



EMFF - comparison between MAC advice and EP report

MAC advice	EP report	Relevant EP amendments <i>Note:</i> EP amendments are indicated in <i>bold and italics</i>
<p>Overlapping between programming periods</p> <p>In order to avoid an overlapping between programming periods, the MAC would like to highlight the importance of ensuring that all the legal basis for the implementation of the next fund is in place and sorted out in advance.</p>	<p>The EP shares this concern and has already adopted its report in the plenary session of April 2019. This is still not the case for the Council.</p>	
<p>Simplification</p> <p>Ensuring the downsizing of the administrative burden for both beneficiaries and administrations both at EU and national level is, fundamental.</p>	<p>The EP agrees with the MAC (and the Commission) to reduce red tape, by moving away from strict eligibility criteria and leave the necessary flexibility for Member States to adopt their own strategic plans, keeping the basic priorities at EU level.</p>	<p><i>Recital</i> (11) The EMFF beyond 2020 should be based on a simplified architecture without predefining measures and detailed eligibility rules at Union level in an overly prescriptive manner. Instead, broad areas of support should be</p>

	<p>Specifically for small-scale fishermen, the EP proposes to introduce a single EU simplified form for requesting funding.</p> <p>Also the EP makes explicit the implicit principle in the Commission proposal that “what is not prohibited is allowed”.</p>	<p>described under each priority. Member States should thus draw up their programme indicating therein the most appropriate means for achieving the priorities.</p> <p><i>Article 15</i> (...) 3 a. In order to alleviate the administrative burden on operators applying for aid, Member States shall endeavour introducing a single Union simplified application form for EMFF measures.</p> <p>Article 12a Eligible operations A variety of operations identified by the Member States in their programmes may be supported by the EMFF, provided that they are covered by one or more of the priorities identified in this Regulation.</p>
<p>Priorities</p> <p>The MAC misses a reference to fisheries and processing in this particular priority (2 – Contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable aquaculture and markets), as the</p>	<p>The EP’s position coincides with the MAC advice. It proposes to formulate the fisheries, aquaculture and processing priorities as follows:</p> <p>«fostering sustainable fisheries, including the conservation of</p>	<p><i>Recital</i> (2a) Sustainable fisheries and seawater and freshwater aquaculture contribute significantly to the Union's food security, to the maintenance and creation of rural jobs and to the preservation of the</p>

<p>way it is drafted it seems to be suggesting that only aquaculture and markets contribute to food security. Although the relevance of sustainable fisheries is set out in priority 1, the MAC believes it is fundamental to stress that fisheries also contribute to food security.</p>	<p>marine biological resources; fostering sustainable aquaculture; contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture markets and processing sectors ;»</p>	<p><i>natural environment and, in particular, biodiversity. The support and the development of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors should be in the focus of the next Union fisheries policy.</i></p> <p><i>Recital</i> (10) The EMFF should be based on five priorities: fostering sustainable fisheries, including the conservation of marine biological resources; fostering sustainable aquaculture; contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture markets and processing sectors; enabling the growth of a sustainable blue economy, taking into account ecological carrying capacity, and fostering prosperity and economic and social cohesion in coastal, and inland communities; strengthening international ocean governance and enabling safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed seas and oceans.</p> <p>(31) <i>The United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development identified achieve</i></p>
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		<p>end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition as one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG 2). The Union is fully committed to that goal and its implementation. In that context, fisheries and sustainable aquaculture contribute to food security and nutrition.</p> <p><i>Article 4</i> <i>Priorities</i> The EMFF shall contribute to the implementation of the CFP and of the maritime policy. It shall pursue the following priorities: (...) (2) Contributing to food security in the EU through sustainable and socially responsible aquaculture, fisheries and markets;</p>
<p>Storage aid</p> <p>The MAC wishes to propose the reintroduction of this tool (storage aid) within the measures that can be financed under the new EMFF and under the conditions provided by the current EMFF Regulation. Despite all efforts to plan, structure and promote fishery products</p>	<p>The EP proposes to reintroduce the funding for storage aid.</p>	<p>Article 25 a Storage aid</p> <p>1. The EMFF may support compensation to recognised producer organisations and associations of producers organisations which store fishery products listed in Annex II to Regulation (EU) No</p>

through CFP, it will never be possible to avoid crisis situations, particularly with regards to parameters outside of the producers' control (embargos, rough weather conditions...).

1379/2013, provided that those products are stored in accordance with Articles 30 and 31 of that Regulation and subject to the following conditions:

(a) the amount of the storage aid does not exceed the amount of the technical and financial costs of the actions required for the stabilisation and storage of the products in question;

(b) the quantities eligible for storage aid do not exceed 15 % of the annual quantities of the products concerned put up for sale by the producer organisation;

(c) the financial support per year does not exceed 2 % of the average annual value of the production placed on the market by the members of the producer organisation in the period 2016-2018. For the purposes of this point, where a member of the producer organisation did not have any production placed on the market in the period 2016 to

		<p><i>2018, the average annual value of production placed on the market in the first three years of production of that member shall be taken into account.</i></p> <p><i>2. The support referred to in paragraph 1 shall only be granted once the products are released for human consumption.</i></p> <p><i>3. Member States shall fix the amount of the technical and financial costs applicable in their territories as follows:</i></p> <p><i>(a) technical costs shall be calculated each year on the basis of direct costs relating to the actions required in order to stabilise and store the products in question;</i></p> <p><i>(b) financial costs shall be calculated each year using the interest rate set annually in each Member State; those technical and financial costs shall be made publicly available.</i></p> <p><i>4. Member States shall carry out controls to ensure that the</i></p>
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		<i>products benefitting from storage aid fulfil the conditions laid down in this Article. For the purposes of such controls, beneficiaries of storage aid shall keep stock records for each category of products entered into storage and later reintroduced onto the market for human consumption.</i>
Control The Revision of the Control System proposes amendments to Regulation 1005/2008 (the IUU Regulation) in adding a new Art 12 a-e which establishes a harmonised electronic EU-wide database system (CATCH) for the management of the Catch Certificate Scheme for fishery products entering the EU. The MAC considers the successful development and implementation of the proposed common IT system to be vital.	The revision of the control system is still undergoing, therefore it is premature to request that the EMFF supports the implementation of a system that has not yet been introduced in the control regulation. In any case, this action would be eligible under the future EMFF (the principle in the proposed EMFF is that everything is eligible unless it is prohibited). Of course, it will be up to the Member States to decide if they wish to allocate funds for these purposes.	
The MAC also considers that the proposed ring-fencing of 15% of the budget for effective control and data collection represents a small percentage of the budget for an area that should be considered the main priority of the fund, and	The EP maintains the proposal by the Commission to allocate at least (not less than) 15% of the budget to control and data collection activities.	4. At least 15% of the Union financial support allocated per Member State shall be allocated to the areas of support referred to in Articles 19 and 20 (<i>control and data collection</i>).

<p>therefore the amount allocated to enhance control and data collection should be increased.</p>		
<p>Promotion campaigns</p> <p>The MAC would like to stress here that promotion campaigns are measures related to priority 2. However, similar to fisheries measures, promotion campaigns should also be in line with and contributing to the priorities of 1 and 4 the CFP, namely:</p> <p>1) Fostering sustainable fisheries and the conservation of marine biological resources; and</p> <p>4) Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed seas and oceans.</p>	<p>Promotion campaigns related to fisheries or to international governance or sustainably management of oceans are not prohibited (so they are allowed. Again, it will be up to the Member States to decide if they wish to allocate funds for these purposes.</p>	<p><i>Recital</i> (32) It should be possible for the EMFF to support the promotion and the sustainable development of aquaculture.</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (33) Support should be available <i>inter alia</i> for the creation of producer organisations <i>including fishing cooperatives, small-scale producers,</i> the implementation of production and marketing plans, promotion and communication campaigns, the promotion of new market outlets, conducting of studies on markets, preservation and strengthening of the European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture products (EUMOFA) and the development and dissemination of market intelligence.</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (38) Under direct and indirect management, the EMFF should focus on creating conditions for a sustainable blue economy that</p>

		<p><i>develops within ecological limits and that fosters a healthy marine environment</i> through the promotion of an integrated governance and management of the maritime policy.</p>
<p>Aquaculture</p> <p>The MAC would like to encourage as well the consideration of other modern financial instruments (loans, bank guarantees and insurances) as public support foreseen in Operational Programmes, rather than confine it only to grants or procurement. The use of financial instruments should be optional and Member states should be able to combine grants and financial instruments at their discretion.</p> <p>The MAC would like to add a reference to the need to support actions EU aquaculture products. (...) Collective actions, irrespective of whether or not they refer to aquaculture or fishing or processing activities, should be 100% funded.</p>	<p>According to the EP, from now on, the EMFF should be called EMFAF (European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund).</p> <p>Financial instruments should be optional and grants could be used too.</p> <p>The EP proposes the creation of a new priority and chapter within the Fund entitled "Fostering sustainable aquaculture" its main objective being the increase of the production, taking into account ecological carrying capacity.</p> <p>This chapter would include a new article on "Aquaculture Statistical Information Network".</p>	<p><i>Title</i> Proposal (...) on the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (10) The EMFF should be based on five priorities: (...) fostering sustainable aquaculture;</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (27a) <i>It should be possible for fishermen and seawater and freshwater aquaculture producers to receive support from the EMFAF in the event of crisis in the fisheries and aquaculture markets, natural disasters or environmental incidents.</i></p> <p><i>Article 23</i> 1. The EMFF may support the promotion of a sustainable aquaculture - seawater and freshwater, including aquaculture with closed</p>

		<p>containment and water recirculating systems (...) and the increase of aquaculture production, taking into account ecological carrying capacity. It may also support animal health and welfare in aquaculture. (...)</p> <p>3. Aquaculture investments under this Article may be supported through grants, (...) and, preferably, through the financial instruments (...) and through InvestEU.</p> <p>Article 23a Aquaculture Statistical Information Network 1. The EMFF may support the collection, management and use of data for the management of aquaculture as provided for in (...) Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 for the establishment of the Aquaculture Statistical Information Network (ASIN-RISA) and national work plans for its implementation. (...)</p>
<p>Production and marketing plans</p> <p>The MAC is therefore surprised to</p>	<p>The EP maintains the Commission proposal that «support should be</p>	<p><i>Recital</i> (33) Support should be available inter alia for the creation</p>

<p>see that the PMPs are no longer specifically mentioned for funding under the new EMFF proposal formulated by the Commission for the period 2021 - 2027, probably in an attempt from the European Commission to simplify the regulation.</p>	<p>available for the creation of producer organisations, the implementation of production and marketing plans».</p> <p>Furthermore it proposes that <i>«Regarding the preparation and implementation of production and marketing plans (...), the Member State concerned may grant an advance of 50 % of the financial support after approval of the production and marketing plan».</i></p>	<p>of producer organisations <i>including fishing cooperatives, small-scale producers,</i> the implementation of production and marketing plans (...).</p> <p>Article 24 Marketing of fishery and aquaculture products (...)</p> <p>1 a. <i>Regarding the preparation and implementation of production and marketing plans referred to in Article 28 of Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013, the Member State concerned may grant an advance of 50 % of the financial support after approval of the production and marketing plan.</i></p> <p>1 b. <i>Support granted per producer organisation per year under this Article shall not exceed 3 % of the average annual value of the production placed on the market by that producer organisation during the preceding three calendar years or of the production placed on the market by the members of that organisation during the same period. For any newly recognised producer</i></p>
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		<p>organisation, that support shall not exceed 3 % of the average annual value of the production placed on the market by the members of that organisation during the preceding three calendar years.</p> <p>1 c. The support referred to in paragraph 2 shall only be granted to producer organisations and associations of producers organisations.</p>
<p>Value chain and marketing</p> <p>The MAC would like to stress the importance of understanding the value chain and marketing activities from a comprehensive point of view. In this regard, and being aware of the simplified architecture this article aims for, the MAC considers legit to infer from this article that marketing activities thorough the whole value chain can be covered under the EMFF.</p> <p>MAC is in favour of a general frame at EU level; it falls in the remits of the single Member States the choice of the activities to be supported, promoted, facilitated and developed.</p>	<p>The EP agrees with the MAC (and the Commission) that it should be up to the Member States to decide upon the activities to be supported, including in the context of marketing.</p>	<p><i>Recital</i> (26b) As fishing ports, landing sites, shelters and auction halls play an essential role in ensuring the quality of the products landed, as well as safety and working conditions, the EMFF should as a priority support the modernisation of port infrastructures, and in particular in the marketing of fishery products, to optimise the added value of landed products.</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (33) it should be possible for the EMFF to support the marketing of fishery and aquaculture products.</p>

		<p><i>Article 24</i></p> <p>Marketing of fishery and aquaculture products</p> <p>1. The EMFF may support actions contributing to the achievement of the objectives of the common organisation of the markets in fishery and aquaculture products as provided for in Article 35 of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and further specified in Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013. It may also support tangible investments and actions promoting the marketing, the quality and the value added of fishery and sustainable aquaculture products.</p> <p><i>Recital</i></p> <p>(11) The EMFF beyond 2020 should be based on a simplified architecture without predefining measures and detailed eligibility rules at Union level in an overly prescriptive manner. Instead, broad areas of support should be described under each priority. Member States should thus draw up their programme indicating therein the most appropriate means for achieving the priorities. A variety of measures identified by the Member States in those programmes might</p>
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		be supported (...), provided they are covered by the priorities identified in this Regulation.
<p>Processing</p> <p>The MAC would like to encourage as well the consideration of other modern financial instruments (loans, bank guarantees and insurances) as public support foreseen in Operational Programmes but it should not be confined to these instruments only grants should still be available. The use of financial instruments should be optional and Member states should be able to combine grants and financial instruments at their discretion.</p>	<p>The EP proposes as a priority of the EMFF:</p> <p>«contributing to food security in the Union through competitive and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture markets and processing sectors ;»</p> <p>Financial instruments should be optional and grants could be used too.</p>	<p><i>Chapter III – Priority 2 – title</i> Promoting competitive and sustainable fisheries and aquaculture markets and processing sectors contributing to food security in the Union</p> <p><i>Article 25</i> <i>Processing and storage of fishery and aquaculture products</i> (...) 2. Support under this Article shall be granted through grants and through the financial instruments provided for in Article 52 of Regulation (EU) No [Regulation laying down Common Provisions] and through InvestEU, in accordance Article 10 of that Regulation.</p>
<p>Funding to ACs</p> <p>Article 40 (c) <i>only provides funding to the ACs for administrative purposes.</i> It does not provide funding for ACs to carry out markets, technical, scientific, and economic projects of direct relevance to the</p>		

ACs to fully enable the ACs to fulfil its advisory role as envisaged under the CFP. The MAC is requesting that capital funding is provided under the EMFF to ACs to carry out well defined costed projects of direct relevance to the ACs and its role under the CFP.		
Market intelligence The MAC would like to stress the importance of the continuity and enhancement of EUMOFA, the main analytical tool for marketing intelligence. Initiatives at Member State level should be included in the Member States Operational Programmes.	The EP proposes that the EMFF should support the preservation and strengthening of the EUMOFA.	<i>Recital</i> (33) Support should be available <i>inter alia</i> for the creation of producer organisations <i>including fishing cooperatives, small-scale producers,</i> the implementation of production and marketing plans, <i>promotion and communication campaigns,</i> the promotion of new market outlets, <i>conducting of studies on markets, preservation and strengthening of the European Market Observatory for Fisheries and Aquaculture products (EUMOFA)</i> and the development and dissemination of market intelligence.
Information, communication and publicity The MAC considers of utmost importance that the stakeholders	Nothing prevents stakeholder information and communication action to be funded by the EMFF.	<i>Recital</i> (33) Support should be available <i>inter alia</i> for (...) the implementation of production and marketing plans, <i>promotion and</i>

<p>are also invited to seminars, together with Member States, in order to be informed as well on the actions and results of the implementation of the EMFF.</p>	<p>Furthermore, the EP proposes that a co-management system, involving notably the ACs, should be put in place by Member States.</p>	<p>communication campaigns.</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (18 a) The implementation of co-management mechanisms in the professional and recreational fishing activity and aquaculture, with the direct participation of stakeholders involved, such as administration, the fishing and aquaculture sector, the scientific community, and civil society, which bases its functionality on an equitable distribution of responsibilities in decision making, and on adaptive management based on knowledge, information and immediacy, favours the achievement of the objectives of the CFP. The EMFF should support the implementation of those mechanisms at local level.</p> <p><i>Recital</i> (43 a) In order to ensure the effective implementation of the management measures at regional level, Member States should put in place a co-management scheme involving Advisory Councils, fishermen's</p>
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<p>Final provisions</p> <p>The MAC suggests adding : «Regulation (EC) No 508/2014 or any other act applicable to the 2014-2020 programming period shall continue to apply to programmes and operations supported by the EMFF during that period.»</p>		