



The European Fisheries Fund (EFF) 2007-2013 and Natura 2000



From FIFG to EFF

What's new

- **No longer part of the Structural Funds (financial perspectives, budget heading 2)**
- **A simple legal basis
(1 Council Reg. (EC) N° 1198/2006
+ 1 Implementing Reg. (EC) N°498/2007)**
- **More strategic approach**
- **Stronger focus on conservation policy and environment protection.**

EFF Objectives

- **Simpler programming and administration**
- **More strategic approach and better coherence with other Community instruments**
- **New measures**

Five priority axes

**Ensure environmental,
social and economic
sustainability of the sector**

Axis 4: Sustainable development of fisheries areas

Axis 1

**Adjustment of
Community
fishing fleet**

Axis 2

**Aquaculture, inland
fishing, processing
and marketing**

Axis 3

**Measures of
common interest**

Axis 5: Technical assistance

EFF measures for Natura 2000 (1)

Under Axis 2, Aquaculture.

- **Article 30. Aqua-environmental measures.**
 - 1. The EFF may support granting compensation for the use of aquaculture production methods helping to protect and improve the environment and to conserve nature.**

The purpose of the support is to promote:

- (d) Sustainable aquaculture compatible with specific environmental constraints resulting from the designation of Natura 2000 areas**

EFF measures for Natura 2000 (2)

Under Axis 3, Measures of common interest

- **Article 38, Measures intended to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora.**
 - 1. The EFF may support measures of common interest intended to protect and develop aquatic fauna and flora while enhancing the aquatic environment**
 - 2. These measures shall relate to:**
 - (c) The protection and enhancement of the environment in the framework of Natura 2000 where its areas directly concern fishing activities, excluding operational costs.**

Other EFF measures to protect the environment

- **Natura 2000 areas could also benefit from EFF support through other measures aiming at the protection of the environment.**
- **The impact of these measures on Natura 2000 would be difficult to assess**

Axis 4. Sustainable development of fisheries areas

- **Article 43.**

Scope of the assistance.

- 1. The EFF may provide assistance for the sustainable development and improvement of the quality of life in fisheries areas**
- 2. These measures shall seek to:**
 - c) Promote the quality of the coastal environment.**

- **Article 44.**

Eligible measures

- **Support for sustainable development of fisheries areas may be granted for:**
 - f) Protecting the environment in fisheries areas to maintain its attractiveness.....and protecting and enhancing the natural and architectural heritage.**

EFF- Natura 2000: State of play

- **The main source of information on the use of the EFF in MS is data provided by MS in their annual reports on the implementation of the Operational Programs (OP).**
- **So far there has been very little (if any) relevant information in such reports on the contribution of the EFF to support Natura 2000.**
- **Information available shows limited take up in MS so far.**
- **The interim evaluations of EFF OPs scheduled for June 2011 will include an assessment of EFF support in the MS for the protection of the environment.**