

Seafood Scaling & New Market Development Scheme



The scheme is administered by Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM), in partnership with Bord Bia and aims to assist both SME's and Collectives to develop markets for their seafood products, improve route to market structures and maximise value from raw material.

Eligible Beneficiaries

The scheme supports the following enterprises subject to Article 10 of the EMFF Regulation (508/2014).

- Individual Seafood Enterprises.
- Collectives of Seafood Enterprises (see definition).
- BIM and other Public Bodies.

Definitions

'**Collective**' is defined, for the purposes of this Measure, as two or more seafood enterprises, or a seafood enterprise working with an established food enterprise, working together under the framework of a formal written signed agreement and business plan, and which in the opinion of BIM are unrelated enterprises, pursuing a project for the collective benefit of the members of the Collective. To be accepted as a Collective, the applicants must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Project Approvals Board that each member of the Collective is contributing to the resources of the project, and is actively participating in the planning and conduct of the project.

Applicants must apply to the Scheme as either a member of a 'Collective' or as an 'Individual Seafood Enterprise' not both.

Eligible Projects

Projects aimed at finding new export markets and improving the conditions for the placing on the market of seafood products. Applicants may submit one application per year and must include a schedule of their activities under the scheme for the year.

Eligible costs

The following activities are eligible for support under this scheme. These may be further restricted in a particular call for proposals.

For market visits/trade shows, flights may be supported with vouched costs of economy flights.

A Scheme per diem 24 hour rate of up to €240 can be applied, subject to approval.

For Collectives of Seafood Enterprises Only

- Market Development Measures (e.g. market research, market intelligence, in-market resources, market visits). **Market research, market intelligence, in-market resource and office rental available to Collectives only. Trade Show Participation (limited to rental costs of refrigeration and stand furniture only) available to Collectives only. Where a trade show is not supported by Bord Bia or another State Agency the cost of stand space may be eligible. Such instances will be considered on a case by case basis.**
- Consultancy and professional advice concerning market development and improving the conditions for the placing on the market of seafood products.

Individual Seafood Enterprises Only

- Professional advice on drawing up joint venture contracts (e.g. legal, accounting, tax, marketing and business advice). **Available to SME's only.**
- Market visits by Individual Seafood Enterprises are limited to specific seafood trade shows and networking events.
- Consultancy and professional advice concerning market development and improving the conditions for the placing on the market of seafood products. (Maximum expenditure of €4,999 ex VAT).

Support Rates

The following maximum support rates will apply to this scheme.

BIM Projects	100%
Seafood SME's	Up to 40% capped at a maximum grant of €16,000 per project
Non-SME's	Up to 30% capped at a maximum grant of €16,000 per project
Collectives	Up to 50% capped at a maximum grant of €200,000 per project
Public projects	Up to 100% capped at €300,000 per project

- Collectives are limited to one application per year. Collectives may only have one active project at any one time.

How long does the process take?

On receipt of the application, approval can take up to six weeks but may take longer should supporting documentation additional to the application be required.

General Criteria

In order to be considered for aid under the scheme, the following criteria will apply:

- Processing Premises must be approved by the SPPA under Regulation (EC) No. 853/2004.
- Projects must be consistent with the EMFF Operational Programme 2014-2020.
- Applicants must apply as **either** a member of a 'Collective' **or** as an 'Individual Seafood Enterprise'. Applicants with live applications as 'Individuals' may not apply as part of a 'Collective' at the same time.
- Applicants cannot be a member of more than one 'Collective'.
- Applicants may not have a live application under Bord Bia's 'Marketing Assistance Programme' (MAP). Those with applications under MAP may only apply once the MAP grant is fully claimed.
- Applicants may only have one live application at a time.
- VAT is not eligible under the Scheme.

Open Call

The Business Approvals Committee (BAC) meets quarterly and fully completed applications will be considered for support within these time frames.

Contact us

To learn more about this grant please contact your Key Account Manager.

How to Apply

- Save the Seafood Scaling & New Market Development Scheme Application Form (pdf) to a location on your computer
- Launch the form from your computer location and complete the form saving the changes
- Send the completed application by email to scalingscheme@bim.ie

Companies wishing to submit an application should contact their Key Account Manager to guide applicants through the application process.