

EMFF Operational Programme 2014-2020

New Fishermen Scheme



Introduction

This Scheme is introduced under Ireland's European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Operational Programme 2014-2020. The Scheme is co-funded on a 50/50 basis by the Exchequer and European Union. The rules of the EMFF and its implementing and other regulations apply in every case.

For the purpose of this scheme, the term 'young fisherman' means a natural person who seeks to acquire a fishing vessel for the first time and who, at the moment of submitting the application, is under 40 years of age and who has worked for at least five years as fisherman, including acquired equivalent vocational training.

This scheme continues on the success of the Special Assistance for Young Fishermen Scheme under the EU co-funded Seafood Development Programme 2007 - 2013 and is intended to encourage new entrants into the fishing industry.

This scheme provides special assistance for young fishermen to establish themselves in the industry. Young fishermen under 40 years of age at the time of application, who have not previously owned or part owned any fishing vessel and are acquiring for the first time a second-hand vessel, can avail of grant aid of 25% of the portion of the acquisition costs borne by them directly and proportional to their shareholding in the vessel or an amount not exceeding €75,000, whichever is the lower.

In order to be eligible for the Scheme the vessel must belong to the polyvalent sector excluding vessels in that sector of 12m to 24m (LOA) using active fishing gear (trawlers, seine netters and dredgers).

Terms & Conditions

Applicants should please note that terms and conditions will apply to all applications. These will include, but are not limited to, the following:

General

- 1) The managing authority for the scheme is the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM). The implementing agency for the scheme is Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM).
- 2) Funding for this scheme is subject to monies being available to BIM.
- 3) Please be advised that expenditure incurred (including any work undertaken or receipts dated) prior to the commencement date of a project is ineligible for grant payment.

The Commencement date of a project is the date shown in the Letter of Acknowledgement, issued by BIM, following receipt of a completed application form.

- 4) Only applications submitted on the official application form will be considered for grant approval.

Acknowledgement of an application does not constitute any form of entitlement to any form of grant aid whatsoever nor should the applicant constitute any assistance given by officers of BIM as a form of indication that grant aid will become available.

- 5) The implementing authority reserves the right to alter or amend the conditions of this scheme and or to suspend the scheme or to substitute the scheme for a different scheme. In every case payment of grant aid is contingent on the availability of finance to BIM.

Applicant

- 6) Must be a fisherman under 40 years of age at time of application, who can demonstrate that they have worked for at least five years on a fishing vessel, are actively working in the fishing industry at present and have been fishing for a minimum of five years including relevant formal vocational training. In order to meet this condition the applicant will submit a copy of their current and if necessary any previously held BIM Safety Cards compliant with SI 587 of 2001. BIM may request further documentation as appropriate.

- 7) Must be acquiring ownership, in full or in part, of a fishing vessel for the first time.
- 8) Must demonstrate to BIM that the vessel will be financially viable given its projected catch, operating costs and market outlets.
- 9) Must comply with all fishing boat licensing and registration requirements including the removal of necessary replacement capacity (GT, kW).
- 10) The applicant must have the required experience, training and track record in the operation of a similar type of vessel. The applicant must be the proposed owner/skipper and actively fish the vessel.
- 11) The vessel must be registered wholly or partly in the applicant's name with the applicant holding and maintaining at least 25% of the vessel in his own name that is proportionate to his own investment in the overall acquisition cost.

Any grant will be calculated on the applicants direct investment in the purchase of the vessel.

Where the vessel is purchased as a partnership, the applicant must hold and maintain at least a 25% or greater shareholding in the vessel. This or any greater shareholding upon which the original grant is calculated, must be maintained by the applicant for the following five years.

Where the vessel is purchased and registered in a company name, the applicant must hold and maintain at least a 25% or greater share of the company. This or any greater shareholding upon which the original grant is calculated must be maintained by the applicant for the following five years.

Where the vessel is to be owned in partnership or by a company, it should be noted that, partial acquisition of the vessel while the remaining share remains in the ownership of the original owner is not eligible for support under the Scheme.

Where the vessel is to be registered in the name of a preexisting partnership/company, a certificate will be required from a registered auditor, on headed paper, confirming that the relevant partnership/company has never owned or part owned a registered fishing vessel, or that if it did, the applicant was not a shareholder/partner in that company/partnership at that time.

- 12) The applicant must comply with Department of Finance tax clearance procedures¹ at the time of grant payment.

In the case of grant aid of €10,000 or more within any 12-month period, the grantee will be required to produce a valid tax clearance certificate.

In the case of grant aid less than €10,000 within any 12-month period, the grantee will be required to complete a tax compliance declaration.

Vessel

- 13) Must be between 5 and 30 years old at time of purchase.
- 14) Must have an overall length greater than or equal to 7 metres and less than 24 metres.
- 15) Vessel must be powered by an inboard engine.
- 16) The vessel must not have been the subject of grant aid awarded under any current or previous 'New Fisherman'/'Young Fisherman' type grant scheme within a 5 year period from the payment of the previous grant. Any such previous grant must be fully amortised prior to the vessel being deemed eligible under any new application.
- 17) Must be operational and be registered in the Irish and/or EU register at the time of application.
- 18) Must have a further life span of at least ten years from the date of purchase certified by an independent indemnified surveyor.
- 19) Must not be purchased within the same family up to the second degree.

1 F49/236/06: Circular 44/2006: Tax clearance procedures. Grants, subsidies and similar type payments.

- 20) Must be measured in accordance with EU provisions.
- 21) Must have a condition survey report satisfactory to BIM.
- 22) Must comply with EU and statutory Regulations and Directives governing hygiene, safety, health, product quality and working conditions.
- 23) The vessel must be registered 'in the applicants name' on the Irish Fishing Boat register at the time of grant payment.
- 24) The vessel must be sound, sea-worthy and must otherwise comply with statutory life-saving, fire-fighting, radio, and collision regulations. Applicants must submit a current declaration of compliance with the MSO Code of Practice for vessels less than 15 metres (LOA) or a certificate of compliance for the larger vessels as appropriate prior to grant payment.
- 25) The vessel must belong to a fleet segment for which the most recent report on fishing capacity, referred to in Article 22(2) of Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013, has shown a balance with the fishing opportunities available to that segment.

Where the Vessel is 12m to 24m LOA and using passive/static fishing gear (pots and gill nets) the eligibility of the Vessel will be determined by BIM's Fleet Investment Committee (FIC) and/or third party agents appointed by BIM.

In order to be eligible for the Scheme the vessel must belong to the polyvalent sector excluding vessels in that sector of 12m to 24m length overall (LOA) using active fishing gear (trawlers, seine netters and dredgers).

Grant Aid

- 26) Applicants should note that in the event of approval they will be required to submit proof of payment such as copies of paid cheques (retrieved from the bank)/bank statements, copy bank drafts, credit card statements, or inter bank documentation etc. All such documentation must be in the applicants name and demonstrate payment through their own bank account(s).

Where the company is newly established and is 100% owned by the applicant then the payment for the vessel may be through the applicant's company account. **In all other cases, where a company/partnership structure is involved then the payment must go through the applicant's personal bank account.**

- 27) Cash payments are not eligible for grant aid.
- 28) Applicants should note that any outstanding charges in respect of the applicant due to BIM (Ice, Training Fees, etc) must be discharged in full at the time of grant payment.

How to Apply

Send completed application form to:

Investment Services Section,

BIM, PO Box 12,
Crofton Road,
Dun Laoghaire,
Co Dublin.

Forms are available from BIM

Tel: +353 1 214 4100/214 4244/214 4245

Fax: +353 1 230 0564

Web: www.bim.ie

Email: kevin.mccoole@bim.ie

Forms can also be downloaded from the BIM website: <http://www.bim.ie>

Grant Application Form

Applicant Details	
<i>Must be proposed registered owner or part owner of the vessel. If company please give details.</i>	
Name:	
Date of Birth: / / 19	
Address:	
Tel No. (Home):	Mob No.:
Fax No.:	
Email Address:	

Ownership of the Proposed Vessel	
Shareholding the Applicant is to hold in the vessel (see condition 11, page 2)	%
If the vessel is to be held in a company what is the applicants shareholding in that company (see condition 11, page 2)	%

Details of Proposed Vessel	
Name of Vessel:	EU Registration No:
Port of Registry:	Main Engine Make:
Fleet Registration No:	Main Engine (kW):
Year of Construction:	Type of Vessel (Please Tick):
Where Constructed:	Single trawler <input type="checkbox"/> Fixed gear <input type="checkbox"/>
Hull Material:	Twin rigger <input type="checkbox"/> Longliner <input type="checkbox"/>
Overall Length (m) LOA:	Dredger <input type="checkbox"/> Seiner <input type="checkbox"/>
Gross Tonnage (GT):	Gear to be deployed
Port Registration No:	Fleet segment: Polyvalent <input type="checkbox"/> Potting <input type="checkbox"/>
<i>* Copies of Fishing Licence and Certificate of registry must be submitted.</i>	

Cost of Vessel		Funding of Vessel	
Vessel Cost:	€	Own Funds:	€
Tonnage Cost:	€	Loan	€
Gear Cost:	€	Young Fishermen - Special Assistance:	€
Total Cost:	€	Total:	€
<i>Please provide evidence of funds (Bank statement, loan approval etc.)</i>			

Skipper Details	
Name:	
Date of Birth:	/ / 19
Address:	
Tel No.	

Career as Skipper					
From (year)	To (year)	Name of vessel	Registered Length m LOA	Gear Code	Port Landing

Career as Crewman					
From (year)	To (year)	Name of vessel	Registered Length m LOA	Gear Code	Port Landing

Fishing Licences Held (Please Tick)

Celtic Sea Herring <input type="checkbox"/>	Demersal <input type="checkbox"/>	Mackerel <input type="checkbox"/>	Polyvalent <input type="checkbox"/>
Herring <input type="checkbox"/>	N.W. Herring <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>	

Membership of Fishery Organisations

Name of Organisation	Position Held	Date Joined

Fishing Certificate(s) Held

Deck Officer (Fishing Vessel) Certificate of Competency		
Tick box as appropriate:	Date Issued	No
<input type="checkbox"/> 1. Skipper Full		
<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Skipper Limited		
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Second Hand Full		
<input type="checkbox"/> 4. Second Hand Limited		
<input type="checkbox"/> 5. Second Hand Special/Second Hand Limited Endorsement		
<input type="checkbox"/> 6. BIM Fishing Deckhand		
If Certificate issued before 1988 please tick <input type="checkbox"/> If you hold Certificate of Service please tick <input type="checkbox"/>		
Date Issued: / /		
Engineer Officer (Fishing Vessel) Certificate of Competency		
<input type="checkbox"/> 7. Class 1		
<input type="checkbox"/> 8. Class 2		
<input type="checkbox"/> 9. Class 3		
If you hold a Certificate of Service please tick <input type="checkbox"/>		
Date Issued: / /		

Projected Operating Statement for Vessel		
Fish Sales		
Gross sales of Fish	€	
Less Marketing Expenses:	€	
(A) Net Sales:		€
Directing Operating Expenses		
Fuel and Oil:	€	
Provisions:	€	
Insurance:	€	
P.O. Levies:	€	
Ice:	€	
Sundries:	€	
Other:	€	
(B) Total Operating Costs:		€
(C) Amount for sharing: (A less B):		€
(D) Crew Share:	€	€
(E) Owners Share: (C less D)		€
Overheads		
Repairs and Maintenance:	€	
Fishing Gear:	€	
Motor and Travel:	€	
Office Costs:	€	
Sundries:	€	
Others:	€	
(F) Total Owner Expenses:		€
(G) Earnings before repayments: (E less F)		€
(H) Loan Repayments:		€
Cash Flow: (G less H)		€

Amount of Loan:	Term of Loan:	Rate of Interest:
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Applicants Financial Standing

This financial information should be provided in conjunction with a set of the applicants most recent Trading Accounts

Assets	Value	Liabilities	Value
Family Home/Company Premises	€	Family Home/Company Premises	€
Land and Buildings	€	Land and Buildings	€
Vehicles	€	Vehicles	€
Other Property	€	Other Property	€
Bank Accounts	€	Bank Accounts	€
Building Societies	€	Building Societies	€
Fishing Vessels	€	Fishing Vessels	€
Other (specify)	€	Other (specify)	€

Financial information will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Projected Annual Landings

SPECIES	Total weight per annum in Kilos			Average price per Kilo €	Value €
	Area VI	Area VIIa	Area VII (except VIIa)		
Cod					
Haddock					
Whiting					
Hake					
Monk					
Megrim					
Plaice					
Sole					
White Pollock					
Saithe					
Nephrops					
Herring					
Mackerel					
Crab					
Lobster					
Other Whitefish					
Other Pelagic					
Other Shellfish					
TOTAL					

Checklist: To be included with application form

- Copy of Birth Certificate
- Copy of a current BIM Safety Card(s) covering five of the past six years
- Copy of loan approval, bank statements as appropriate

If vessel is to be purchased by and registered in the name of the company please also enclose (see condition 11, page 2)

- Memorandum of Association
- Articles of Association
- Most recent full set of audited company accounts showing the applicants shareholding in the company or an Auditors certificate stating the shareholding of the applicant in the company
- Where the vessel is to be owned in partnership or by a company the applicant must (in line with condition 11) provide supporting documentation to show that the remaining share of the vessel is not held by the original owner.
- Where the vessel is to be owned in partnership or by a preexisting company the applicant must (in line with condition 11) provide an 'Auditors Certificate' from a registered auditor, on headed paper, confirming that the relevant company/partnership has never owned or part owned a registered fishing vessel, or that if it did, the applicant was not a partner shareholder in that partnership/company prior to the date of receipt of their application by BIM.

How BIM will use your information

Any personal data you provide to Bord Iascaigh Mhara ("BIM") will be retained and processed by us for solely the purpose described in this form and as described in further detail in the BIM Data Protection Policy. Our Policy describes in detail how BIM, as a State Agency, is required to collect, process and transfer personal data for the purposes set out in various Irish and EU fisheries and marine legislation. These purposes include the administration of grants, conducting surveys and performing services for those working in the marine sector, for example, training, education and ice services. Your personal data may be disclosed to third parties where it is necessary and relevant to those purposes, for example, national or EU agencies with responsibility for the marine, grant administration or training awards or accreditation. While BIM does not engage in unsolicited direct marketing, BIM or its agents may contact you in relation to relevant events or initiatives and you can unsubscribe from such communications at any time. You have a right to access and rectify your personal data which can be exercised by writing to the Data Protection Officer, BIM, Crofton Road, Dún Laoghaire, Co. Dublin. The BIM Data Protection Policy is available on the BIM.ie website www.bim.ie.



I hereby declare that the information in this application is true and accurate and that I am not in contravention of EMFF Article 10 Admissibility of Applications see Appendix 1 below attached.

Signature:	Date:
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Send completed application form to:

Investment Services Section,

BIM, PO Box 12, Crofton Road, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin.

Forms are available from BIM

Tel: +353 1 214 4100/214 4244/214 4245

Fax: +353 1 230 0564

Web: www.bim.ie

Email: kevin.mcchoole@bim.ie

Appendix

EMFF Article 10 – Admissibility of applications

1. An application submitted by an operator for support from the EMFF shall be inadmissible for an identified period of time laid down pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Article, if it has been determined by the competent authority that the operator concerned:
 - (a) has committed a serious infringement under Article 42 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008⁽²¹⁾ or Article 90(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009;
 - (b) has been involved in the operation, management or ownership of fishing vessels included in the Union IUU vessel list as set out in Article 40(3) of Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008, or of vessels flagged to countries identified as non-cooperating third countries as set out in Article 33 of that Regulation;
 - (c) has committed a serious infringement of the CFP rules identified as such in other legislation adopted by the European Parliament and by the Council; or
 - (d) has committed any of the offences set out in Articles 3 and 4 of Directive 2008/99/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁽²²⁾, where the application is made for support under Chapter II of Title V of this Regulation.
2. The beneficiary, after submitting the application, shall continue to comply with the conditions referred to in points (a) to (d) of paragraph 1 throughout the period of implementation of the operation and for a period of five years after the final payment to that beneficiary.
3. An application submitted by an operator shall be inadmissible for an identified period of time laid down pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Article, if it has been determined by the competent authority that that operator has committed a fraud, as defined in Article 1 of the Convention on the protection of the European Communities' financial interests⁽²³⁾, in the context of the European Fisheries Fund (EFF) or the EMFF.
4. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 126 concerning:
 - (a) the identification of the period of time referred to in paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article which shall be proportionate to the nature, gravity, duration and repetition of the serious infringement, offence or fraud, and shall be of at least one year's duration;
 - (b) the relevant starting or ending dates of the period of time referred to in paragraphs 1 and 3 of this Article.
5. Member States shall require that operators submitting an application under the EMFF provide to the managing authority a signed statement confirming that they respect the criteria listed in paragraph 1 of this Article and declaring that they have not committed a fraud under the EFF or the EMFF as referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article. Member States shall verify the veracity of that statement before approving the operation, based on the information available in the national register of infringements referred to in Article 93 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009, or any other available data.

For the purposes of the first subparagraph, a Member State shall provide, on request from another Member State, the information contained in its national register of infringements referred to in Article 93 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009.

