

Programme Summary
European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund –
Programme for Austria
CCI 2021AT14MFPR001

1. Programme overview

Total allocation: 15.000.000 EUR

EU contribution: 6.718.094 EUR

National contribution: 8.281.906 EUR

AT as a landlocked country implements EMFAF Priorities 1 and 2.

Priority 1: 0.73 MEUR (5%) for DC and control (traceability), 0.12 (1%) MEUR (inland fisheries, including contribution to climate neutrality)

Priority 2 : 14.1 MEUR (Aquaculture 10.8 MEUR (70%), Processing/Marketing 3.3 MEUR (21%))

Technical Assistance : 0.38 MEUR (3%)

Priority	Specific objective	Union contribution
1 – Promoting sustainable inland fisheries and data collection and control	1.4 – Promoting effective fisheries control and enforcement as well as reliable data for knowledge-based decision-making	504.000,00
	1.1.1 – Strengthening economically, socially and environmentally sustainable fishing activities	50.000,00
2 – Promoting sustainable aquaculture and the processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products	2.1 – Promoting sustainable aquaculture	4.433.825,00
	2.2 – Developing competitive, transparent and stable markets for	1.350.000,00

	fishery and aquaculture products, including their processing	
Technical assistance (Art 36(4) CPR)	5.1. Technical assistance in accordance with Article 36(4) CPR	380.269,00

2. Programme Summary

AT will cover Data Collection, Control (traceability of fishery and aquaculture products) and support for inland fisheries under the Priority 1. Innovation, productive investments in aquaculture, recirculation systems, processing and marketing are covered under the Priority 2.

AT considers the use of Financial Instruments (FIs) not suitable for the EMFAF Programme, but leaves the possibility to use them open. It remains possible to update the FIs ex-ante assessment in the future. The performance framework represents a good balance between ambition and current programming period experience. The selected indicators are in line with the COM common monitoring and evaluation system, including 8 result indicators, such as innovations enabled, entities improving resource efficiency in production and/or processing, new production capacity, etc. Output indicators are considered reliable and based on the current programming period experience.

Programme's climate change contribution is 64%. SEA was approved and submitted together with the Programme. AT multiannual national plan for aquaculture was approved and submitted to COM.

Following our advice, AT elaborated further Programme's contribution to the EU policy priorities outlined in the European Green Deal, Farm to Fork and Biodiversity strategies, moved towards more ambitious and innovative actions and listed its commitments to EU horizontal priorities. Marketing and communication activities are set out as Operations of Strategic Importance (OSI).

Contribution to EU horizontal priorities

Resilience: creation of digital marketing channels, such as online trade. Creation of shorter supply chain and digital marketing channels, diversifying business activities, decarbonisation, ensuring energy efficiency. Modernisation of fish farming and processing facilities and equipment. Austria does not intend to create POs as the sector is small and consists mainly of family businesses.

Green transition: interventions in inland fisheries and aquaculture are linked with green transition through development of organic production and focus on innovation. Contribution to biodiversity is stated through increased organic content, reduction of the use of resources such as pharmaceuticals and chemicals, improved animal health, reduction of dependence on critical feed materials from raw materials. Green transition will also be achieved through innovation projects aimed at green/circular economy farming and processing, decarbonisation, RAS, enhancing resource and energy efficiency of aquaculture and processing, production diversification.

Digital transition: will be achieved through wide range of innovative solutions (projects of innovative nature will be specially promoted). In aquaculture and marketing, the promotion of digital marketing tools is set as an important aim. There is also a general link to digitalisation of traceability solutions for data collection and control.

Added value of public investment: Austria does not consider to use Financial Instruments due to the small size of its fisheries and aquaculture sectors as well as of the programme itself. This might, however, be reconsidered at the later stage. The same applies to SCOs.

3. Partnership Agreement (PA)

AT PA was formally submitted on 29 July 2021 and adopted on 2 May 2022.

The EMFAF is mentioned under the PA Policy Objective 2. There are clear commitments and areas of intervention (data collection and traceability of fishery and aquaculture products, productive investments in aquaculture, recirculation systems, innovation, compensations, processing and marketing) that contribute to the objectives of the CFP, key EU priorities and the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies.

AT EMFAF Programme's synergies with other ESIF programmes, funds and Union instruments are outlined in the PA. Namely, the Horizon Europe (including the Ocean and waters mission) and other national programmes focusing on the environment or compensatory measures.