

A grant from the **European Fisheries Fund (EFF)** may significantly benefit your business if you are in the catching, aquaculture, fish processing sectors, are engaged in marketing or promoting fisheries products or for fishing communities.

Under the EFF programme some **£44 million from the European Union along with about £34 million from the Scottish Government** is available to Scotland over the period 2007-2013.

EFF Grants to assist mainly capital expenditure projects are available to established and fledgling businesses and also fisheries communities. Levels of assistance for successful applicants will **typically be between 40% to 60% of eligible project costs**, and sometimes higher.

European rules restrict aid to aquaculture and processing businesses within the European wide SME definition and those with less than 750 employees or a turnover of less than €200 million (around £160m which will vary according to the exchange rate).

The EFF Programme can aid;

- **Aquaculture,**
- **Fishing Vessels**
- **Fishing Port Facilities**
- **Measures of Common Interest**
- **Processing and Marketing**
- **Fisheries Dependent Communities.**

EFF SCHEMES

Aquaculture

Aid can cover capital costs for the construction, extension, equipment and modernisation of new and existing aquaculture enterprises, particularly for innovation, diversification and to improve welfare and environmental standards. Aid cannot be granted for the purchase of broodstock and juveniles of the species to be farmed.

Fishing Vessels

Aid is available to support the adoption of sustainable catching methods as well as improved storage, fish handling and energy efficiency. Support is also available for projects to improve the quality of fish on board the vessels, and thus its value at market, provided that this does not result in an increase in fishing effort. Aid is available to young, new entrants to support their first full or part share in a vessel. Aid for the construction of new vessels or for increases in fishholds is not permitted.

Fishing Port Facilities

This scheme provides aid to projects in active fishing ports which support the activities of the catching and aquaculture industries. Aid is available for a range of projects including; improving the conditions in which products are landed, processed, stored in port or auctioned; the repair and maintenance of fishing vessels,

improving safety and working conditions; the storage and treatment of waste and measures to reduce discards.

Measures of Common Interest

Aid under this scheme is available to enhance skills, promote competitiveness and profitability, develop new markets. The scheme can also support promotional campaigns for fisheries and aquaculture products, raise consumer awareness about new species and the merits of purchasing accredited fish. Aid can also be granted to pilot projects, studies and trials of new equipment and projects intended to minimise the impact on the environment.

Processing and Marketing

Grants are available for a variety of projects related to the preparation of products for human consumption and the treatment of related by-products or waste. Funding is also available to those wishing to undertake projects which will result in value being added to the produce, new and healthier products being produced and quality initiatives.

Sustainable Fisheries Communities

As under the established LEADER Programme in rural areas there will be a bottom-up approach with the aim of supporting local groups develop a Local Development Strategy for their community with specific projects that will bring local benefits.

How to apply

Simply complete the relevant application form and post it to the address at the bottom of this page or contact the Fisheries Grants Team for further help. Applications above £50K can be made at any time in the year with awards announced at least twice a year. Details of how to get an application form can be found below.

Who to contact for more information

Scheme Documentation

Our application forms and guidance notes are available on the internet at www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Fisheries/grants-subsidies

Or alternatively forms and scheme guidance can be obtained by contacting;

Fisheries Grants Team
Room 420
Pentland House
47 Robb's Loan
Edinburgh
EH14 1TY
Helpline 0131-244-6329
Email;
EFF.ScottishGovernment@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Processing & Marketing Scheme

For enquiries about the Processing and Marketing Scheme you should contact The Food Industry Grants Team;

Food Industry Unit
Room 431
47 Robb's Loan
Edinburgh
EH14 1TY
Tel: 0131-244-4762
Email;
pmginquiries@scotland.gsi.gov.uk,

Fisheries Dependent Communities

For enquiries about the fisheries dependent communities Scheme please contact;

Fisheries Dependent Communities
Room 518
Pentland House
47 Robb's Loan
Edinburgh
EH14 1TY,
Tel: 0131-244-4982
Email: ian.thomson@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

All Other Schemes

For enquiries about all other EFF Schemes or to discuss possible projects or obtain assistance in completing the application form please contact the Fisheries Grants Team using the details provided in this leaflet.

European Fisheries Fund Programme (Scotland) (2007-2013)

Grants for the sustainable
development of the Scottish
fisheries industry

Could your project benefit from EFF
assistance?

