catches (tonnes)	tonnes	-0.69000	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	1.4.b - Change in unwanted catches (%)	%	-10.00000	0.00000	0.00000
4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	1.7 - Employment created (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	2.00000	0.00000	0.00000
4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	1.8 - Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	260.00000	0.00000	0.00000
5 - Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer	1.3 - Change in net profits	thousand Euros	2.00000	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Result indicator</b>	<b>Measurement unit</b>	<b>Target value (2023)</b>	<b>Cumulative value</b>	<b>2016</b>
6 - Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	1.8 - Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	FTE	260.00000	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	<b>Result indicator</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	1.4.a - Change in unwanted catches (tonnes)	0.00000	0.00000
1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	1.4.b - Change in unwanted catches (%)	0.00000	0.00000
4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	1.7 - Employment created (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	0.00000	0.00000
4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	1.8 - Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	0.00000	0.00000
5 - Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer	1.3 - Change in net profits	0.00000	0.00000
6 - Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	1.8 - Employment maintained (FTE) in the fisheries sector or complementary activities	0.00000	0.00000



<b>Specific objective</b>	1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches
---------------------------	--

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
03 - Article 39 Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ art. 44.1.c Inland fishing)	06	1.4 - N° of projects on conservation measures, reduction of the fishing impact on the marine environment and fishing adaptation to the protection of species	✓	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
03 - Article 39 Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ art. 44.1.c Inland fishing)	06	1.4 - N° of projects on conservation measures, reduction of the fishing impact on the marine environment and fishing adaptation to the protection of species	0.00

<b>Specific objective</b>	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions
---------------------------	--

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 4

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
02 - Article 30 Diversification and new forms of income (+ art. 44.4 Inland fishing)	03	1.9 - N° of projects on promotion of human capital and social dialogue, diversification and new forms of income, start-ups for fishermen and health/safety	✓	5.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
05 - Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	03	1.10 - N° of projects on temporary cessation		10.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
09 - Article 43.1 + 3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ art. 44.1.f Inland fishing)	03	1.3 - N° of projects on added value, quality, use of unwanted catches and fishing ports, landing sites, actions halls and shelters	✓	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
02 - Article 30 Diversification and new forms of income (+ art. 44.4 Inland fishing)	03	1.9 - N° of projects on promotion of human capital and social dialogue, diversification and new forms of income, start-ups for fishermen and health/safety	0.00
05 - Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	03	1.10 - N° of projects on temporary cessation	0.00
09 - Article 43.1 + 3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ art. 44.1.f Inland)	03	1.3 - N° of projects on added value, quality, use of unwanted catches and fishing ports, landing sites, actions halls and shelters	0.00

<b>Selected relevant measures</b>	<b>Thematic objective</b>	<b>Output indicator</b>	<b>2014</b>
fishing)			

<b>Specific objective</b>	5 - Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer
---------------------------	---

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 5

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
04 - Article 41.2 Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change - Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (+ art. 44.1.d Inland fishing)	04	1.8 - N° of projects on replacement or modernisation of engines	✓	4.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<b>Selected relevant measures</b>	<b>Thematic objective</b>	<b>Output indicator</b>	<b>2014</b>
04 - Article 41.2 Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change - Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (+ art. 44.1.d Inland fishing)	04	1.8 - N° of projects on replacement or modernisation of engines	0.00

<b>Specific objective</b>	6 - Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning
---------------------------	---

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 6

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
01 - Article 29.1 + 29.2 Promoting human capital and social dialogue - training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ art. 44.1.a Inland fishing)	08	1.9 - N° of projects on promotion of human capital and social dialogue, diversification and new forms of income, start-ups for fishermen and health/safety	✓	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

<b>Selected relevant measures</b>	<b>Thematic objective</b>	<b>Output indicator</b>	<b>2014</b>
01 - Article 29.1 + 29.2 Promoting human capital and social dialogue - training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ art. 44.1.a Inland fishing)	08	1.9 - N° of projects on promotion of human capital and social dialogue, diversification and new forms of income, start-ups for fishermen and health/safety	0.00

<b>Union priority</b>	3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP
-----------------------	---

Table 1: Result indicators for the EMFF - 3

Specific objective	Result indicator	Measurement unit	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016
1 - Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data	3.B.1 - Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls	%	100.00000	0.00000	0.00000
2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	3.A.1 - Number of serious infringements detected	number	0.00300	0.00000	0.00000
2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	3.A.2 - Landings that have been the subject to physical control	%	100.00000	0.00000	0.00000

Specific objective	Result indicator	2015	2014
1 - Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data	3.B.1 - Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls	0.00000	0.00000
2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	3.A.1 - Number of serious infringements detected	0.00000	0.00000
2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	3.A.2 - Landings that have been the subject to physical control	0.00000	0.00000

<b>Specific objective</b>	1 - Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data
---------------------------	--

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 1

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
01 - Article 77 Data collection	06	3.2 - N° of projects on supporting the collection, management and use of data	✓	2.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
01 - Article 77 Data collection	06	3.2 - N° of projects on supporting the collection, management and use of data	0.00

<b>Specific objective</b>	2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden
---------------------------	---

Table 2: Output indicators for EMFF - 2

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	Included into the performance framework	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
01 - Article 76 Control and enforcement	06	3.1 - N° of projects on implementing the Union's control, inspections and enforcement system	✓	11.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Selected relevant measures	Thematic objective	Output indicator	2014
01 - Article 76 Control and enforcement	06	3.1 - N° of projects on implementing the Union's control, inspections and enforcement system	0.00

Table 3: Financial indicators for EMFF

Union priority	Milestone (2018)	Target value (2023)	Cumulative value	2016	2015
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	2,000,000.00	11,630,572.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	500,000.00	3,306,822.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	3,000,000.00	10,157,913.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	150,000.00	469,771.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	500,000.00	1,600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7 - Technical assistance			0.00	0.00	0.00

Union priority	2014
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	0.00
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	0.00
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	0.00
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	0.00
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	0.00
7 - Technical assistance	0.00

### 3.3. Financial data

Table 4: Financial data for the EMFF

Union priority	Selected specific objective	Thematic objective	Measure	Total public contribution (EUR)	EMFF contribution (EUR)	Contribution to climate change from EMFF contribution (EUR)	EMFF co-financing rate (%)	Total eligible expenditure of operations selected for support (EUR)	Total public contribution of operations selected for support (EUR)	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations (%)
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	06	03 - Article 39 Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ art. 44.1.c Inland fishing)	200,000.00	150,000.00	60,000.00	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	02 - Article 30 Diversification and new forms of income (+ art. 44.4 Inland fishing)	1,000,000.00	750,000.00	0.00	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	05 - Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	500,000.00	250,000.00	100,000.00	50.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	09 - Article 43.1 + 3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ art. 44.1.f Inland fishing)	9,230,572.00	6,922,929.00	2,769,171.60	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	5 - Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer	04	04 - Article 41.2 Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change - Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (+ art. 44.1.d Inland fishing)	200,000.00	100,000.00	100,000.00	50.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	6 - Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	08	01 - Article 29.1 + 29.2 Promoting human capital and social dialogue - training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ art. 44.1.a Inland fishing)	500,000.00	375,000.00	0.00	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	3 - Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture	06	02 - Article 48.1.e, i, j Productive investments in aquaculture - resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	3,306,822.00	2,480,116.00	992,046.40	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%

Union priority	Selected specific objective	Thematic objective	Measure	Total public contribution (EUR)	EMFF contribution (EUR)	Contribution to climate change from EMFF contribution (EUR)	EMFF co-financing rate (%)	Total eligible expenditure of operations selected for support (EUR)	Total public contribution of operations selected for support (EUR)	Proportion of the total allocation covered with selected operations (%)
based aquaculture										
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	1 - Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data	06	01 - Article 77 Data collection	4,426,910.00	3,541,528.00	0.00	80.00%	1,822,425.00	1,822,425.00	41.17%
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	06	01 - Article 76 Control and enforcement	5,731,003.00	5,150,123.00	0.00	89.86%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	03	02 - Article 67 Storage aid	219,771.00	219,771.00	0.00	100.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	03	03 - Article 68 Marketing measures	250,000.00	187,500.00	0.00	75.00%	0.00	0.00	0.00%
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	1 - Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	06	03 - Article 80.1.c Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	1,600,000.00	1,200,000.00	480,000.00	75.00%	1,600,000.00	1,600,000.00	100.00%
7 - Technical assistance	1 - Technical assistance		01 - Article 78 Technical assistance at the initiative of the Member States	1,733,940.00	1,300,455.00	0.00	75.00%	236,267.60	236,267.60	13.63%
<b>Total</b>				<b>28,899,018.00</b>	<b>22,627,422.00</b>	<b>4,501,218.00</b>	<b>78.30%</b>	<b>3,658,692.60</b>	<b>3,658,692.60</b>	<b>12.66%</b>

Union priority	Selected specific objective	Thematic objective	Measure	Contribution to climate change of operations selected for support (EUR)	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Proportion of total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries of the total allocation (%)	Contribution to climate change of total eligible public expenditures declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations selected
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	1 - Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches	06	03 - Article 39 Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ art. 44.1.c Inland fishing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	02 - Article 30 Diversification and new forms of income (+ art. 44.4 Inland fishing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	05 - Article 33 Temporary cessation of fishing activities	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0

Union priority	Selected specific objective	Thematic objective	Measure	Contribution to climate change of operations selected for support (EUR)	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Proportion of total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries of the total allocation (%)	Contribution to climate change of total eligible public expenditures declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations selected
based fisheries	conditions								
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	4 - Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions	03	09 - Article 43.1 + 3 Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters - investments improving fishing port and auctions halls infrastructure or landing sites and shelters; construction of shelters to improve safety of fishermen (+ art. 44.1.f Inland fishing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	5 - Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer	04	04 - Article 41.2 Energy efficiency and mitigation of climate change - Replacement or modernisation of main or ancillary engines (+ art. 44.1.d Inland fishing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	6 - Development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning	08	01 - Article 29.1 + 29.2 Promoting human capital and social dialogue - training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners (+ art. 44.1.a Inland fishing)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	3 - Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture	06	02 - Article 48.1.e, i, j Productive investments in aquaculture - resource efficiency, reducing usage of water and chemicals, recirculation systems minimising water use	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	1 - Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data	06	01 - Article 77 Data collection	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	2 - Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden	06	01 - Article 76 Control and enforcement	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	03	02 - Article 67 Storage aid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	1 - Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products	03	03 - Article 68 Marketing measures	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	1 - Development and implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	06	03 - Article 80.1.c Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment	480,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1



Union priority	Selected specific objective	Thematic objective	Measure	Contribution to climate change of operations selected for support (EUR)	Total eligible expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Proportion of total eligible public expenditure declared by beneficiaries of the total allocation (%)	Contribution to climate change of total eligible public expenditures declared by beneficiaries to the Managing Authority (EUR)	Number of operations selected
7 - Technical assistance	1 - Technical assistance		01 - Article 78 Technical assistance at the initiative of the Member States	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3
<b>Total</b>				<b>480,000.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5</b>

Table 5: Cost of operations implemented outside the programme area (Article 70 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

Union priority	Eligible expenditure within the EMFF incurred in operations implemented outside the programme area declared by the beneficiary to the managing authority (EUR)	Share of the EMFF support to the union priority at the time of adoption of the programme (%)
1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries	0.00	0.00%
2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	0.00	0.00%
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	0.00	0.00%
4 - Increasing employment and territorial cohesion	0.00	
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	0.00	0.00%
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	0.00	0.00%
7 - Technical assistance	0.00	0.00%
<b>TOTAL OP</b>	<b>0.00</b>	

#### 4. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME AND CORRECTIVE MEASURES TAKEN

##### 4.1. Actions taken to fulfil the ex-ante conditionalities (Article 50(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)

*Table 6: Actions taken to fulfil applicable EMFF-specific ex-ante conditionalities*

Thematic ex-ante conditionalities which are not or partially fulfilled	Criteria not fulfilled	Action to be taken	Deadline	Bodies responsible for fulfilment	Action completed by the deadline	Criteria fulfilled	Expected date for full implementation of remaining actions	Commentary
--	------------------------	--------------------	----------	-----------------------------------	----------------------------------	--------------------	--	------------

**4.2. Issues which affect the performance of the programme and the corrective measures taken (Article 50(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013)**

During the reporting period of this report no major issues affecting the performance of the programme were encountered by Malta. However, the MA notes that certain delays resulted in the implementation of the EMFF programme in terms of issuance of calls due to the late adoption of the EMFF Operational Programme and also due to resource constraints taking into consideration the fact that in 2016 MA resources were shared between the implementation of the EMFF programme [2014-2020] and the closure of the ERF Programme [2007-2013]. Additionally the late confirmation of the indicators contributed to the delays especially since prospective beneficiaries had to plan notwithstanding this challenge.

Taking into consideration the Performance Framework of the EMFF programme and its set targets and indicators, as in 2014 and 2015, the MA shall continue maintaining contact throughout the programming period, with its beneficiaries and stakeholders to ensure that any issues affecting the performance of the programme are addressed. This will be implemented through bilateral meetings held between the MA and its beneficiaries in line with the MA's monitoring procedure and further supplemented with additional meetings and exchanges as deemed necessary.

**5. INFORMATION ON SERIOUS INFRINGEMENTS AND REMEDY ACTIONS (ARTICLE 114(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014**

Information and actions taken on cases of serious infringements as referred to in Article 10(1) and non-respect of durability conditions and remedy actions as set out in Article 10(2).

No infringements were recorded.

**6. INFORMATION ON ACTIONS TAKEN TO COMPLY WITH ARTICLE 41(8) (ARTICLE 114(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014)**

A summary of actions taken is to be provided on the progress to achieve the provision set out in Article 41(8) with regard to the priority up to 60 % of the public assistance to be ensured to small-scale coastal fishing sector, including data on actual share of small-scale coastal fishing within the operations financed under the measure of Article 41(2)

At the time of writing of this report, no actions falling under Article 41[8] were taken as no operations were financed under UP1, Specific Objective 5 Article 41.2.

**7. INFORMATION ON THE ACTIONS TAKEN TO ENSURE THE PUBLICATION OF BENEFICIARIES (ARTICLE 114(2) ) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 508/2014)**

A summary of actions taken is to be provided in line with Annex V of EMFF Regulation, with special regard to national legislation including any applicable threshold regarding the publication of data of natural persons

Two calls were awarded during 2016 and thus a list of selected operations in line with Annex V of the EMFF Regulation was published. The list of operations in accordance with the said Annex and Article 119 [2] of the EMFF Regulation is available online on the dedicated MA's website[1].

[1]

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/List%20of%20Operations%2026102016.pdf>

**8. ACTIVITIES IN RELATION TO THE EVALUATION PLAN AND SYNTHESIS OF THE EVALUATIONS (ARTICLE 114(2)) OF REGULATION (EU) No 508/2014, ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)**

A summary should be provided on activities undertaken in relation to the implementation of the evaluation plan, including follow-up given to the findings of evaluations.

A synthesis of the findings should be provided of all evaluations of the programme that have become available during the previous financial year, with reference of name and reference period of the evaluation reports used.

Additionally, the access to evaluations that were made publicly available pursuant to Article 54(4) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 should be communicated here.

In preparation for the 2014- 2020 EMFF programming period, the first phase of evaluation for the EMFF Operational Programme was implemented by the MA through the *Ex-ante evaluation and Strategic Environmental Assessment [SEA] on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for the programming period 2014-2020*.

As described in the EMFF AIR 2014/15, this evaluation was carried out in line with the requirements set out in Article 55 of Regulation [EU] No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council with the overall aim of improving the quality of the design of the EMFF OP and verifying whether its objectives and targets can be reached.

Subsequent to the Ex-ante Evaluation and SEA on the EMFF OP (2014-2020), the MA drew up and circulated an evaluation plan to EMFF Monitoring Committee members on 2 March 2016 in accordance with Section 10 of the EMFF Operational Programme adopted in March 2015. The purpose of the Evaluation Plan is to lay out in more detail the framework to be followed by Malta for the Evaluation Plan of the EMFF OP in accordance with the plan set out in Section 10 of the EMFF OP. The evaluation plan aims to fulfil the requirements set in Article 56 of Regulation [EU] No 1303/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 and those set in Article 5 of Commission Implementing Regulation [EU] No 771/2014 of 14 July 2014. The main objectives of the Evaluation Plan include [i] to provide evidence on the contribution of each Union Priority to its objectives and the assessment of the impact of the programme in relation to set targets [ii] to enable informed programme management and policy decision on the basis of evaluation findings [iii] to facilitate the synthesis of findings and the exchange of available evidence.

Evaluation activities implemented throughout the 2014-2020 programming period will help assess the overall strategy of the EMFF Operational Programme was effective in terms of results achieved in the over-arching context of the European 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, the policy intentions of the reformed Common Fisheries Policy, the national development priorities as defined by the Maltese Government and also the sectorial ambitions as highlighted by industry stakeholders. The EMFF MA shall lead the evaluation process and assume the responsibility for the coordination of the monitoring



and evaluation process of the EMFF OP 2014-2020. The MA shall also be responsible for ensuring that sufficient resources are available for carrying out evaluations and that procedure are in place to collect common and programme specific data for evaluations.

Chapter 3 of the Evaluation Plan, proposes that an Interim Evaluation is conducted covering the EMFF programme implementation in Malta between 2014 and 2018 and as per recommendations made in the Chapter 2 of the said document, it shall also take into consideration the performance framework in order to set the basis for the proper assessment and reporting on the performance of the implementation of the EMFF Operational Programme in the AIR to be submitted to EC by 31 May 2019.

The Interim Evaluation will seek:

1. to provide the MA and the Monitoring Committee with an evaluation of the implementation of the EMFF as at end 2018 taking into consideration the performance framework;
2. to assess the uptake and impact of EMFF measures implemented in Malta in relation to the evolving national socio-economic context and needs in comparison to those identified in the EMFF OP
3. to evaluate the level of achievement, by each Union Priority (and measure when possible), of the specific objectives defined in the Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
4. to evaluate results and identify actions that may be taken by Malta to address findings especially in terms of the relevance of the EMFF OP strategy and the identified EMFF OP targets to be achieved by 2023
5. to propose follow-up evaluation activities that may be undertaken in light of resulting findings especially in view of future ex-ante evaluation activities to be undertaken in preparation for the future financial instrument for fisheries;

With reference to the proposed Interim Evaluation, chapter 3 of the Evaluation Plan provides details on the evaluation topics and evaluation guiding questions to be taken into consideration whilst highlighting the two main evaluation criteria (quality of implementation and effectiveness of the measures applied under all Union Priorities) to be applied for the said evaluation. It also presents a structure outlining the expected contents/themes for the proposed evaluation.

It is envisaged that the EMFF Monitoring Committee shall also contribute towards the evaluation plan by [i] reviewing the implementation of the EMFF OP, its progress towards its objectives, principally through the use of indicators; [ii] approve the Annual Implementation Report prior to submission to the European Commission; [iii] monitor all evaluation activities and results and may issue recommendations to the MA regarding programme implementation and evaluation. It shall also monitor actions taken as a result of its

recommendations.

The Ex-ante Evaluation Report of the EMFF OP can be accessed here

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/ex%20ante%20evaluation%20report.pdf>

The Strategic Environmental Assessment of the EMFF OP can be accessed here

[http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/Final%20Environmental%20Report\\_.pdf](http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/Final%20Environmental%20Report_.pdf)

The EMFF Annual Implementation Report covering 2014 and 2015 can be accessed here

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/EMFF%20AIR%202014-5%20final.pdf>

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/EMFF%20AIR%202014-5%20final%20Annex.pdf>

The Evaluation Plan can be accessed on this link

<http://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%202014-2020/Evaluation%20Plan%20Final%20v1.pdf>

**9. CITIZEN'S SUMMARY (ARTICLE 50(9) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

A citizen's summary of the contents of the AIRs should be made public and uploaded as a separate file in the form of annex to the AIR.

**10. REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS (ARTICLE 46(1) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

## 11. ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)

### 11.1. Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme

For each Union priority an assessment should be carried out on the information and data provided in Part A and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme (incorporating the findings and recommendations of evaluations)

Union priority	Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme
<p>1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries</p>	<p>Whereas the MA notes that by end 2016, the call for Article 39- Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources was not issued under Specific Objective 1 of this UP at the time of writing this report, a restricted call was issued and an application received from the DFA. Since this operation is expected to be complete by end 2018, and the MA does not foresee any issues in implementation, it is expected that through its output and result indicator it will achieve the respective specific objective, thus the reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction as far as possible of unwanted catches.</p> <p>With reference to Specific Objective 4 of this UP-Enhancement of the competitiveness and viability of fisheries enterprises, including of small scale coastal fleet, and the improvement of safety or working conditions, under Article 43.1+3, in October 2016, the MA launched a restricted call under UP1 for the submission of proposals from both MSDEC and MTI. Overall, two project proposals one relating to the Delimara (Marsaxlokk) Breakwater and another to the new proposed breakwater in Qrejten, Marsaxlokk, together with a proposal for slipways around Malta and a project proposal for the construction of a landing office in Marsaxlokk were envisaged to be submitted. However, by 30th November 2016 only two project proposal were submitted, the latter two mentioned above as also mentioned in Section 3 of this report. At the time of writing of this report, a total of four project proposals were submitted to the MA. All projects are to be completed by 2020 and are not envisaged to encounter any delays with result indicators identified in the EMFF OP being achieved and thus achieving the objective of the programme. In addition as explained in Section 3, a call/s targeting fishermen are expected to be issued in 2017 under Article 30 – Diversification and new forms of income, further addressing this specific objective.</p> <p>Under Specific Objective 5 of this UP, the MA would like to note that its focus in 2016 was to prepare for the issuance of calls whereby meetings were held with major stakeholders including fish cooperatives to assess potential arising implications in terms of uptake of Article 41.2 taking into consideration the regulation requirements. In this regard, following meetings held an amendment to the EMFF OP was proposed whereby the introduction of Article 41.1 was approved by the MC on 11th November 2016. Following approval of the said OP amendment, calls for these article will be issued in 2017. Applications received will be evaluated against selection criteria approved by the MC in May 2015 whereby additional marks are given to project proposals with higher contribution towards measure-specific indicators thus addressing the specific objective of the Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation,</p>

Union priority	Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme
	<p>including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer.</p> <p>Similarly to other calls, 2016 saw the preparation for the issuance of calls for Article 29.1 + 29.2- Promoting human capital and social dialogue-training, networking, social dialogue; support to spouses and life partners, whereby meetings were held and contact maintained with the DFA and with Transport Malta as potential stakeholders to ensure that operations to be proposed are in line with the requirements of the regulations. At the time of writing of this report, a call was issued with a closing deadline of 31st May 2017. Since this operation falls under the performance framework, of which the potential applicants are aware, proposed operation/s are expected to be complete by 2018 without any foreseen delays thus addressing Specific Objective 6 of this UP, the development of professional training, new professional skills and lifelong learning.</p>
2 - Fostering environment ally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture	<p>Although no calls were issued under the UP in 2016, due to feedback received by the DFA in relation to the expected operation identified in the current EMFF OP, meetings and communication exchanges were held by MA officials with DFA to assess potential arising implications which could affect the achievement of Specific Objective 3- Protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and enhancement of ecosystems related to aquaculture and promotion of resource efficient aquaculture.</p> <p>This was also discussed with EC representatives during the Annual Review Meeting held on 10th November 2016 whereby it was noted that following further feedback to be provided by the DFA, amendments to the OP will be sought which at the time of writing of the report are expected to be brought to the attention of the MC for opinion. Following this calls will be issued for operations addressing this specific objective.</p>
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	<p>With reference to Specific Objective 1-Improvement and supply of scientific knowledge and collection and management of data, in March 2016, the MA launched a restricted call for the submission of proposals from DFA for Article 77 Data Collection for the 2014-2016 as mentioned in section 3 of this report. The evaluation process for this call has been concluded, a grant agreement has been signed and the project is in its implementation and processing of payments (reimbursements) stage. Another call was launched on 3rd March 2017 for the 2017-2019 period and is in its evaluation stages. No envisaged delays are foreseen thus resulting in the achievement of this Specific Objective.</p> <p>In relation to Article 76 of the EMFF Regulation, the MA would like to note that calls are expected to be issued in 2017 with no foreseen delays in implementation. During 2016, meetings and communication exchanges were held with the competent authority (DFA) which in 2017 resulted in feedback being received for a request for amendment to the EMFF OP. Operations completed under this article will address the achievement of</p>

Union priority	Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme
	Specific Objective 2: Provision of support to monitoring, control and enforcement, enhancing institutional capacity and the efficiency of public administration, without increasing the administrative burden.
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	Although no calls were issued under the UP targeting Specific Objective 1- . Improvement of market organisation for fishery and aquaculture products, a call submission of proposals for a publicity campaign is envisaged to be launched in the second quarter of 2017. Similarly to other EMFF calls with the aim of achieving the objectives of the programme, preparations for the issuance of calls were made by the MA whereby meetings were held with potential stakeholders. Since no delays are foreseen in implementation, this objective is expected to be achieved.
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	With reference to Specific Objective 1- Development and Implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy under which the EMFF OP proposed measure falls, in June 2016, the MA launched a restricted call for the submission of proposals from MSDEC for Article 80.1.c. Improving the knowledge on the state of the marine environment. A project proposal was submitted by ERA through MSDEC. The proposal was successfully evaluated, a grant agreement signed and the project is in its implementation stages. Procurement relevant to the project is in its advanced stages at the time of writing of this report. No delays are foreseen, therefore result indicator expected to be achieved by time of completion will aim to address the achievement of this specific objective.
7 - Technical assistance	<p>As in previous years, funds allocated and activities undertaken in 2016 under this Union Priority as reported in Section 2 and Sections 3.1 &amp; 3.3 of this report will indirectly help and contribute towards the achievement of all EMFF Specific Objectives.</p> <p>In order to ensure that EMFF OP targets and commitments were met, thus the achievement of Specific Objectives, 2016 saw the implementation of the following actions under Technical Assistance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions for preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and communication, networking, control and audit</li> <li>• Actions for the reduction of the administrative burden on beneficiaries, including electronic data exchange systems</li> <li>• Actions to reinforce the capacity of Member State Authorities and beneficiaries to administer and use the fund</li> <li>• Actions to support the strengthening of the institutional capacity of partners in particular as regards small local authorities, economic and social partners and nongovernmental organisations, in order to help them so that they can effectively participate in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes. Support took the form of: dedicated seminars/workshops, training sessions, coordination and networking structures and contributions to the cost of participating in meetings on the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme</li> </ul>

Union priority	Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme
	<p>In this regard, with the aim of monitoring and thus ensuring the achievement of indicators set under the relevant UPs and the achievement of Specific Objectives, 2016 saw an increase in human resources employed within the MA (one official). As also explained in Section 2 and Section 3 of this report, 2016 MA activities were focused on attaining the MA and CA's formal designation whereby a number of crucial documents and tools including the EMFF Database were finalised. This process involved coordinated efforts by a number of stakeholders including the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority as the designated Audit Body. Various meetings were held by the MA with the respective stakeholders.</p> <p>As mentioned in other sections of this report, in preparation for the issuance of calls and in order to ensure clarity and avoid unnecessary delays or issues, meetings were held with potential beneficiaries including line ministries where applicable, prior to the call deadline to provide the necessary information and guidance to applicants. Contact with beneficiaries was maintained by MA officials following award of operations to ensure smooth transition of the implemented operations and taking into consideration operation closure deadlines set and targets to be achieved for 2023.</p> <p>Training sessions, seminars and workshops with the participation of stakeholders, where applicable, were organised in 2016, with the aim of increasing institutional knowledge including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ARACHNE Training (March 2016)</li> <li>• New Public Procurement Regulations Conference (28th March 2016)</li> <li>• Choosing the appropriate Value Set for the Funds &amp; Programmes Division (9th May 2016)</li> <li>• Project Selection Committee Training (10th June 2016)</li> <li>• Establishing Simplified Cost Options &amp; the Audit Process (Organised by PPCD for all stakeholders; 5th July 2016)</li> <li>• Anti-Fraud Policy &amp; Anti-Fraud Strategy for the FPD (27th July 2016)</li> <li>• Funds &amp; Programmes Division (FPD) Corporate Risk Register (12th August 2016)</li> <li>• Performance Auditing Seminar (26-27th September 2016)</li> <li>• Data Intelligence Network Meetings (monthly/every two months)</li> </ul> <p>In addition, in order to keep its staff and stakeholders informed of procedures to be followed, especially with reference to updates of procedures guidance notes/ policy notes/</p>



Union priority	Assessment of data and progress towards achieving the objectives of the programme
	<p>circulars were issued. MA staff/stakeholders were informed via email and/or meetings held of the issuance of these notes which are also uploaded on the EMFF MA's webpage or the Financial Control Unit's webpage[1]. Hereunder, please find a list of circulars issued by FPD as at time of reporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circular 01/2016: Public Procurement Guidance for Practitioners on the avoidance of the most common errors</li> <li>• Circular 02/2016: Detection of Forged Documents in the field of Structural Actions</li> <li>• Circular 03/2016: Guidance on the New Public Procurement Reforms</li> <li>• Circular 05/2016: Management Declaration Process - EMFF</li> <li>• Circular 06/2016: Guidance for Member States on Management Verifications</li> <li>• Circular 07/2016: Guidance for Member States on Audit of Accounts</li> <li>• Circular 08/2016: Guidance for Member States on Preparation, Examination and Acceptance of Accounts</li> <li>• Circular 09/2016: Guidance for Member States on amounts withdrawn, amounts recovered, amounts to be recovered and irrecoverable amounts</li> <li>• Circular 10/2016: Operations generating net revenue</li> </ul> <p>Apart from the trainings mentioned above, the MA also took part in the EMFF Committee and EMFF Expert Group Meetings and FAME workshops organised by EC in Brussels whereby issues of relevance in relation to the management of the EMFF OP and the implementation of procedures were discussed.</p> <p>[1]  <a href="https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Financial%20Control%20Unit/Pages/Circulars.aspx">https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Financial%20Control%20Unit/Pages/Circulars.aspx</a></p>

**11.2. Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned**

An assessment by Union priority of whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned, where appropriate

Union priority	Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned
<p>1 - Promoting environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based fisheries</p>	<p>Progress towards achieving the output indicators under this UP is underway. As at time of reporting (2017), four project proposals for Article 43.1+3 of the EMFF Regulation were received as mentioned in previous sections of this report.</p> <p>As also mentioned earlier on, as at time of reporting, an application was received under Article 39 and a call for applications was issued for Article 29.1+29.2. Further calls are expected to be issued in 2017, namely in relation to Article 30 and Article 41.1 &amp; 41.2. of the EMFF Regulation.</p> <p>Operations to be awarded are expected to achieve the milestones set for output indicators as per EMFF OP since applications submitted are evaluated against selection criteria approved by the MC in May 2015 which gives preference to and highlights the importance of the achievement of the expected output indicator. Monitoring as mentioned in previous sections of this report will also aim to ensure that the milestones are met for each output indicator identified in the OP. 2023 targets for Output Indicators are also expected to be achieved since no delays are foreseen in the expected operations.</p> <p>With reference to financial indicators, as at end 2016, although two applications were received in end November for Article 43.1+3 these were still being evaluated. However, the MA would like to note that 2018 milestones are foreseen as being achieved following further implementation of the programme in 2017 and 2018.</p>
<p>2 - Fostering environmentally sustainable, resource efficient, innovative, competitive and knowledge based aquaculture</p>	<p>As mentioned in previous sections of this report, calls were not issued in 2016 for this UP for reasons already explained. Actions taken by the MA in 2016 in relation to meetings held with stakeholders leading to proposed OP amendments in 2017 were aimed at ensuring that milestones set for 2018 and targets for 2023 are achieved. In this regard, following approval of OP amendments, the MA does not foresee any delays or issues with the attainment of output indicators in relation to the milestone and targets set in the EMFF OP taking into consideration the close monitoring of operations implemented by the MA as described in the DMCS and Manual of Procedures.</p>

Union priority	Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned
	<p>Since calls were not issued in 2016 for this UP, data on the achievement of financial indicators set for 2018 milestone and target for 2023 cannot be provided. As mentioned above actions taken by the MA in 2016 in relation to meetings held with stakeholders leading to proposed OP amendments in 2017 were aimed at ensuring that milestones set for 2018 and targets for 2023 are achieved. In this regard, following approval of OP amendments, the MA does not foresee any delays or issues with the attainment of financial indicators for the 2018 milestones and 2023 target set in the EMFF OP taking into consideration the close monitoring of operations implemented by the MA as also described in the Description of the Management and Control Systems and Manual of Procedures.</p>
3 - Fostering the implementation of the CFP	<p>Progress towards achieving the output indicators under this UP is underway. Two project proposals were received for Article 77- Data Collection. The first project is nearing completion and the second project proposal is in the pipeline to start implementation as at time of reporting. In this regard, output indicators set in the EMFF OP for 2018 milestones and 2023 targets are expected to be achieved.</p> <p>With reference to Article 76, as described earlier on, calls are expected to be issued in 2017 with output indicator milestones for 2018 and output indicator targets for 2023 to be achieved in accordance with the EMFF OP.</p> <p>Since one project under Article 77 will near completion in mid-2017 and since another operation under the same article (covering different period) is also in the process of being evaluated as at time of reporting , the MA does not foresee any implications with the attainment of financial indicator for milestone value for 2018. Following calls issued and award of operations in 2017/2018 for Article 76, target values for 2023 will also be achieved in line with the EMFF OP Section 7.1. Monitoring and constant contact will be maintained with beneficiaries to ensure attainment of targets.</p>
5 - Fostering marketing and processing	<p>As at time of reporting an application for the submission of proposals for Article 68-Marketing Measures is in its draft stages and is to be launched by the end of the second quarter of 2017. The MA does not foresee any issues with the attainment of milestone value for 2018 and target values for 2023 for output indicators for this UP due to i) preparatory activities undertaken in 2016; ii) the applicable admissibility and selection criteria as approved by the MC in May 2015 which aim to ensure the award of good quality project proposals and iii) the close monitoring of projects by MA officials.</p>

Union priority	Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned
	<p>Since calls were not issued in 2016, data on financial indicators is not available. However, following issuance of calls in 2017, the MA foresees that milestone value for 2018 and target value for 2023 will be attained as no delays in implementation are expected. As mentioned above, groundwork implemented by the MA in 2016 together with further work conducted in 2017 in relation to the evaluation of proposal/s submitted, signature of grant agreement and close monitoring of the awarded operation will help to achieve the financial indicators.</p>
6 - Fostering the implementation of the Integrated Maritime Policy	<p>Progress towards achieving the output indicators under this UP is underway. A grant agreement was signed for the IMP project proposal under Article 80.1.c as submitted by ERA and is expected to reach the 2018 milestone and 2023 target value for output indicators as stipulated in the application form and in line with the EMFF OP.</p> <p>As at end 2016, expenditure under the awarded operation was not made since the operation was in its initial stages (procurement of services required). However, as per contracting and disbursement schedule, payments are expected to be made towards mid-2017 subject to contract signature following closure of procurement process. Since this operation is expected to be completed by end 2018 in line with Section 7.1 of the EMFF OP and in accordance with the signed agreement, the MA deems that 2018 milestone value and target value for 2023 in relation to financial indicators identified in the OP will be achieved accordingly.</p>
7 - Technical assistance	<p>Funds allocated and activities implemented in 2016 under this Union Priority as also reported in Section 2 and Sections 3.1 &amp; 3.3 of this report will indirectly help towards the achievement of 2018 milestones and 2023 targets set both in terms of output and financial indicators. Actions implemented in 2016 through Technical Assistance can be categorised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actions for preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, information and communication, networking, control and audit</li> <li>• Actions for the reduction of the administrative burden on beneficiaries, including electronic data exchange systems</li> <li>• Actions to reinforce the capacity of Member State Authorities and beneficiaries to administer and use the fund</li> <li>• Actions to support the strengthening of the institutional capacity of partners in particular as regards small local authorities, economic and social partners and nongovernmental organisations, in order to help them so that they can effectively participate in the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes. Support took the form of: dedicated seminars/workshops, training sessions, coordination and networking structures and contributions to the cost of participating in meetings on the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the programme</li> </ul>

Union priority	Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned
	<p>With the aim of monitoring and thus ensuring the achievement of output and financial indicators of milestones and targets set under the relevant UPs, 2016 saw an increase in human resources employed within the MA (one official). As also explained in Section 2 and Section 3 of this report, 2016 MA activities were focused on attaining the MA and CA's formal designation whereby a number of crucial documents and tools were finalised. This process involved coordinated efforts by a number of stakeholders including the Certifying Authority and the Audit Authority as the designated Audit Body. Various meetings were held by the MA throughout 2016 with the respective stakeholders in this regard.</p> <p>In preparation for the issuance of calls and in order to ensure clarity and avoid unnecessary delays or issues, meetings were held with potential beneficiaries including line ministries where applicable, prior to the call deadline to provide the necessary information and guidance to applicants. Contact with beneficiaries was maintained by MA officials following award of operations to ensure smooth transition of the implemented operations and taking into consideration operation closure deadlines set and milestones to be achieved for 2018.</p> <p>As mentioned in the previous section training sessions, seminars and workshops with the participation of stakeholders, where applicable, were organised and/or attended both locally and overseas in 2016, with the aim of increasing institutional knowledge. The MA also took part in the EMFF Committee and EMFF Expert Group Meetings and FAME workshops organised by EC in Brussels whereby issues of relevance in relation to the management of the EMFF OP and the implementation of procedures were discussed.</p> <p>Staff and stakeholders were kept informed of procedures to be followed, especially with reference to updates of procedures through the issuances of guidance notes/ policy notes/ circulars. MA staff/stakeholders were informed via email and/or meetings held of the issuance of these notes which are also uploaded on the EMFF MA's webpage or the Financial Control Unit's webpage[1].</p> <p>[1]  <a href="https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Financial%20Control%20Unit/Pages/Circulars.aspx">https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Financial%20Control%20Unit/Pages/Circulars.aspx</a></p>

Union priority	Assessment whether progress made toward milestones and targets is sufficient to ensure their eventual fulfilment, indicating any remedial actions taken or planned

## **12. HORIZONTAL PRINCIPLES OF IMPLEMENTATION (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

### **12.1. An assessment of the implementation of specific actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 5 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on partnership and multi-level governance, with particular emphasis on the role of partners in the implementation of the programme.**

The process of writing the EMFF OP involved various stakeholders within government and also different local, regional, economic and social partners. The preparation, consultation, drafting, and completion process of the OP started towards end 2012 and continued until end February 2015 whereby the drafted OP was reviewed and revised in accordance with feedback provided by the relevant stakeholders. The drawing up process of the OP also comprised the drafting of the SWOT analysis which involved consultation meetings with the sector participants & key stakeholders identified in liaison with the DFA, fishers [full and part-time fishers], aquaculture, research, wholesale and retail markets, as well as the main government bodies involved in the regulation of fisheries in particular and the maritime space as a whole.[1] This preliminary SWOT analysis was followed by a public workshop where the results of the preliminary SWOT were presented and discussed. The SWOT analysis was also discussed during consultation meetings that were held during sectoral sub-committee meetings that were specifically set up as part of a consultation structure for the 2014-2020 programming period, in order to enable key stakeholders across Maltese constituted bodies and civil society to actively participate in the consultative process.

This process was concluded by means of a nationwide public consultation exercise involving MCESD, NGOs, civil society and the general public. Another round of consultation meetings followed with the private and public sector[2] to further delve into the priority areas identified through the sectorial sub-committee meetings and consequently ascertain those project ideas deemed of essence to form part of the OP.

The final part of the process consisted of a workshop among the various stakeholders in/directly related to the industry with the objectives being two-fold: (1). Attain further feedback on the draft measures of the OP; (2). Raise awareness of the likely contents of the OP. The draft OP was also discussed within the FAB, as per the procedure established in Article 5 of the Fisheries Management & Conservation Act.

The preparation of the OP followed a multi-level governance approach where all key stakeholders were involved throughout the whole process of the drafting of the document with Tables 1 & 2 denoting the involvement of the following entities: [i] competent regional, local, urban and other public authorities [ii] economic and social partners and [iii] bodies representing civil society, including environmental/climate authorities/partners, entities/experts responsible for promoting equality, non-discrimination and NGOs.

All partners were actively involved in the whole process of the preparation of the OP that comprised of the

drafting of the SOWT analysis that invariably assisted in the identification of the sector's needs. This resulted in numerous discussions with the parties concerned that enabled the identification and selection of priorities and related specific objectives and was invariably instrumental in the allocation of funding. Allocation of funding was determined following a series of one-to-one consultation meetings, workshops and sub-committee meetings.

Other actions relating to the monitoring of implemented activities are carried out through progress reports and bilateral meetings during which feedback and input of attending partners is taken into consideration. In the application process in line with the selection criteria approved by the MC in May 2015, additional points are awarded for national synergies between institutes and public bodies and also for projects involving multiple collaborations. In addition, Application Forms consist of a specific section whereby details of project partners are to be provided in relation to roles being taken and envisaged activities being implemented. A letter of intent is also annexed to this section and signed by project partners whereby the commitment for the activities undertaken is reflected.

[1] Refer to Annex 2

[2] Refer to Annex 2

**12.2. An assessment of the implementation of specific actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 7 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on promotion of equality between men and women and non-discrimination, including accessibility for disabled persons as well as the arrangements implemented to ensure the integration of the gender perspective in the Operational Programme.**

In line with Malta's commitment to ensure that the principles of equality, non-discrimination & accessibility as set out in Article 7 of the CPR are taken into account and promoted in the implementation of the OP, the relevant entities responsible for promoting equality, non-discrimination & accessibility were involved in the consultation process of the OP. Relevant partners were involved in the consultation process including the relevant public authorities/regulators and civil society and NGOs.

This approach combined a bottom-up and top-down approach thereby ensuring a multi-level governance, all-inclusive structure that comprised relevant entities responsible for promoting equality, non-discrimination and accessibility. The promotion of equality between men and women, non-discrimination and accessibility are also addressed in the Malta's Partnership Agreement with the EU signed in October 2014. In this agreement Malta as an EU MS commits to ensure the principles of equality, non-discrimination and accessibility as set out in Article 7 of the Common Provisions Regulation are taken into account and promoted in the implementation of all the ESI funds. The Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties undertakes complementary measures aimed at improving gender equality particularly in the labour market. The National Commission for the Promotion of Equality [NCPE] and the National Commission for Persons with Disability [NCPD] are strategic partners within



the mentioned Ministry in the promotion of equality, non-discrimination and accessibility at the national and local level. The activities undertaken by both of these entities include awareness-raising campaigns, providing assistance and support, research, exchange of best practice and collaborations with local and international entities.

Efforts and initiatives undertaken during the previous programming period to ensure the involvement of the relevant entities responsible for promoting equality, non-discrimination and accessibility in the various stages of implementation of the ESI funds will continue under the 2014-2020 programmes in accordance with national practice. The participation of relevant entities [including Line Ministries, Public Entities and civil society] responsible for promoting equality and non-discrimination in the various stages of implementation of the ESI Funds were consolidated with their inclusion as members in the EMFF Monitoring Committee in accordance with the MC Terms of Reference.

Specific sections of the application forms for project proposals issued by the MA perpetually include references and information to be provided by applicants in relation to how applicants aim to contribute to equal opportunities for all. Such references are also found in the approved Admissibility and Selection Criteria whereby specific points are allocated for operations targeting horizontal priorities, one of which is the principle of equal opportunities. Applicants are requested to describe what actions were/will be taken to promote equal opportunities and prevent discrimination based on sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation during the preparation, design and implementation of the operation.

### **12.3. An assessment of the implementation of specific actions to take into account the principles set out in Article 8 of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 on sustainable development, including an overview of the actions taken to promote sustainable development.**

Malta is committed towards achieving a sustainable and healthy environment which is considered fundamental in order to attract investment, create jobs and improve standards of living. The use of economic instruments which implement the polluter pays principle provides a means of reaching these goals in a manner that complements traditional command and control measures and other measure such as education and voluntary approaches. The national strategy in the field of water resources management is set out in the Water Catchment Management Plan 2010-2015. The plan establishes 2 strategic thrusts: the first is directed towards quantitative aspects of water management whilst the second relates to demand management measures. The plan also outlines how the principle of recovery of cost of water services from the different water users as defined in the WFD has been applied in Malta with due regard to social, environmental & economic effects.

The EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive came into force in June 2008, seeking the achievement of GES in Europe's marine waters by 2020. The framework presented to manage human activities is based on the application of the 'ecosystem-based approach' to enable sustainable use of marine resources. Achieving GES requires MSs to develop a Marine Strategy for the marine waters under their jurisdiction.

The EU MSFD was transposed into Maltese legislation through the publication of the Marine Policy Framework Regulations 2011, L.N. 73 of 2011. In view of the different maritime users within Malta's marine waters and the need for co-ordination to develop the national maritime strategy, the OPM assumes the duty of the CA which co-ordinates the strategic approach and policy direction for the implementation of the Directive. The Environment and Resources Authority was entrusted with the task of working on the initial assessment, determination of GES and the establishment of environmental targets and indicators. An inter-ministerial technical working group was set up to ensure an integrated approach towards implementation.

The EMFF OP took into consideration the MSFD, Birds and Habitats Directives, with the result that the measures proposed in the draft OP are not envisaged to create any significant negative environmental impacts as evidenced in the SEA. The identified needs and resultant measures are respectful of the obligations set out in the directives.

In addition as explained in the previous section, application forms issued by the MA contain a specific section on horizontal priorities and thus on sustainable development whereby applicants are requested to describe how the operation shall contribute to any or all of the three pillars of sustainable development (environmental/economic/social/cross-cutting strategic issues). Points are allocated to proposed operations fulfilling this criteria in line with the Selection Criteria approved by the MC in May 2015.

**13. REPORTING ON SUPPORT USED FOR CLIMATE CHANGE OBJECTIVES (ARTICLE 50(4) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

Figures are calculated automatically and will be included into Table 4 on financial data. A clarification on the given values may be provided, particularly if the actual data is lower than the planned.

Please refer to Section 3.3 [i] Financial Indicators table. Climate change both mitigation and adaptation, remain a priority for Malta. Interventions to implement the appropriate mitigation and adaptation measures, including infrastructural, education and research initiatives, continue under the 2014-2020 period in line with the measures proposed in the OP for which calls are issued by the MA. Measures in this regard adopted in the OP relate to investments in infrastructure aimed at adapting to climate change, the sustainability of fisheries, marine monitoring and observation systems, and investments in aquaculture. Monitoring by the MA of awarded operations will help to ensure that climate change objectives as outlined in Section 9.2 of the EMFF OP are achieved.

**14. SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH (ARTICLE 50(5) OF REGULATION (EU) No 1303/2013)**

Information and assessment should be provided on the Operational Programme's contribution to achieving the objectives of the Union strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.

--

**15. ISSUES AFFECTING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PROGRAMME — PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK  
(ARTICLE 50(2) OF REGULATION (EU) NO 1303/2013)**

Where the assessment of progress made with regard to the milestones and targets set out in the performance framework demonstrates that certain milestones and targets have not been achieved, Member States should outline the underlying reasons for failure to achieve these in the report of 2019 (for milestones) and the report by the deadline referred to in Article 138(1) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013 (for targets)

--

## Documents

Document title	Document type	Document date	Local reference	Commission reference	Files	Sent date	Sent By
Annual Implementation Report covering Year 2016 (Annexes- Citizen's Summary & EMFF AIR Section 4.1)	Citizens' summary	19-May-2017		Ares(2017)2657598	AIR 2016 Annexes & Citizen's Summary	25-May-2017	ncamilab

## Latest validation results

Severity	Code	Message
Info		Implementation report version has been validated