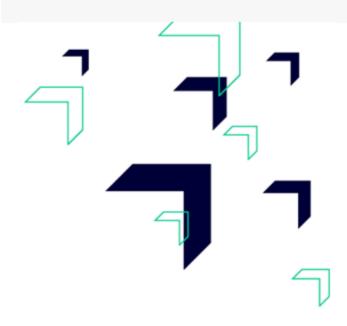




Monitoring Committee

12th November 2024

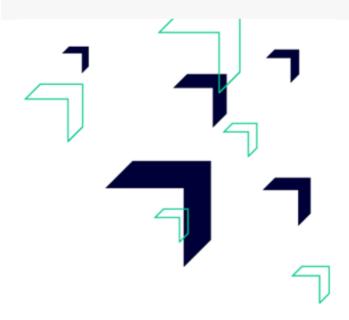








Evaluation and Studies







EMFAF Evaluation Plan

Evaluation Type	Timeframe	Evaluation
Preparatory Data Study	Q2 2025 – Q4 2025	Horizontal-EV1
Communication Evaluation	Q3 2026 – Q3 2029	Horizontal-EV2
Effectiveness and Efficiency of key processes of EU Funds	Q3 2026 – Q4 2027	Horizontal-EV3
Thematic Evaluation on the EMFAF effectiveness in fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources.	Q1 2027 – Q3 2027	EMFAF - EV 1
Impact Evaluation on the priorities of the EMFAF Programme 2027 Programme	Q1 2028 – Q2 2029	EMFAF - EV 2

Consolidated Evaluation plan is being finalised



Ex-ante assessment on Financial Instruments for EMFAF – *progress update*

Contract has been awarded and is currently in implementation, including following tasks:

- Task 1 Ex-ante assessment of the potential use of a financial instrument(s) for generational renewal in the fishery sector
- Task 2 Ex-ante assessment of the potential use of a financial instrument in Malta and Gozo to support a key priority of Malta's EMFAF Programme in the area of aquaculture sector.





Task 1 – The task involves a comprehensive analysis of the challenges and needs in the fishery sector, with an emphasis on generational renewal. It aims to identify:

Generational Renewal Issues:

- 1. Challenges faced by young fishers entering the industry and old fishers approaching retirement.
- 2. Barriers hindering part-time fishers from becoming full-time.

Financial Instruments:

- 1. Exploring the feasibility of introducing financial support for fishers, especially those looking to purchase their first vessel.
- 2. Evaluating other complementary instruments to bolster the existing support framework.

This study aims to provide insights into policy options and will seek to identify and quantify applicable market gaps.





Task 2 - The task involves an in-depth analysis aimed at exploring the feasibility of introducing a financial instrument under Priority 2 of the EMFAF programme, with a focus on Specific Objective 1.2, which aims to foster sustainable aquaculture practices. Key aspects of this task include:

Primary Objectives:

- Promoting sustainable aquaculture activities to support environmental and economic resilience.
- Enhancing the processing and marketing of aquaculture products to improve market access and value-added opportunities.

Financial Instruments:

- Exploring the feasibility of introducing financial support for the aquaculture sector
- Development of financial instruments tailored to support the aquaculture sector.

This study aims to provide insights into policy options and will seek to identify and quantify applicable market gaps.



Ex-ante assessment on Financial Instruments for EMFAF

Methodology

- 1. Market Assessment:
 - Identify investment needs, market failures, and sub-optimal investment situations in the fishery sector for Task 1 and in the aquaculture sector for Task 2.
 - For Task 1 Focusing on challenges faced by young fishers seeking to purchase their first vessel and older fishers nearing retirement and for Task 2 Focusing on environmental sustainability goals and unmet financing needs for sustainable aquaculture practices.
 - Estimate the financing gap, identifying unmet demand for external financing due to limited or absent access to financial products.
- 2. **Delivery and Management:** If the market assessment validates the need for financial instruments, evaluate options for delivering and managing the support schemes. Include key deliverables required under Article 58(3) of the CPR, such as defining implementation arrangements, financial products, governance structures, and monitoring strategies.

State of play: Stakeholder meetings planned to take place in the coming weeks, with the aim to conclude the Final reports by Q2 2025, for both Task 1 and Task 2.