

Programme Summary

Spain - Programme for the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund

2021-2027 - CCI 2021ES14MFPR001

1. Programme overview

Total allocation: 1 574 231 320 EUR

EU contribution: 1 120 441 924 EUR

National contribution: 453 789 396 EUR

ES intends to implement all four EMFAF Priorities.

Priority	Specific objective	Union contribution	
		Union contribution without TA ¹	Union contribution for TA
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.1.1. Strengthening economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fishing activities. All operations except those supported under Articles 17 and 19	125,791,512	7,547,491
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.1.2. Strengthening economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fishing activities. Operations supported under Articles 17 and 19	13,093,192	785,591
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.2. Increasing energy efficiency and reducing CO2 emissions through the replacement or modernisation of engines of fishing vessels	2,576,954	154,617
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.3. Promoting the adjustment of fishing capacity to fishing opportunities in cases of permanent cessation of fishing activities and contributing to a fair standard of living in cases of temporary cessation of fishing activities	70,767,504	4,246,050
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.4. Fostering efficient fisheries control and enforcement, including fighting against IUU fishing, as well as reliable data for knowledge-based decision-making	165,517,663	9,931,060
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.5. Promoting a level-playing field for fishery and aquaculture products from the outermost regions	58,113,207	3,486,793
1. Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources	1.6. Contributing to the protection and restoration of aquatic biodiversity and ecosystems	83,195,778	4,991,746

¹ TA = technical assistance

Priority	Specific objective	Union contribution	
		Union contribution without TA	Union contribution for TA
2. Fostering sustainable aquaculture activities, and processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, thus contributing to food security in the Union	2.1. Promoting sustainable aquaculture activities, especially strengthening the competitiveness of aquaculture production, while ensuring that the activities are environmentally sustainable in the long term	144,801,419	8,688,085
2. Fostering sustainable aquaculture activities, and processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, thus contributing to food security in the Union	2.2. Promoting marketing, quality and added value of fisheries and aquaculture products, as well as processing of those products	252,448,725	15,146,923
3. Enabling a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and fostering the development of fishing and aquaculture communities	3.1. Enabling a sustainable blue economy in coastal, island and inland areas, and fostering the sustainable development of fishing and aquaculture communities	105,241,299	6,314,478
4. Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling seas and oceans to be safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed	4.1. Strengthening sustainable sea and ocean management through the promotion of marine knowledge, maritime surveillance or coast guard cooperation	35,473,431	2,128,406

2. Programme Summary

The Spanish programme is in line with the European Green Deal, the Biodiversity Strategy and the Farm to Fork Strategy, the climate neutrality initiatives and the circular bioeconomy.

Spain has set the following key priorities for the period 2021-2027: fisheries and marine environment, aquaculture; marketing and processing; blue economy and community-led local development, as well as international ocean governance and improved knowledge on the marine environment. These four priorities are broken down into 10 specific objectives, comprising 48 types of actions in total.

By financial allocation, Priorities 1 and 2 account for most of the total EMFAF allocation. Spain will implement EMFAF actions to address the main needs in terms of fisheries resource management, competitiveness and profitability of businesses, generational renewal and increased participation of women, protection and conservation of marine biodiversity and ecosystems, and digitalisation and innovation in the sector. The actions foreseen in the EMFAF will foster a more green, blue and digital transition along the whole value chain, making it possible to increase its competitiveness with more efficient and sustainable production systems contributing to the circular economy, energy efficiency and decarbonisation of the sector.

In the management of fisheries resources in the period 2021-2027, it is planned to adjust fishing capacity to the fishing opportunities, in order to ensure the maintenance of stocks that are exploited through quotas to achieve the maximum sustainable yield, as well as to adjust the fishing effort, especially in the Mediterranean, resulting from the implementation of the Western Mediterranean Management Plan.

Therefore, fishing activities that are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable will be strengthened. This will contribute also to achieving the objectives of the Farm to Fork Strategy.

Overall, EMFAF support will focus on many structural measures, such as compensations for temporary and permanent cessation of fishing activities, compensation of additional costs in the Canary Islands, investments in ports and sustainable aquaculture, support to local development strategies, but with a new approach, more linked to mainstreaming the environmental objectives and focus on support to different actors in the value chain, from small scale operators to new aquaculture projects and from the traditional support to the important marketing and processing sector with more focus on an environmental and energy efficient approach to the production process.

3. Contribution to EU horizontal priorities

Resilience: Spain aims at addressing resilience through support to adaption and restructuring of the fleet (notably actions on health and safety), by supporting adaptation of port facilities, introducing innovative solutions for the processing and marketing of fish, fishers on foot, increased decarbonisation and energy efficiency across the board, and improving the skills of professionals of the sector overall to guarantee generational renewal and full access of women to the sector.

Permanent and temporary cessation of fishing activities will also contribute to the resilience of the sector by adjusting the fleet capacity and reducing fishing activities, combined with a fair remuneration for professionals in the sector.

Green transition: As regards support to the fishing fleet and infrastructure, the programme foresees investments in energy efficiency, decarbonisation and green energy transition and digitalisation of activities and to reduce production costs by using more energy efficient production methods, thereby reducing the sector's dependence on fossil fuels and increasing the share of renewable energy through onboard and onshore investments.

Spain also plans on investing in the development of other green infrastructure that helps the conservation of marine habitats, the protection of biodiversity, the resilience of coasts and will support the management and monitoring of Marine Protected Areas (MPA), with the objective of increasing the coverage of MPAs from 13% today to 30% of its national waters by 2030.

Based on the budget allocations, the contributions to climate change and environment objectives represent 60% and 63% of the total EU allocation, which is well above the 30% target for climate change contribution. The Spanish programme will also allocate 30% of its EMFAF budget to biodiversity support, well above the 10% MFF target.

Digital transition: Digitalisation is well covered in the Spanish programme with types of actions in fisheries, control and data collection, processing and marketing, aquaculture and small-scale fisheries. Important efforts on digitalization at fleet level and for fisheries control are foreseen, as approximately 15% of the EMFAF budget will be allocated to control and information gathering actions to ensure compliance with the obligations stemming from the CFP, including the landing obligation. Spain plans to equip part of its

small-scale fleet with geolocation equipment, around 6.000 units of a total of 6.398 vessels.

In line with the green and digital transition promoted by the Green Deal, the planned investments in digitalisation, innovation and modernisation aim to ensure the competitiveness of the sector, allowing for its long-term maintenance in order to reverse the challenge of generational renewal. Actions are planned on at least 50 % of the fishing vessels.

Added value of public investment: In terms of added value, the Spanish programme is tackling the main necessary challenges the sector is confronted to in the current decade, with special focus on the needs for a balance between environmental, social and economic sustainability.

Spain does not intend to use financial instruments (FI) at the start of the programme, as the Spanish authorities privileged FI type of support via the Recovery and Resilience Facility instead of EMFAF.

4. Partnership Agreement

The Partnership Agreement for Spain was adopted on 18 November 2022.