

European Maritime, Aquaculture & Fisheries Fund (EMFAF) - 2021 to 2027



Marine Institute
EMFAF

Marine
Biodiversity
Scheme

2021-2027

Marine
Knowledge
Scheme



To help achieve sustainable fisheries &
conserve & restore marine biological resources



Foras na Mara
Marine Institute



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland



Arna chomhchistiú ag
an Aontas Eorpach
Co-Funded by the
European Union

What is the EMFAF ?

The European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) runs from 2021 to 2027 and supports the EU common fisheries policy (CFP), the EU maritime policy and the EU agenda for international ocean governance.

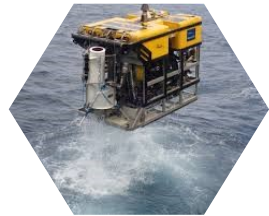
**EU Common
Fisheries Policy**

**EU Maritime
Policy**

**EU agenda for
International
Ocean
Governance**

It provides support for developing innovative projects ensuring that aquatic and maritime resources are used sustainably.

Furthermore, the EMFAF helps fulfil the objectives of the **European Green Deal**, the roadmap for the EU climate and environmental policies.



What is the EMFAF's purpose ?

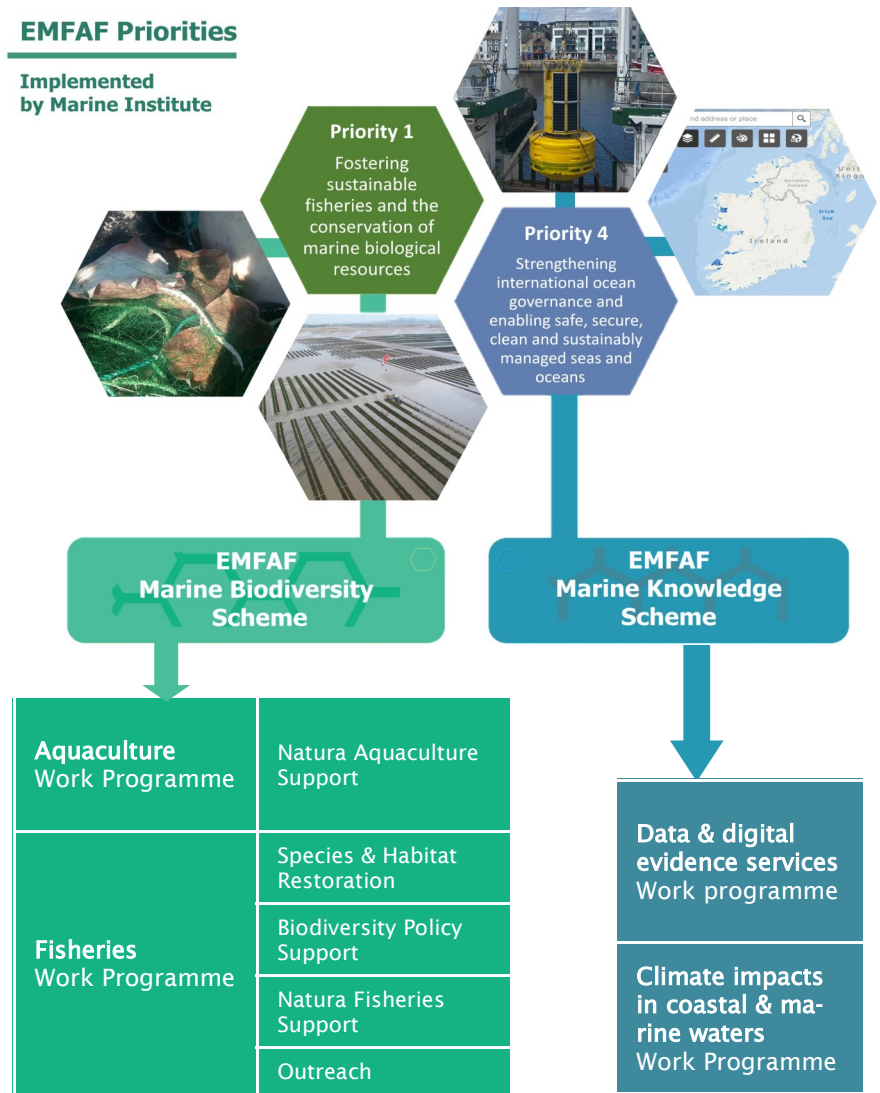
As a global ocean actor and a major producer of seafood, the EU has a responsibility to protect and sustainably use the oceans and their resources. It is also in the EU's socio-economic interest to guarantee the availability of food supplies, the competitiveness of the maritime economy and the livelihood of coastal communities.

The fund helps achieve sustainable fisheries and conserve and restore marine biological resources.

It also helps achieve the **UN's Sustainable Development Goal 14** ('conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources'), to which the EU is committed.

What are the main EMFAF priorities implemented at the Marine Institute ?

The Marine Biodiversity and Marine Knowledge Schemes are established under Priority 1 (Sustainable Fisheries) and Priority 4 (Strengthen Ocean Governance) of Ireland's Operational Programme (OP) and are co-funded by the Irish Government and EMFAF 2021-2027.



What are the main Actions of Priority 1 Marine Biodiversity Scheme Implemented by the Marine Institute ?

**Priority
1**

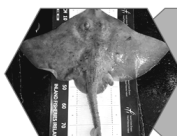
Fostering sustainable fisheries and the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources

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Actions

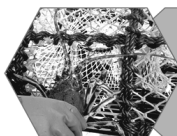
Enhance dissemination of fisheries data and information to stakeholder



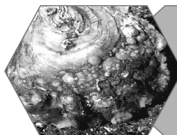
Increase awareness on marine biodiversity, habitat loss, climate change and environmental impacts



Provide continued support for the designation and management process of Natura sites and MPAs

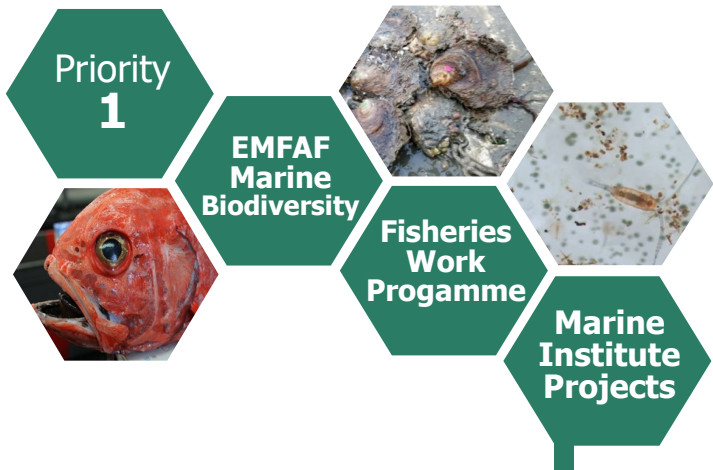


Reduce the use of fishing gear most harmful to biodiversity



Support restoration to improve the status of Habitats Directive Annex IV habitats and species

What projects have been implemented in the Marine Biodiversity Fisheries work programme ?



| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Species & Habitat Restoration | 1. Management of the crayfish fishery to protect critically endangered species. |
| | 2. Restoration of native oysters in Ireland |
| Natura Fisheries Support | 3. Implementation of Natura measures for fisheries |
| | 4. Provision of iVMS systems on vessels <12m |
| Biodiversity Policy Support | 5. Monitoring the recovery of exploited deep-water species |
| | 6. Plankton Survey and Analysis in Irish waters |
| | 7. Sea Shelf and Upper Slope Habitat Assessment |
| | 8. Ecosystem data collection on Irish fisheries surveys |
| | 9. Impacts of fishing and pollution on EPT species. Bycatch EPT programme |
| | 10. Investigating the stock structure of Pollack (Pollachius pollachius) for the purpose of sustainable fisheries management |
| Outreach | 11. Outreach and tech support |

What projects have been implemented in the Marine Biodiversity Aquaculture work programme ?



| | |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Natura Aquaculture Support | 1. Appropriate assessment of aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 Special Protection Areas |
| | 2. Appropriate assessment of aquaculture activities in Natura 2000 Special Areas of Conservation |
| | 3. ECCA: Ecological Carrying Capacity of Marine Ecosystems |
| | 4. Measure the effectiveness of mitigation measures of managed activities (aquaculture) carried out in Natura sites |
| | 5. Expertise to carry out AA reporting as it relates to aquaculture and fisheries. |
| | 6. Salmon Stock Baseline Farm Introgression |
| | 7. Mapping the distribution of the Pacific oyster, <i>Magallana gigas</i> in Ireland. |

What are EU Operations of Strategic Importance ?

**EU Operation
of
Strategic Importance
2021 - 2026**



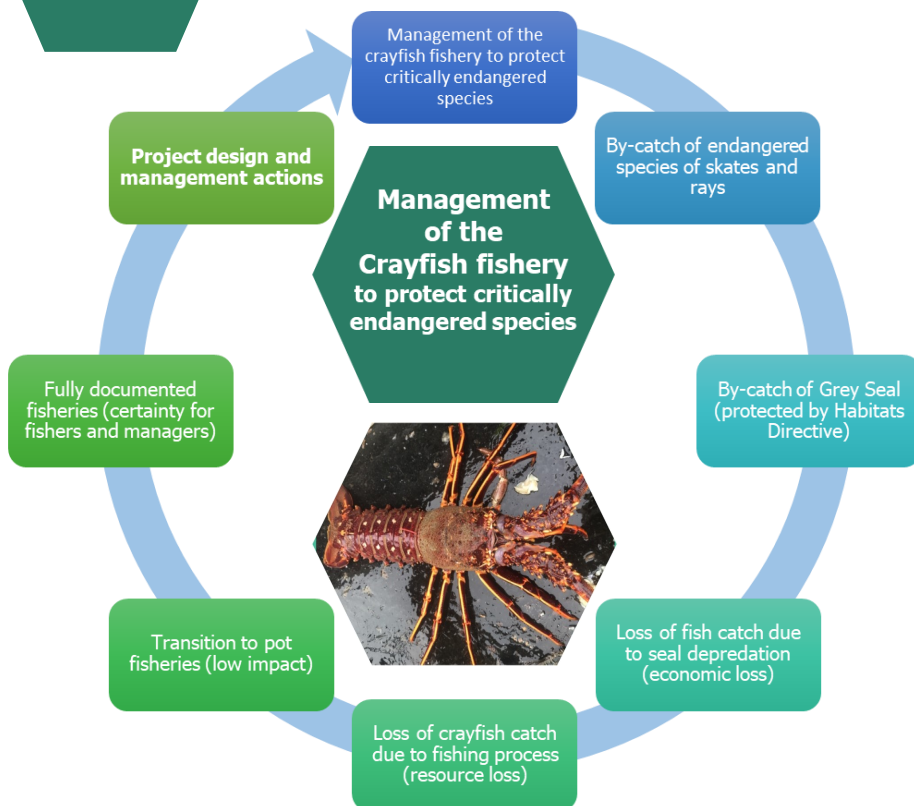
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Marine
Biodiversity**

Operations of strategic provide a significant contribution to the achievement of the objectives of the EMFAF programme.

The aim is to ensure higher visibility of EU support. Therefore, communicating seeks to tell the story of the programme in a symbolic way and bring policy achievements closer to everyone's understanding

Operations are chosen based on their 'significant contribution and could be based on relevant challenges, development needs and national or regional plans.

What EMFAF Marine Biodiversity Project is an EU Operation of Strategic Importance ?



What are the main Actions of Priority 4 Marine Knowledge Scheme Implemented by the Marine institute ?

Priority
4

Strengthening international ocean governance and enabling seas and oceans to be safe, secure, clean and sustainably managed

Actions

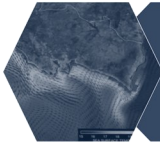
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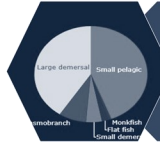
Data collection, access and analysis that will deliver on national obligations and measure changes in the marine environment



Ensure that Irish marine data and knowledge are made available to all relevant stakeholders



Ensure data compatibility



Understand different stakeholder needs and to ensure EMFAF programme outputs are available to developers, stakeholders and end users in appropriate formats



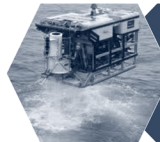
Improve the understanding of the impacts of human activities and climate change on the marine environment



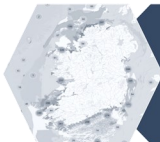
Increase cooperation, research collaboration and information sharing at national, EU and international level



Streamline Marine data coordination and processing needs



Quantify the potential of coastal habitats as carbon sinks

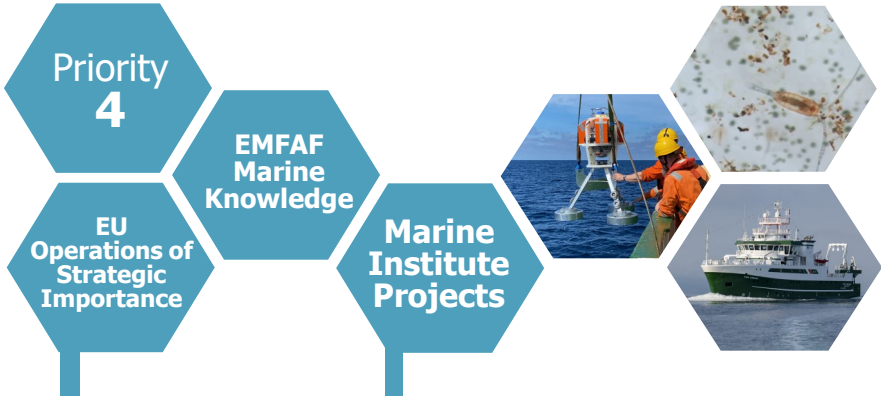


Enhance data quality to support evidence-based decision making



Improve understanding of marine activities that could increase resilience to climate change

What projects are being implemented by the Marine Knowledge Scheme ?



| | |
|--|--|
| Data and digital evidence services | 1. Coordination and integration of marine data to national and regional portals. |
| | 2. Advanced data analytics tools for scientific advice. |
| | 3. Data processing tools for marine observations. |
| Climate impacts in coastal and marine waters | 1. Reference laboratory for Marine Biogeochemistry Essential Climate Variables. |
| | 2. Integrating remote sensing into ecosystem change and marine management processes. |
| | 3. Developing Irish climate projection and decision support tools. |
| | 4. Establish and run sentinel observing sites for essential ocean variables. |

Interventions that contribute to strengthening sustainable sea and ocean management through the promotion of marine knowledge.



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As a global ocean actor and a major producer of seafood, the EU has a responsibility to protect and sustainably use the oceans and their resources. It is also in the EU's socio-economic interest to guarantee the availability of food supplies, the competitiveness of the maritime economy and the livelihood of coastal communities.

**The EMFAF fund helps achieve sustainable fisheries
and conserve marine biological resources**

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