

## BIM EMFAF Work Programme Project Report 2022

<b>BENEFICIARY:</b>	Bord Iascaigh Mhara
<b>PROJECT REFERENCE NUMBER:</b>	22/SPIS/DIS-BG010-BR043
<b>NAME OF PROJECT:</b>	<b>Seafood Industry Trading Supports</b>
<b>IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD:</b>	1st January to 31st December 2022

### Project Scope

The project had two elements. Firstly, ensuring processors were continually updated and assisted on trading and customs requirements post Brexit through support and guidance. The second element focused on assessing the economic impact of Brexit on the processing sector.

Support and Guidance: Post Brexit, the customs rules and regulations have changed, and it is important for the seafood sector to understand these changes fully. BIM's Brexit Mentoring Programme supported seafood companies importing/exporting products to or through the UK to adapt to customs changes as a result of Brexit. The programme focused on supporting seafood companies to identify and action key steps in relation to customs, tariffs, non-EU trade requirements and planning further projects to maximize opportunities as a result of Brexit. The support was provided by an approved BIM specialist advisor and was 100% funded by BIM up to a maximum of €4,000 (excl. VAT) per company.

The support also included the provision of user-friendly guides and information notes developed with the SFPA, where relevant, and uploaded to BIM's Brexit Hub which helped to disseminate the information to the industry.

Economic Impact Analysis: Brexit is likely to result in short, medium and long-term impacts on the seafood sector, that will only become apparent once the industry adapts to the new arrangements in terms of access, fishing opportunities and trade. To inform future policy changes or supports to the sector, there is likely to be a requirement for detailed analyses of the economic impacts of such changes or the costs associated with putting in place industry support schemes such as a Decommissioning scheme. The analysis may also be used to benchmark the Irish processing sector against other sectors both domestically and internationally and identify opportunities for Irish processors.

### Objectives

The aim of this project was to provide a suite of support services to assist seafood processing businesses to navigate the challenges of Brexit and maximize trade opportunities. This encompassed support and guidance to understand new rules, documentation and studies to support BIM to assess the longer-term impacts and opportunities of Brexit. The key goals were to assist industry to adapt, restructure and reposition post-Brexit.

### Outcomes

BIM supported 10 processing companies through the Seafood Industry Trading Supports project in 2022. This support has consisted of individual processing companies working with an approved BIM mentor, analysing the company's trading situation, interpreting and explaining how the new custom requirements will impact



the company's trading situation and supporting the company to implement actions to satisfy the new requirements and allow for trade to continue to and through the UK.

As well as direct support to individual seafood processors, a Brexit Guide was developed for the Irish Skipper Expo 2022 and information notes on new custom requirements and developments were communicated to industry. Additionally, BIM has finalised an internal report detailing the financial performance of processors over a 10-year period from 2010-2019. This will be used to determine the impact of Brexit on the sector in the longer term.

### Summary of Project Spend

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Total Approved Costs	€110,000
Total Eligible Expenditure	€110,000
EMFAF Eligible Expenditure	€55,000
Exchequer	€55,000

Report by: Gavin McGrath

Date: January 2023



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Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag  
an Aontas Eorpach

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