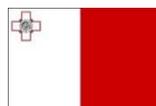


Training, Communication & Evaluation 2014-2020

Monitoring Committee
11th November 2016



Maritime and Fisheries Operational Programme 2014-2020
Part-financed by the European Union
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
Co-financing rate: 75% European Union; 25% National Funds



Investing in Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture

[a] Training Activities

- **Technical training** programmes to facilitate programme/project management and implementation. MA, CA and AA staff and related stakeholders attended various training seminars in 2016 including:
 - New Public Procurement Regulations Conference [28th March 2016]
 - Project Selection Committee Training [10th June 2016]
 - Establishing Simplified Cost Options & the Audit Process [5th July 2016]
 - Anti-Fraud Policy & Anti-Fraud Strategy for the FPD [27th July 2016]
 - FPD Corporate Risk Register [12th August 2016]
 - Performance Auditing Seminar [26-27th September 2016]
 - Seminar on Annual Accounts, Risk Assessment and Financial Corrections of ESI Funds 2014-2020 (27th – 28th October 2016, Berlin)
- **IT training programmes** in relation to the EMFF DB 14-20 - planned for 2017/2018
- **Skills development programmes** to provide human resources with the necessary aptitude to grow within the organisation such as the seminar organised by FPD on **Choosing the appropriate Value Set for FPD [9th May 2016]**

[b] Communication Activities

- Following the adoption of Malta's EMFF OP on 3 March 2015, **the official launch of the EMFF OP** in terms of publicity and communication activities was held on **26 March 2015** at the Mediterranean Conference Centre.
- This event was **widely publicised** on various online news portals, news bulletins of the day and also on the Government Department of Information [DOI] website.
- On **11th September 2016**, the MA participated in the **Marsaxlokk Fish Fest (Mir-Rahal tas-Sajjieda)** to promote the new EMFF OP. **Promotional material was distributed** during the event including: [i] USBs [ii] baseball caps and [iii] travel mugs. All promotional material bears the EMFF co-financing text.

[b] Communication Activities – Annual Event



[c] Evaluation

- As set out in Article 55 of Regulation [EU] No 1303/2013, the first phase of evaluation for the EMFF OP was implemented by the MA through the **Ex-ante Evaluation and Strategic Environmental Assessment [SEA]** on the EMFF for the programming period 2014-2020.
- This evaluation was carried with the **overall aim of improving the quality of the design of the EMFF OP and verifying whether its objectives and targets can be reached.**
- The ex-ante evaluation concluded that **a strong internal coherence exists within the OP**, not only between the specific objectives within the same Union Priority but also in terms of interdependencies across the Union Priorities. It was also observed that **the EMFF OP contributes to three flagship initiatives under the Europe2020 Strategy and shall support actions that contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth.**

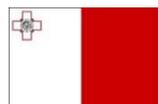
[c] Evaluation [continued]

- On 2nd March 2016 an **Evaluation Plan** [version 1] as developed by the MA was circulated amongst MC members for information purposes in view of Article 125 [2a] of Regulation [EU] No. 1303/2013.
- The purpose of this document was to **lay out in more detail the framework to be followed by Malta for the Evaluation Plan of the EMFF Programme in accordance with the plan set out in Section 10 of the EMFF OP** adopted in March 2015.
- **Evaluations shall be carried out by internal or external experts that are functionally independent of the MA.** Independent evaluators will thus undertake all evaluation activities identified in the Evaluation Plan and will provide support to the MA for the enhanced Annual Implementation Reports.

[c] Evaluation [continued]

- The Evaluation Plan identifies the following evaluation activities:
 - **Interim Evaluation of the EMFF Programme**
 - in order to effectively address the effectiveness, efficiency and impact of the programme, the evaluation plan proposes that the interim evaluation is postponed and conducted in the first quarter of 2019.
 - **Ex-post Evaluation of the EMFF Operational Programme [2014-2020]**
 - should programme implementation of the EMFF OP shows the need for an ex-post evaluation to be conducted by Malta.

Thank you for your attention



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