Small Scale Coastal Fisheries Scheme

Version: 26_01

What is Funded?

Applicants are required to show how their planned investment aligns with at least one objective of the scheme.

Note that installation costs for any items below must be separately specified on quotes and invoices provided. Eligible expenditure for installation costs may be capped at a reasonable percentage of the cost of the item(s) being installed.
Where applicable, shipyard costs are capped at €5,000 grant aid across the full application.

Eligible Expenditure

Selective Fishing

Escape devices e.g. lobster escape hatches on pots	First install or significant upgrade only
Graders	First install or significant upgrade only
Jigging machine	First install only. Capped at €4,000.

Improve Quality

Insulated fish bins	
Temperature monitoring and integration systems, including calibrated temperature gauges and probes	First install or significant upgrade only
Automated grading technologies	First install or significant upgrade only
Automated washing	First install or significant upgrade only
Ice making machines & ice holding facilities	First instal or installation to increase ice making capacity
Freezing and refrigeration equipment	First install or significant upgrade only

Improve Catch Handling

Handling and grading bench, and onboard grading equipment	First install or significant upgrade only
Equipment to reduce heavy manual lifting	Excludes fishing operations and winches
Fish handling systems and conveyors	First install or significant upgrade only
Pot roller	First install or significant upgrade only
Potting table	First install or significant upgrade only

Onshore investments, in pursuit of any of the objectives above

Notes relating to applications which include buildings of any kind:

- The grant aid for buildings will be capped at €20,000
- Planning permission is required for any development of land or property unless the development is specifically exempted. Development includes:
    - carrying out works (building, demolition, alteration) on, in, over or under land or buildings
    - making material (i.e. significant) changes to the use of land or buildings.
- Where a project includes any development as described, the application for funding MUST include:
    1. The planning permission for the works; OR
    2. A "section 5 Declaration" that the works are exempt.
- Failure to provide these will result in your application being deemed ineligible. Any other form of documentation e.g. letters from engineers or county councils, is not acceptable.

Bait stores	
Gear stores	
Facilities and equipment to facilitate live holding of SSCF product	
Freezers/Fridges	
Ice machines	
Vacuum packers	
Facilities and equipment to facilitate the sale of SSCF product	
Refrigeration fit out of vehicles – to include insulation, fibre glassing, compressor and stand-by unit	Vehicle must be owned and not leased or hire purchase
Hoists to remove SSCF product from vessels	A serial number will be required for the hoist, which must be visible for the site visit. The hoist cannot be on the pier, it must be on a vehicle which is owned by the applicant - proof of the ownership of the vehicle will be required

Enhance Traceability

Motion Compensating Scales with recording function	First install or significant upgrade only
Labelling equipment	First install or significant upgrade only
Traceability software	First install or significant upgrade only

Improve Conditions on Board – Structural

Wheelhouse refurbishment	This excludes electrical items; skippers chairs are capped at €2,000 grant aid
Deck replacement	First install or significant upgrade only
Anchor winches	First install or significant upgrade only

Improve Conditions on Board – Fresh Water Provision

Fresh water tanks	Significant upgrade or installation to increase capacity
Fresh water maker	First install or significant upgrade only
Desalination/Reverse Osmosis systems	First install or significant upgrade only

Improve Energy Efficiency Onboard

Energy saving technologies and procedures (e.g. energy audits, catalysers, solar panels etc.)	First install or significant upgrade only

Improve Conditions on Board – Common Areas e.g. galley, cabin, toilet/wash areas

Tables	First install or significant upgrade only
Benches/Seating/Bunks	First install or significant upgrade only
Cupboards	First install or significant upgrade only
Toilets	First install or significant upgrade only
Sinks	First install or significant upgrade only
Showers	First install or significant upgrade only
Washrooms	First install or significant upgrade only
Insulation as part of works - modern fire-retardant type only	First install or significant upgrade only
Cabin refurbishment type works	Significant upgrade only
Galley refurbishment works	Significant upgrade only
Air conditioning and ventilation	First install or significant upgrade only
Heating	First install or significant upgrade only
Oilskin storage/wet room	First install or significant upgrade only

Ineligible Expenditure

Any expenditure incurred before the email confirming completion of the pre-project site visit is ineligible.

The following operations or expenditure are not eligible for support per the EMFAF Regulation:

- Operations that increase the fishing capacity of a fishing vessel, unless otherwise provided for in Article 19 of Regulation (EU) 2021/1139.
- The acquisition of equipment that increases the ability of a fishing vessel to find fish;
- The transfer or reflagging of fishing vessels to third countries, including through the creation of joint ventures with partners of third countries.
- Exploratory fishing.
- The transfer of ownership of a business.
- Direct restocking, except explicitly provided for as a reintroduction measure or other conservation measures in a Union legal act or in the case of experimental restocking.
- The construction of new ports or new auction halls, with the exception of new landing sites.
- Investments on board fishing vessels necessary to comply with the requirements under Union law in force at the time (with the exception of vessel tracking and catch reporting systems) of submission of the application for support, including requirements under the Union's obligations in the context of RFMOs, unless otherwise provided for in Article 22.

- The replacement or modernisation of a main or ancillary engine of a fishing vessel, unless otherwise provided for in Article 18. This includes any form of combustion engine for the purposes of producing electricity.
- Expenditure for the purchase of land.
- Value Added Tax (Except in the case of public interest projects).
- Interest on debt, except in the form of an interest rate subsidy or guarantee fee subsidy.
- Goods purchased under Hire Purchase or Lease Purchase agreements.
- Second hand machinery, equipment, etc. and any associated installation costs.
- Intangible costs, such as cost of pre-financing and of arranging loans and interest, administrative costs, patents, invitations to tender etc.
- Repairs and maintenance work.
- Items normally written off within a year.
- Like-for-like replacement of equipment.
- Office equipment, including desktop computers, laptops and tablets.
- Statutory Costs and Equipment that does not exceed EU legislative requirements.

In addition, the following items are not eligible for support under this scheme. Note that this list is not exhaustive, and other items applied for may be deemed ineligible.

- Ultrasonic antifouling systems
- Fuel nozzles, triggers, fuel pumps, fuel purifiers, water separators, filters, fuel tanks, control systems, etc.
- Trawl warp monitoring systems
- Propellors
- Nylon panels (hull and other areas)
- Exhaust pipes and silencers
- Electronic items unless integral to the project e.g. wheelhouse display for cold store temps
- Stability books
- Survey work and surveys
- Net cleaners/flakers/stackers
- Auto pilots
- Navigation lights
- Gangways
- Railings
- Safety systems and equipment
- Vans and passenger vehicles
- Vehicles for market distribution
- Painting of vessels, including hygienic paint, anti-slip paint and rubber/nylon type mats
- General repairs and maintenance
- Equipment that is based onshore whose primary use is not directly related to an SSCF vessel or to SSCF product
- Winches, net drums, powerblocks etc.
- Any item that simply meets a legislative requirement
- Fishing gear including pots

- Cleaning equipment to keep sanitary conditions on board (e.g. powerhoses, fish washing facilities, disinfection units, PPE, etc)
- Guides and manuals on the improvement of hygiene on board, including software tools (e.g. electronic HACCP systems)
- Working clothes & safety equipment (safety boots, eyes & breathing protection, helmets etc)
- Equipment for the collection and storage of litter
- Guides and manuals on the improvement of working conditions on board
- On board packaging and storage equipment
- Equipment to handle unwanted catches on board (e.g. dedicated fish bins or boxes)
- Fishing equipment that can be used for targeting species for which the current quota/allocation is fully exploited or is subject to other catch restrictions
- Lost gear retrieval equipment (e.g. creepers)
- Warps or ropes
- Fishing equipment that increases the catching power of the vessel
- Plotters, GPS, radar, radio/TV/internet equipment

The list of ineligible items may be added to at any time.