



**HELCOM BALTIC SEA ACTION PLAN (BSAP)
STAKEHOLDER CONFERENCE 2008
4 March 2008, Helsinki**

**THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES FUND
SPENDING FOR THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF
FISHERIES AND FISHERIES AREAS**

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What is the European Fisheries Fund (EFF)?

- **Community instrument to assist Member States in the implementation of the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP)**
- **Multi-annual fund 2007-2013 laid down in Council Regulation (EC) No 1198/2006 (EFF) and its implementing Regulation (EC) No 498/2007**
- **Overall Community budget of 4.3 billion € for the period 2007-2013, i.e. 620 million €/year for 26 Member States**



How does the EFF work?

- **The EFF sets the menu of eligible measures and basic principles for support.**
- **The MS makes its choices in a single Operational Programme (OP)**
- **The Commission approves the OP**
- **The national authorities are responsible for OP implementation, including definition of eligibility rules and project selection and financing.**



How does the EFF work?

- **The OP is co-financed between the Community and the Member State (re-imbursment principle):**
 - **Up to 50 : 50 (EU) in non-convergence countries (DK, FI, DE, SE)**
 - **Up to 25 : 75 (EU) in convergence countries (EE, LV, LT, PL)**



What are the objectives of the EFF ?

- **To develop the fisheries and aquaculture sector, including inland fisheries, in an economically, environmentally and socially sustainable way**
- **To promote a sustainable balance between resources and the fishing capacity of the Community fishing fleet**
- **To strengthen the competitiveness of the fisheries and aquaculture sector**
- **To foster the protection and the enhancement of the environment and natural resources where related to the fisheries sector**
- **To encourage the sustainable development and the quality of life in fisheries areas**



Which priorities to achieve the objectives?

**Ensure environmental,
social and economic
sustainability of the sector**

Axe 4: Sustainable development of fisheries areas

Axe 1

**Adjustment of
Community
fishing fleet**

Axe 2

**Aquaculture, inland
fishing, processing
and marketing**

Axe 3

**Measures of
common interest**

Axe 5: Technical assistance



EUTROPHICATION → Reduction of nutrient load

- **Support for productive investments in aquaculture enterprises to implement aquaculture methods substantially reducing negative impact or enhancing positive effects on the environment when compared with normal practice in the aquaculture sector (art. 29(1) b) EFF)**
- **Compensation for aquaculture production methods helping to protect and improve the environment and to conserve nature – aqua-environmental measures (art. 30 EFF)**
- **Support for productive investments in processing and marketing reducing the negative impact on the environment (art. 35(1)d) EFF)**



EUTROPHICATION



**Reduction of emissions
from ships**

- **Investments on board vessels for hygiene improvement and energy efficiency, including engine replacement (art. 25 EFF)**



HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES → All fish safe to eat

- **Support for productive investments in processing and marketing enterprises for the treatment, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture product waste: the extraction from fishmeal or fish oil of dioxin or other substances harmful to human health, even where the final products are intended to be used and processed for purposes other than human consumption (art. 34(4) EFF)**



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

- Viable population of species
- Develop and implement management measures for fisheries (marine protected areas, coastal fish species)

- Fleet adjustment measures:
 - Permanent cessation of fishing activities (art. 23 EFF): scrapping or reassignment of fishing vessels outside fishing
 - Compensation for temporary cessation of fishing activities (art. 24 EFF)
 - Investment aid for modernisation on board (e.g. for increasing selectivity, reducing impact of fishing on non-commercial species, reducing the impact of fishing on eco-systems and the sea bottom) (art. 25 EFF)
 - Premiums for small-scale coastal fishers for setting voluntary steps to reduce fishing effort or for improving the management and control of access conditions to certain fishing areas or using technological innovations (art. 26(4) EFF)



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

- Viable population of species
- Develop and implement management measures for fisheries (marine protected areas, coastal fish species)
- Collective actions (art. 37 EFF) , which
 - contribute sustainably to better management and conservation of resources
 - promote selective fishing methods or gears and reduction of by-catches
 - remove lost fishing gear from the sea bed in order to combat ghost fishing
 - promote partnerships between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector
 - improve, manage and control access conditions to fishing areas, in particular by drawing up of local management plans approved by the competent local authorities.
- Measures to reduce discards when investing in ports, landing sites and shelters (art. 39(2)(h) EFF)



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

- Viable population of species
- Develop and implement management measures for fisheries (marine protected areas, coastal fish species)

- Pilot projects (art. 41 EFF), which
 - enable tests to be carried out on management plans and fishing effort allocation plans, including, if necessary, the establishment of no-fishing zones, in order to evaluate the biological and financial consequences, and experimental restocking.
 - develop and test methods to improve gear selectivity, reduce by-catches, discards or the impact on the environment, in particular on the sea bottom
 - test alternative types of fishing management techniques.



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

→ **Safeguard the long-term viability of the Baltic Sea populations (national management plan)**

- Investments on board fishing vessels for the protection of catches and gear from wild predators, including through changes to the material of parts of fishing gear, provided that it does not increase fishing effort or undermine the selectivity of the fishing gear and that all appropriate measures are introduced to avoid physically damaging the predators (art. 25(6)(e) EFF).
- Premiums for small-scale coastal fishers to encourage the use of technological innovations to protect the gear and catches from predators, that do not increase fishing effort (art. 26(4)(d) EFF).
- Collective actions which contribute sustainably to better management or conservation of resources (art. 37 (a) EFF).

NB: No compensation payments for damages caused by seals possible. 13



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

→ Conservation of stocks – restoration of spawning sites and migration routes)

- **Measures to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora (art. 38 EFF)**
 - Construction or installation of static or movable facilities intended to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora
 - Rehabilitation of inland waters, including spawning grounds and migration routes for migratory species
 - Protection and enhancement of the environment in the framework of Natura 2000, where its areas are directly concerned with fishing activities (excluding operational costs): expenditure for the necessary conservation measures for the Natura 2000 network.
 - Direct restocking provided it is explicitly foreseen as a conservation measure by a Community legal act (eel recovery plan).
- **Pilot projects for experimental restocking (art. 41(2)(b) EFF)**



BIODIVERSITY & NATURE CONSERVATION

→ Maintenance of coastal fisheries

Priority axis 4 – Sustainable development of fisheries areas

Support for local development strategies developed by fisheries groups for the sustainable development and improvement of the quality of life in areas with sea or lake shores with a significant level of employment in the fisheries sector by

- Maintaining the prosperity in the area
- Maintaining and creating jobs through diversification
- Promoting the quality of the coastal environment, etc



MARITIME ACTIVITIES

→ Reduction of emissions from ships (fishing vessels)

- Investments on board vessels for hygiene improvement and energy efficiency, including engine replacement (art. 25 EFF)

→ Improvement of sewage systems

- Investments in existing fishing ports in relation to the storage and treatment of waste and the improvement of conditions under which fisheries and aquaculture products are landed (art. 39 EFF)



AWARENESS RAISING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

- **Promotion of environmentally friendly pleasure boats and development of marinas and the use of the best ecological practice, including education**

- **Within axis 4 for the sustainable development of fisheries areas support may cover**
 - **the promotion of (eco-) tourism, provided that there is no increase in fishing effort, support**
 - **support for small scale fisheries and tourism related infrastructure and services for the benefit of small fisheries communities**
 - **training and**
 - **inter-regional and trans-national co-operation among groups in fisheries areas, through networking and disseminating best practice.**



Available budget for HELCOM signatories (in €) under the EFF Operational programmes

Member State	Total EFF budget	Priority axis I Fleet adjustment	Priority axis II Processing, aquaculture, inland fishing	Priority axis III Collective actions	Priority axis IV Sustainable development of fisheries areas	Priority axis V Technical assistance	Total public expenditure
Denmark	133.675.169	21.365.342	47.149.524	46.015.266	12.461.279	6.683.758	267.350.338
Estonia	84.568.039	15.264.531	24.583.929	21.209.664	19.281.513	4.228.402	112.757.386
Finland	39.448.827	3.445.000	16.990.000	14.783.827	3.606.000	624.000	91.848.827
Germany	155.865.417	8.145.000	57.560.225	68.687.844	19.438.000	2.034.348	247.156.680
Latvia	125.015.563	20.860.942	46.128.750	24.153.000	28.911.476	4.961.395	166.687.419
Lithuania	54.713.408	13.667.647	22.431.005	9.249.241	6.693.770	2.671.745	71.256.575
Poland*	651.791.012	149.911.933	227.309.750	238.720.823	29.330.596	6.517.910	869.054.683
Sweden	54.664.803	13.666.201	10.932.961	19.132.681	8.199.720	2.733.240	104.774.205
Total	1.299.742.238	246.326.596	453.086.144	441.952.346	127.922.354	30.454.798	1.930.886.113

* based on draft OP as not yet approved: amounts are based on EFF allocations in 2004 prices and not yet converted into current prices



Preconditions for support for applicants

- **The measure under which the operation falls is foreseen in the operational programme or national implementing rules of the Member State concerned**
- **The operation meets the eligibility conditions**
- **The beneficiary meets the eligibility conditions**
- **The legal requirements for the application are fulfilled**
- **Sufficient funds are available and selection criteria are met**