OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA 2007-2013

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CONTENTS

1. TITLE OF OPERATIONAL DOCUMENT ........................................................................... 7

2. GEOGRAPHICAL ELIGIBILITY ...................................................................................... 8

3. ANALYSIS .................................................................................................................. 9
   3.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA .............................................................. 9
   3.2 ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES ....................... 10
      3.2.1 MARINE FISHING AND MARINE AQUACULTURE .................................. 10
         3.2.1.1 FISHING FLEET ............................................................................. 11
         3.2.1.2 FISHING EFFORT .......................................................................... 12
         3.2.1.3 CATCH ............................................................................................. 13
         3.2.1.4 FISH SPECIES ................................................................................... 14
         3.2.1.5 EMPLOYMENT AND ORGANISATION OF FISHERMEN .................. 15
         3.2.1.6 MARITIME TRAFFIC ..................................................................... 15
         3.2.1.7 NATURE PRESERVATION .................................................................. 16
         3.2.1.8 FISHING PORTS USED BY FISHERMEN FOR LANDING CATCHES ... 16
         3.2.2 FRESHWATER AQUACULTURE ................................................................. 17
            3.2.2.1 PRODUCTION .................................................................................. 17
            3.2.2.2 FISH SPECIES ............................................................................... 19
            3.2.2.3 FISH CONSUMPTION ..................................................................... 19
            3.2.2.4 EMPLOYMENT AND ORGANISATION ................................................. 19
         3.2.3 PROCESSING ............................................................................................ 20
         3.2.4 MARKETING .......................................................................................... 20
       3.2.5 ADMINISTRATION INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EFF ................................................................. 21
   3.3 MAIN EXPERIENCES FROM PREVIOUS PROGRAMMING PERIOD ............. 22
   3.4 CONTEXT INDICATORS AND DATA SOURCES ............................................. 24
   3.5 DRIVING FORCES AND DEVELOPMENTAL TENDENCIES ....................... 25
   3.6 SWOT ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME .................................................................................. 26
   3.7 DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS ..................................... 27
   3.8 DESCRIPTION OF EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN .................... 29
   3.9 MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE ANALYSIS ........................................................... 29

4. OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME LEVEL STRATEGY .................................................. 31
   4.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME ................ 31
   4.2 SPECIFIC PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND RESULT INDICATORS .............. 34
   4.3 CALENDAR AND INTERMEDIARY OBJECTIVES .......................................... 38

5. SUMMARY OF THE EX ANTE EVALUATION .......................................................... 41
   5.1 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) PROCEDURE ........ 42
      5.1.2 A NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT, MEASURES DECIDED CONCERNING MONITORING (ANNEX I (J) AND ARTICLE 9(1)(C) OF THE SEA DIRECTIVE) ................................................. 46
6. PRIORITY AXES OF THE PROGRAMME ................................................................. 52
  6.1 TARGET GROUPS AND BENEFICIARIES ....................................................... 54
  6.2 PRIORITY AXIS 1: MEASURES FOR THE ADAPTATION OF THE
SLOVENIAN FISHING FLEET ......................................................................... 54
    6.2.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 1 .............................. 55
    6.2.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS ....................... 56
    6.2.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE ........... 56
      6.2.3.1 PERMANENT CESSATION OF FISHING ACTIVITIES ................. 57
      6.2.3.2 TEMPORARY CESSATION OF FISHING ACTIVITIES ................. 58
      6.2.3.3 INVESTMENTS ON BOARD FISHING VESSELS AND SELECTIVITY
                                                                 59
      6.2.3.4 SMALL-SCALE COASTAL FISHING ............................................. 61
      6.2.3.5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMPENSATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF
    THE FLEET .................................................................................. 62
  6.3. AXIS 2: AQUACULTURE, INLAND FISHING, PROCESSING AND
MARKETING OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS ..................... 63
    6.3.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 2 .............................. 64
    6.3.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS ....................... 64
    6.3.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE .......... 66
      6.3.3.1 PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENTS IN AQUACULTURE ..................... 66
      6.3.3.2 AQUA ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES .................................... 68
      6.3.3.3 PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES .............................................. 69
      6.3.3.4 ANIMAL HEALTH MEASURES .......................................... 70
      6.3.3.5 PROCESSING AND MARKETING ........................................... 71
  6.4. AXIS 3: MEASURES OF COMMON INTEREST ............................................. 72
    6.4.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 3 .............................. 72
    6.4.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS ....................... 73
    6.4.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE .......... 74
      6.4.3.1 COLLECTIVE ACTIONS ...................................................... 74
      6.4.3.2 FISHING PORTS, LANDING SITES AND SHELTERS ................. 76
      6.4.3.3 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MARKETS AND PROMOTIONAL
    CAMPAIGNS ........................................................................... 78
  6.5. AXIS 4: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES AREAS ............... 80
    6.5.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 4 .............................. 81
    6.5.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS ....................... 82
    6.5.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE .......... 82
      6.5.3.1 SELECTING A COASTAL ACTION GROUP AND A LOCAL
    DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY ......................................................... 83
      6.5.3.2 IMPLEMENTING THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY ............ 84
  6.6. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE ........................................................................ 86
    6.6.1 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS ....................... 87
    6.6.2 RATIONALE FOR THE INCREASED TOTAL FOR TECHNICAL
    ASSISTANCE ........................................................................... 87
  6.7. INFORMATION ON COMPLEMENTARITY WITH OTHER FUNDS ............... 88
    6.7.1 EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT ... 88
    6.7.2 COMPLIANCE WITH COHESION POLICY .................................... 90
      6.7.2.1 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL
    DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL ..................................................... 91
      6.7.2.2 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN RESOURCE
    DEVELOPMENT .......................................................................... 92
6.7.2.3 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE ................................................. 93

7. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS ......................................................................................................................................................................................... 97

8. IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS .................................................................................................................................................................................. 98

8.1 DEFINING COMPETENT AND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES .................................................. 100

8.2 AUTHORITY COMPETENT TO RECEIVE COMMISSION PAYMENTS AND PAYMENT AUTHORITY FOR BENEFICIARIES ......................................................... 105

8.3 CONTACT POINTS ......................................................................................................................................................................................... 105

8.4 DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES TO RELEASE AND CIRCULATION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS ........................................................................................................... 106

8.5 DESCRIPTION OF THE MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM AND COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE ............................................................................. 108

8.5.1 EVALUATION ..................................................................................................................................................................................... 108

8.5.2 MONITORING ..................................................................................................................................................................................... 109

8.6 ENVISAGED COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE ............................................. 110

8.7 PROCEDURES FOR DATA EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATE IN ELECTRONIC FORM .............................................................. 111

8.8 DEFINITION OF PARTNERS AND RESULTS OF COOPERATION .............................................. 111

8.8.1 RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATIONS AND COOPERATION ......................................................................................................................... 113

8.9 ELEMENTS ENSURING OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY .............................................................................................................................................................................. 113

8.9.1 MEASURES TO INFORM POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES ................................................................................................................................. 113

8.9.2 PLANNED MEASURES TO INFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION ......................................................................................................................... 115

8.9.3 MEASURES TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE COMMUNITY ROLE IN THE PROGRAMME AND RESULTS .............................................................................. 115

8.9.4 ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINAL REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION .................................................. 115

9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION ................................................................................................................................. 117

10. ANNEXES ...................................................................................................................................................................................................................... 118
STATEMENT

This document is a version that was consolidated in the SEA procedure. It takes into account the comments made in the Environmental report and its Supplement for protected areas and revision, as well as the comments of the Ministry for Culture and the Ministry of Health within the procedure of adopting an opinion on compliance of the Environmental report and the Operational programme 2007-2013.

More detailed clarifications are given in the chapter Description of environmental conditions, SEA procedure.

A compulsory annex and a part of this operational programme is also the Environmental report for the Operational programme on fisheries development in the RS 2007-2013 of 29 May, which was completed in July 2008 on the basis of the comments made by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Health, No. 1150-08 OP, which was prepared by the enterprise Aquarius from Ljubljana.

The mitigation measures set out in the Environmental report will be taken into account in the implementation of the operational programme.
ABBREVIATIONS AND SYMBOLS

AAMRD Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development
ARSE Agency of the RS for Environment
CAFS Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia
CAG Coastal action group
CAP Common Agricultural Policy
CFP Common Fisheries Policy
DOPPS BirdLife Slovenia
e.g. example given
EAFRD European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development
EC European Community
ECom European Commission
EFF European Fisheries Fund
ESF European Social Fund
EU European Union
EUR Euro
EUROSTAT Statistical Office of the European Communities
FAO Food and Agriculture Organisation
FIFG Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance
GDP Gross Domestic Product
GOLSGRP Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy
LAG Local action group
LEADER Liaison Entre Actions de Développement de l'Economie Rurale (EC initiative supporting rural communities in improving the quality of life and economic welfare in their local areas)
m Meter
MA Managing Authority
MAFF Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
MESP Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning
MF Ministry of Finance
Mio. Million
mm Millimetre
NGO Non-governmental organisation
No Number
NPEP National Programme on Environmental Protection
NSPRD National Strategy Plan of the Rural Development of RS
NSRF National Strategic Reference Framework
NUTS Nomenclature of Territorial Statistical Units - system of region classification
OJ L EU Official Journal L series (Legislation) of the European Union
OJ RS Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia
RS Republic of Slovenia
SIT Slovenian tolar
SLO Slovenia
SMEs Small and medium sized enterprises
SORS Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia
SPD Single programming document
SWOT Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats
t Tonne
WB Water bodies
1. TITLE OF OPERATIONAL DOCUMENT


The purpose of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 is to define main measures within the four priority axes for the development of Slovenian fisheries, aquaculture and processing in accordance with the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy and guiding principles for the operational programme from Article 19 of the EFF Regulation and considering the analysis of the current state and development tendencies in the sector.

The preparation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 involved economic and social partners and other interested representatives of the civil society as well as state authorities and local communities.
2. GEOGRAPHICAL ELIGIBILITY

The OP fisheries 2007-2013 will be implemented for the entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia. The Republic of Slovenia has assumed the obligation to manage and implement the OP.

In accordance with Regulation (EC) N° 1059/2003 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 May 2003 on the establishment of a common classification of territorial units for statistics (NUTS), Slovenia is a single region at the NUTS 2 level, and is fully eligible to assistance within the convergence objective.
3. ANALYSIS

3.1 GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE FISHERIES SECTOR IN THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

The description of the fisheries sector takes into account that the elaboration of the operational programme requires an approach more analytical than the National Strategic Plan of Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: NSP), in order to identify positive and negative trends on which the programme could have an impact.

The figures and context indicators used in this analysis of the fisheries sector are updated where possible in relation to the figures used in the description of the fisheries sector included in the NSP.

In this operational programme, the term fisheries sector describes the sector of economy including all activities of production, processing and marketing of fishing and aquaculture products.

In Slovenia, the fisheries sector represents only 0,018 % of the added value created by the Slovenian economy or 0,014 % of the GDP (last 5 years average). In these numbers, however, only few commercial activities of the sector are taken into consideration. Activities like processing of fish and other water animals, marketing of fisheries products, as well as fish farming are not included. The approximate estimated added value of this part of the sector is about 0,05 % of the Slovenian GDP. In absolute amount the added value of the main sector B (without G and D) is about 3,8 mio EUR. The Slovenian fisheries sector, including processing and marketing of fisheries products, provides a relatively small contribution on the national level (in the last years about 400 persons were employed in sector B - fishing and aquaculture which is about 0,04 % of all people employed in Slovenia). Nevertheless, fishing, aquaculture and processing and marketing provide vital employment on regional (local) level, especially in the coastal area. The statistical data (Statistical Register of Employment) show that the economically active population was higher in aquaculture than in fishing. The trend in recent years, however, is a decrease of people employed in fishing and an increase of people employed in aquaculture, processing and marketing, and it is expected to continue.

Due to a lack of added value in the fisheries sector (B) in comparison with the Slovenian average, salaries are lagging behind this average too. The average gross salary in Slovenia in the end of 2005 was 1.212 EUR - in fisheries, however, 1.007 EUR. The lowest gross and net salaries are in the sector fishing, processing, producing and marketing of fisheries products. The highest average salaries in the sector are in aquaculture. They are, however, below the Slovenian average as well.

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1 Statistical data for fisheries sector are collected on the basis of the Standard Classification of Activities of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia which encompasses 17 fields (A-Q). Fisheries sector is defined within the sector B where – from commercial activities – only fishing and aquaculture are taken into consideration. The data on processing activities and marketing are collected within sector D (processing activities) and sector G (trade, repair of motor vehicles and consumer goods). Source: Oplotnik, Jan Žan: Analiza ribiškega sektorja, 2006/Analysis of the fisheries sector, 2006.
3.2 ANALYSIS OF NATIONAL AND LOCAL CIRCUMSTANCES

3.2.1 MARINE FISHING AND MARINE AQUACULTURE

In Slovenia, marine fishing is the only commercial fishing activity. It is important to the coastal and Karst region. At sea, also farming of fish and shellfish exists. Marine aquaculture facilities can be found in Slovenian maritime territorial waters in the Sv. Jernej Bay at Debeli Rtič, in Strunjan Bay and Piran Bay. Platforms for sea fish are found exclusively in Piran Bay. Within mussel farming, Blue mussel is mainly farmed and within swimming cages for farmed fish, seabass and seabream are the main species. Since 2005 the fishermen's interest in mussel farming increased. This is shown by data on the higher number of persons in employment and the higher number of annual work units in marine aquaculture as well as by the data on enlarged areas of shell farms. In accordance with the data from Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia (hereinafter: SORS), the production in marine aquaculture was 192,858 kg in 2006 and 226,970 kg in 2005.

The Slovenian coast is about 46 km long. The border of maritime waters of the Republic of Slovenia is not yet set in spite of the fact that they are discussed in the Maritime Code of the

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2 It is of major importance to three coastal municipalities: Koper, Izola and Piran. A map of coastal municipalities is annexed to the OP.

3 The map of shellfish farming areas is annexed to the OP. Fishbreeding area is next to the shellfish farming area in the Piran Bay.

The Slovenian fisheries sector is still affected by the outstanding political issue of sea border delimitation with the Republic of Croatia and non-implementation of the fisheries part of a bilateral agreement, which has adverse effects on commercial fisheries in the disputed sea border area. After Slovenia gained its independence in 1991, the area where Slovenian fishermen carry out fishing activities was reduced. The reduction of the fishing area had a particularly negative impact on small-scale fishermen because their gears were then limited to fishing in the national sea and thus the pressure on these resources increased. Further restrictions on commercial sea fisheries were brought about by changes to the shipping regime to the commercial port of Koper in December 2004, which abolished existing rules giving priority of way to fishing vessels over commercial ships.

Most of the fishing activities are carried out in territorial waters. However, about 42 % (in 2006) of the Slovenian catch is taken by the two biggest vessels which are fishing in international waters as well.

Slovenia has three official fishing ports (Koper, Piran, Izola), which all need modernising (especially mooring facilities and infrastructure arrangements). The only commercial port in Slovenia is in Koper, which is separated from the public fishing port.

3.2.1.1  FISHING FLEET

The total gross tonnage of all Slovenian fishing vessels registered in the Fishing Vessel Register on 1 October 2007 (175 vessels) was 967,54 GT, while the total power (main engine) was at 10.307,63 kW. About 86 % of vessels in the fleet are shorter than 12 metres. On average, the Slovenian fishing fleet is old. The majority of the vessels was constructed in 60., 70. and 80. of the last century. After 2000, 10 new vessels were built. About 45 % of all vessels is more than 30 years old. The oldest age category remain vessels from 12 to 18 meters length overall.

The structure of the Slovenian fishing fleet according to size and age of the vessel is shown in the tables below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE OF THE VESSEL</th>
<th>GT</th>
<th>KW</th>
<th>NUMBER OF VESSELS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 5,9</td>
<td>74,07</td>
<td>735,26</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6-11,9</td>
<td>240,01</td>
<td>4328,90</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12-17,9</td>
<td>310,30</td>
<td>3844,47</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-23,9</td>
<td>30,76</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 24</td>
<td>312,40</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOGETHER</td>
<td>967,54</td>
<td>10.307,63</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Structure of the Slovenian fishing fleet according to the size of the vessels. Source: MAFF, Fishing Vessel Register, InfoRib, 1.10.2007.
At the moment, most numerous within the Slovenian fishing fleet is a segment of gill netters (more than 60 % of the vessels). It is followed by a segment of trawlers (20 % of all vessels) and a segment of multipurpose vessels (7,5 % of all vessels), a segment of purse seiners (5,4 % of all vessels), a segment with traps (2,2 % of all vessels) etc.

In spite of the general opinion that in the Slovenian fishing fleet multipurpose vessels prevail, the data have shown that the majority of vessels is specialized and that about 70 vessels use one type of fishing gear only; 16 vessels account for more than 90 % of landings with one or a combination of very similar fishing gear.

For the purposes of the Management Plan of sea fishing in the waters that are under jurisdiction of the Republic of Slovenia a segmentation of the Slovenian fishing fleet was made based on the data on the use of different types of fishing gears. The data on landings from the logbooks were used, too. The affiliation to a specific segment was defined by taking into account a 90 % share of landings, caught with a certain type or a group of types of fishing gears.4

3.2.1.2  FISHING EFFORT

The data on fishing effort are calculated for specific fishing gear, using so-called Schaefers model. For the vessels with surrounding nets it has been established that they use two types of them: purse seines and lampara nets. On the basis of the data on fishing trips a standard fishing vessel was defined, which makes 75 fishing trips per year. With the use of the Schaefers model for the estimation of biggest sustainable catch it has been established that fishing vessels with surrounding nets could do 1123 fishing trips. This means that the number of fishing vessels with surrounding nets could be raised from 5 to 15.

As for bottom trawls Slovenian fishing vessels use demersal otter trawls only. A standard fishing vessel with this fishing gear makes 116,2 fishing trips in one calendar year. As the estimation using Schaefers model foresees 704 fishing trips in one calendar year, only 6 standard fishing vessels with this gear could be used in the future. The number of vessels that are using this gear should be reduced to this number.

A standard fishing vessel with pelagic trawls does 1205 hours of fishing in one calendar year. As the estimation using Schaefers model foresees 1222 hours of fishing in one calendar year, only one standard fishing vessel with pelagic trawls could be used. Without respect to the number of fishing vessels with this type of gear we should not exceed 1222 hours of fishing in one calendar year.

However, when planning the reduction of the fleet the data on economic performance of the fleet would be useful. So far, no such data have been collected and we are only starting collecting socio-economic data on the fishing fleet.

4 Due to a simplification fishing gears of types GN, GTR and GNS (gillnets, trammel nets, set gillnets) were put together, as well as fishing gears of types LLS and LL (set lines and longliners).
Landings in the beginning of the 80s of the last century increased very fast and reached a top in 1983 with 7,916 tonnes of fish landed. An increase in landings appeared due to the introduction of a new fishing gear – the pelagic trawl. There was a noticeable decline in the sea catch and consequently total production from the 1990 levels onwards, and particularly in the most recent years. The average total catch between 1993 and 2004 was just less than 1,700 tonnes; in 1990 this figure was just below 6,000 tonnes. It reached the lowest point in 2004 with 808 tonnes of fish landed. Catches of pelagic fish, primarily sardines and anchovies represent the majority of the Slovenian sea fishing catch. However, in last years anchovies prevail. Pelagic fish accounted for an average of 86 % of the total catch between 1990 and 2004 (in 2004 this figure was only 46 %, or 373 tonnes). Between 2000 and 2004, just less than 74 % (average figure) of the total catch was made by the country’s largest fishing concern. In the last two years, as a result of reduced sardine catches and the competitive sale of the two largest fishing vessels, this percentage has fallen significantly (to 56 % in 2004).

Main reasons for rapid decrease in landings in the beginning of the 90. were the loss of markets of former Yugoslavia, as well as reduction of the fishing sea. The reasons for proportionally low landings in last years must be looked for in connection with the state of pelagic fisheries resources in Adriatic sea. Namely, in the period between 2003 and 2006 the pelagic fish share in landings decreased to 83,3 %, the demersal fish share in landings increased to 9,0 %, as well as a Cephalopods nei share to 6,4 %. The majority of fish was caught, however, with pelagic pair trawls (60,7 %), purse seines followed with 23, 3 % of landings. Demersal otter trawls took the third place with 12, 3 % of landings. All other types of fishing gears contributed a share of 3, 7 % in landings.

In the table below shares of categories of organisms in landings of Slovenian fishing vessels are represented in the period from 2001 to 2006 (Source: SORS to 2004 and InfoRib from 2005 to 2006):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2001</th>
<th>2002</th>
<th>2003</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pelagic fish</td>
<td>86,6</td>
<td>92,0</td>
<td>84,1</td>
<td>82,4</td>
<td>83,6</td>
<td>85,1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Demersal fish</td>
<td>4,9</td>
<td>4,2</td>
<td>9,4</td>
<td>9,4</td>
<td>8,9</td>
<td>8,2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cephalopods nei</td>
<td>8,1</td>
<td>3,4</td>
<td>5,7</td>
<td>7,1</td>
<td>6,8</td>
<td>6,4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bivalve and gastropod molluscs</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,1</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marine crustaceans</td>
<td>0,2</td>
<td>0,3</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>0,8</td>
<td>0,5</td>
<td>0,3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
<td>100,0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 3: Shares of organisms in landings of Slovenian fishing vessels in the period from 2001 to 2006 (Source: SORS to 2004 and InfoRib from 2005 to 2006)

Among pelagic fish in the period between 2003 and 2006 sardine prevailed with 53.8 %. Anchovy followed with 36.9 %. The majority of pelagic fish is caught by two bigger Slovenian fishing vessels that follow their migration in international waters of the Northern Adriatic sea. Therefore, landings of pelagic fish do not represent a real state of those fish in the territorial sea of the Republic of Slovenia.

In the landings of Cephalopods nei in the period between 2003 and 2006 Curled octopus (Eledone moschata) prevailed with 49.2 % and common cuttlefish (Sepia officinalis) with 40.8 %. European squid (Loligo vulgaris) was represented with 9.7 %, whereas shares of other species of Cephalopods nei were negligible.

Bivalve and gastropod molluscs in Slovenian landings are represented with negligible shares. Scallops nei predominate with 33.1 % - warty venus (Venus verrucosa) and Mediterranean mussel (Mytilus galloprovincialis) follow with 22 %. In landings of gastropod molluscs mainly Phyllonotus trunculus appears with 6.1 % and Bolinus brandarius with a negligible share.

Crustaceans are represented with a negligible share in Slovenian landings. Spottail mantis squillid (Squilla mantis) represents a major share with 96.4 %, whereas shares of other species are negligible.

The majority of maritime catch is sold to a known buyer (processing industry, intermediate traders) and a big part of the production in freshwater farming is sold on smaller local markets.

The majority of stocks targeted by Slovenian fishermen seasonally immigrates and emigrates. One of the reasons is as well shallowness of the sea and the northernmost position in the Adriatic sea. Therefore, due to migrations of stocks certain stocks can be monitored only in a part of the year, while there are no data for the other part of the year.

3.2.1.4 FISH SPECIES

The fact that Slovenian fishermen catch common Adriatic stocks (shared stocks) is not negligible. In the Mediterranean and Adriatic Seas several stocks of fishing organisms exist that are exploited by fisheries of different countries. Slovenian data that are available are collected on a relatively small part of areal of certain stock.\(^5\)

There are about 380 indigenous species in the Adriatic sea. In last years, 36 new non-indigenous species were recognised, mainly from warmer seas. We can divide them in two groups.

- **Pelagic species:** there are 18 pelagic species, 12 out of which are economically important. These are: Sardine, Anchovy, Mullet, European sprat, Jack and Horse mackerels nei, Mackerels nei, Blotched picarel, Round sardinella, Mackerel of the species Scomber japonicus, Garfish and Bonito.

- **Demersal species:** there are 45 demersal species, of which 17 species are economically important. These are: Whiting, Common sole, Gadiformes nei, Common pandora, Gilthead sea bream, Smooth-hounds nei, Surmullets nei, European

\(^5\) Smallness of the area where the data are collected is one of the reasons as well for unsuccessful estimation of stocks.
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

flounder, Big-scale sand smelt, Black Goby, Hake, European sea bass, Ray's bream, Red bandfish (*Cepola macrophtalma*), Salema, Bogue, Gumards nei.

From all above-mentioned species we can define as *migratory* the following species: Sardine, Anchovy, European sprat, Jack and horse mackerels nei, Round sardinella, Mackeral of the species *Scomber japonicus*, Garfish and Bonito.

Marine aquaculture includes shellfish farms (blue mussel) and floating cages (sea bass, gilthead bream).

3.2.1.5 EMPLOYMENT AND ORGANISATION OF FISHERMEN

**Employment**

In 2005, 159 persons in employment were engaged in the activities of marine fishing and marine aquaculture: 142 persons were engaged in sea commercial fishing and 17 persons in marine aquaculture. Compared to 2004, the number of persons in employment in both economic activities (sea fishing and marine aquaculture) increased by 1.9% (3 persons). However, data on the labour input indicate that more and more persons employed in fishing are re-oriented to other activities, among them to the shell farming.

In 2005, from 142 persons employed in sea commercial fishing, 132 men were men and 10 women. There were no women employed in marine aquaculture. From all employed people in sea commercial fishing and marine aquaculture (159), 72 persons were employed full-time and 87 persons part-time or seasonal or occasional work.6

**Organisation**

There are no Producers' organisations in fishing and marine aquaculture. Slovenian fishermen are not organised in a way to have an association or union, in order to be better represented or to have better working conditions. In the past, few fishermen tried to organise. However, those attempts failed due to several reasons. There are only individual fishermen. They are mainly represented through the Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia.

Therefore, organisation and connection of fishermen should be improved in order to achieve a better communication among the fishermen themselves, as well as with the state.

3.2.1.6 MARITIME TRAFFIC

The use of sea in maritime traffic encompasses the water surfaces of ports (public international traffic, traffic for army purposes, public traffic and traffic for special purposes (sport, tourism etc.); berths and navigational routes. Fishing in ports is prohibited by law (Maritime Code of the Republic of Slovenia, official consolidated text, Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, No 120/2006). Due to a traffic separation scheme in Trieste Bay maritime traffic has great influence on fishing vessels traffic. To diminish possibilities of accidents or ship collision The Republic of Croatia and Italy have come to an agreement to build up a common traffic separation system and a traffic separation scheme in the northern part on North Adriatic Sea.7 A traffic separation scheme passes through the middle of Trieste

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6 Source: SORS, Marine fishing - persons in employment, fishing vessels and gear, Slovenia, 2005
7 Act Ratifying Memorandum on agreement between the Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Government of the Republic of Croatia and the Government of the Republic of Italy for the adoption of
Bay, so the part of the scheme that is intended for shipping of vessels from South Adriatic Sea to the ports of Koper, Trieste and Treviso is located in Slovenian waters, along with the national border with Italy in a belt, which is on average about 2,5 Nautical Miles wide. Fishing, nevertheless, is allowed in the system of traffic separation, but under the condition that fishing vessels during fishing shall not impede the traffic of ships, that are going in the direction of the navigational route. This means that fishing in the above-mentioned area of Slovenian waters is impeded. In the last two years it came to two bigger collisions. As fishing vessels are not equipped with AIS (Automatic Identification System) stations (the map below is taken from an AIS system), Maritime Administration of the Republic of Slovenia can not interfere in time.

The map below shows the scheme and the directions of traffic.

![Traffic separation scheme](image)

**Picture 1: Traffic separation scheme. Source: Maritime Administration of the Republic of Slovenia**

3.2.1.7  NATURE PRESERVATION

As far as nature preservation is concerned, there are two fishing reserves in Slovenian waters that are intended for fisheries resources protection: Portorož fisheries reserve and Strunjan fisheries reserve with salt fields.

Commercial fishing and recreational fishing are prohibited in both of them on the basis of the Marine Fisheries Act. However, regardless of this prohibitions winter fishing of mullets on the basis of a special fishing permit as well as recreational fishing from the coast are allowed.8

3.2.1.8  FISHING PORTS USED BY FISHERMEN FOR LANDING CATCHES

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Fishing ports policy in Slovenia is undertaken mainly by the Ministry of Transport and MAFF. There is only one commercial port (in Koper), and three fishing ports (in Izola, Koper, Piran) are intended for landing of fish.

When we speak about the connection between fisheries as a traditional value at the coast and tourism it is necessary to stress the importance of settled and properly organised fishing ports. So far, fishermen of all three coastal municipalities were dispersed all along the coast. Existing fishing ports were this way loosing their primary intention. Fishermen who need basic equipment to work in a proper manner (boxes to keep equipment safe, ice machines, fresh water supply etc.) started being de-motivated to cooperate with local communities, which are mostly interested in investing in more profitable activities.

CONCLUSIONS

Slovenia should seek to:

- Support conservation by various measures,
- Restructure and modernise the Slovenian fishing fleet,
- Establish an efficient and sustainable fishing fleet,
- Modernise fishing gears and selectivity and introduce more environmentally friendly methods,
- Help fishermen to organise themselves in a better way,
- Modernise fishing ports in order to achieve better working conditions of fishermen,
- Improve safety at sea.

3.2.2 FRESHWATER AQUACULTURE

Freshwater fish farming encompasses numerous aquaculture facilities that are spread around Slovenia. They mainly cover the needs of local markets. An expansion in production, however, and number of aquaculture facilities (that have mainly smaller capacities) is characteristic for the last 15 years when production tripled. Due to strong competition of the sector, it is difficult to foresee continuing expansion in the future.

Slovenian freshwater aquaculture production is not comparable with production in bigger European aquaculture facilities. It is, however, important for the Slovenian market which is supplied with fresh and quality fish.

As aquaculture on a national level has not been a part of bigger financial supports, a lot of aquaculture facilities are technologically undeveloped and obsolete (e.g. there is a need of water aeration, automatic foddering and mainly mechanised processing of fish inside the plant). Also a need to diversify rearing of domestic and non-domestic species was expressed among fish farmers.

3.2.2.1 PRODUCTION

In recent years there has been a significant increase in the scope of aquaculture, particularly freshwater rearing. Slovenia’s hydrological characteristics are reflected in the numerous small aquaculture farms (circa 500 freshwater sites, 10 % of which are hatcheries, and the
remainder involved in intense multi-purpose rearing). A map below shows aquaculture plants (warm-water and cold-water).  

![Aquaculture Plants Map](image)

**Picture 2: Fresh water aquaculture plants in Slovenia (Source: Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia)**

**Explanation of the map:**

- **cold-water aquaculture**
- **warm-water aquaculture**

The warm-water aquaculture is found mainly in the north eastern part of Slovenia, where we have better geographical and climatic conditions. Production is mostly in a half-intensive form in multipurpose breeding ponds (from 1 up to 60 hectares).

Considering European criteria, we practically do not have hermetically closed systems of freshwater aquaculture.

In 2006, 1,174,270 kg of freshwater fish were produced. A larger part of the total production was covered by cold-water fish: in 2006 900,966 kg of cold-water fish were produced and 273,304 kg of warm-water fish were produced.

With the accession of Slovenia to the EU in May 2004 fish farming, however, significantly decreased. The main reasons were a substantial fall in prices due to the common market and the pressure of competition. An additional obstacle to full exploitation of the available

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9 This map is only provisional. Slovenia is in a phase of setting up a Fisheries register that will collect the data on aquaculture facilities, production from aquaculture units and hatcheries etc. Especially, there are warm-water aquaculture facilities missing on the map.
resources was the very stringent national legislation posing numerous administrative barriers mainly in the procedures for the acquisition of concessions.

The estimation of the average value of farmed fish in Slovenian aquaculture for the period 2001-2003 was EUR 3.8 million.

3.2.2.2 FISH SPECIES

The main species produced for sale are rainbow trout, brook trout and brown trout, while open waters are stocked with grayling, Soča trout (marble trout) and Danube salmon. For the re-stocking of open waters, however, we also breed grayling, marble trout and huchen.

Warm-water aquaculture is generally semi-intensive. Grass carp and Common carp, as well as other domestic species such as pike-perch and pike are reared in addition to carp.

3.2.2.3 FISH CONSUMPTION

Average fish consumption per capita in Slovenia is estimated from 6 to 7 kg/year (2004) and is much lower than in other EU Member States. These estimations are of indicative character since there are no sufficient data to establish a standardized balance in the production and consumption of fish and fisheries products in Slovenia.

3.2.2.4 EMPLOYMENT AND ORGANISATION

Employment

Statistical data for 2004 show that about 202 persons were employed in fresh-water fish farming. Out of this, 82 persons were employed full-time and 120 part-time or seasonal (occasional) work. About 156 persons were men and 46 women which shows that more women work in fresh-water fish farming than in fishing. Partial data available for 2006 show 187 employed persons working in fresh-water and marine aquaculture.

Statistical data show a significant increase in the total number of working persons in commercial fishing and aquaculture together for the period 1996-2004.

Organisation

Just like in the fishing sub-sector, there are no Producers’ organisations in the aquaculture sub-sector either. Fish farmers have no organisation, union or association that would represent their interests. They are mainly represented through the Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia.

CONCLUSIONS:

Slovenia should seek to:

- Modernise existing aquaculture facilities,
- Introduce more environmentally friendly technologies,
- Introduce diversity in fish farmed,
- Support the introduction of closed systems,
• Improve working conditions of fish farmers,
• Support organisation of fish farmers in order to represent their interests,
• Increase the annual production.

3.2.3 PROCESSING

Slovenia has only few companies engaged exclusively in the processing of fish. These companies process sea fish and other sea animals. The biggest processing company is located on the Slovenian coast. However, processing plants exist within aquaculture plants.

In the period 1996-2004 the number of employed persons in fish processing industry has decreased. The largest processing company employed 180 people in 2003 (76 % of the active working population engaged in the manufacture of fisheries products in that year) is located in the coastal area.

This company was significantly linked to the Slovenian sea catch (particularly sardines). it has faced a fall in raw materials since EU entry, and acquires supplies on the markets of other EU Member States, seeking a solution by becoming more export oriented. The data for processing according to the Standard Classification of Activities of the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia are collected within sector D – processing, canning of fish and production of fisheries products. Commercial operators within this sector in the period 2002-2005 were managing the largest property in comparison to other activities (fishing, fish breeding, marketing). In this activity there are only few companies. The success of this sector (D) is related to the biggest company at the coast. A special characteristic of this activity is that there are practically no examples of micro-sized enterprises. Profits as compared to losses of this activity were positive in the period 2002-2005, companies were in average more successful than companies in fishing and fish breeding.

CONCLUSIONS

Slovenia should seek to:

• Improve the processing industry through the modernisation of processing plants,
• Improve the quality of labelling,
• Improve the production of new products,
• Increase capacity in processing, applying new technologies,
• Increase the export oriented production,
• Reduce and treat the waste output.

3.2.4 MARKETING

The insufficiently developed organisation of the Slovenian market has consequences for the price of fisheries products. So far, there have been no promotional campaigns for fisheries products on a national level. There are no Producers’ organisations in any sub-sector. These reasons were so far resulting in low consumption per capita. Yet, another reason for low fish consumption in Slovenia is the insufficient offer of various products (mainly fresh fish, canned fish and frozen fish are sold).

Except freshwater fish that is mainly sold in local markets, companies import more in order to satisfy the Slovenian market. In the period 1998-2004, Slovenia was a net importer of fish and fisheries products. Trade in fish and fisheries products increased in this period (the average for the period is about EUR 37.5 million) mainly due to increased imports. The
foreign trade balance was negative over the whole period and on average amounted to EUR 25 million.

The majority of maritime catch is sold to a known buyer (processing industry, intermediate traders). With the entry on the EU common market the sale of sardines was redirected to other markets where sardines are purchased at more favourable prices.

Coverage of import by export concerning fish and fisheries products since 2000 when it reached 24 % has been decreasing and reached less than 20 % in 2004. In the export structure fisheries products prevail and in the import structure fish and fisheries products. Import has been increasing substantially due to the import of fish and fisheries products (in particular ready-to-eat fish and preserved fish).

In spite of the fact that there were no national promoting campaigns of fisheries products, individual fish farmers were investing in marketing and became known to consumers (trade marks). Prices of freshwater fish in March 2008 are shown in the table below (Source: SORS, 2008)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FISH SPECIES</th>
<th>EUR/kg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Trouts</td>
<td>2,4008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other cold-water fish</td>
<td>6,7073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>2,5202</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grass carp</td>
<td>2,3333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver carp</td>
<td>2,3182</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other warm-water fish</td>
<td>11,7427</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 4: Prices of freshwater fish in March 2008 (Source: SORS, 2008)

In 2005, there were 15 companies and 18 self-employed persons in the marketing of fish, molluscs and crustaceans. In the last period, there has been an increase of Round sardinella in the share of common catch. This fish is recognised as fish of lesser quality and therefore can not be sold successfully.

Slovenia has no auction system of fish in the coastal area where commercial sea fishing is represented.

CONCLUSIONS:

Slovenia should seek to:

- Develop more the internal market for fish and fisheries products via establishing whole-sale markets, initial sale or direct marketing,
- Organise marketing campaigns of fish and fisheries products on national level,
- Establish Producers organisations,
- Improve the marketing of fish and fisheries products,
- Improve the marketing infrastructure via distribution, network,
- Improve the offer in fisheries products sold.

3.2.5 ADMINISTRATION INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF EFF

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (MAFF), the Directorate for Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries, Sector for Hunting and Fisheries, is responsible for the management of the whole fisheries sector. The MAFF is both secretariat and operational co-ordinator of the National Strategic Plan and OP fisheries 2007-2013. In the preparation of the draft OP other
ministries were involved as well, e.g. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, Ministry of Transport and bodies working within the ministry (Slovenian Maritime Administration), Ministry of Finance etc.

The bodies working within the MAFF and covering fisheries sector are the Inspectorate of the Republic of Slovenia for Agriculture, Forestry and Food (hereinafter referred to as IRSAFF), which was established to conduct the control of the implementation of laws, other regulations and general enactments from the sphere of activity of MAFF. The Inspectorate covers the territory of the Republic of Slovenia through eight district units and their branches. In accordance with the provisions of the European Union, the Inspectorate operates also through six border inspection posts (BIP). The Inspectorate consists of six inspection services among which the Hunting and Fisheries Inspection Service is responsible for fisheries. The Fisheries Inspection Service is further divided into the Inland Fisheries Inspection Service with 5 inspectors and the Maritime Fisheries Inspection Service with 2 inspectors.

The Veterinary Administration of the Republic of Slovenia (VARS) works as a body within the MAFF as well. They cover the implementation and monitoring of veterinary regulations. Within the VARS a veterinary inspection is working with 10 regional offices.

The MAFF was co-working with the Working Group for the preparation of the National Strategic Plan and the Operational Programme that was established with the minister’s Decision in 2005. In the Working Group all stakeholders were included.

MAFF is the Managing Authority (MA) of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 in which main tasks will be devoted to the Directorate for Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries. The MA will closely work with the Monitoring Committee under the EFF Operational Programme and will prepare the selection criteria for the projects in line with the criteria for eligibility according to the EFF Basic Regulation.

The Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (AAMRD) is working as a body within the MAFF and will implement the tasks of the Certifying Authority. It is fully accredited to employ funds from national and European budget resources for the development of agriculture, rural areas and fisheries.

In spite of the previous experiences with European funds, the MAFF, the Directorate for Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries, is not fully adapted to the above-mentioned responsibilities in an administrative way (not enough staff to cover properly the implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013). In this new period MAFF will be fully responsible for the implementation of the OP assuming all the responsibilities of the Managing and Certifying Authorities.

CONCLUSIONS:

Slovenia should seek to:

- Employ new staff in order to achieve an adequate management and control system for the implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013,
- Adopt the national implementing regulation in order to provide the stakeholders and operators of the fisheries sector with the necessary regulatory framework.

3.3 MAIN EXPERIENCES FROM PREVIOUS PROGRAMMING PERIOD

Slovenia was involved in the preceding financial perspective (2000–2006) for just three years, as it joined the European Union only in 2004. The programming basis and the
conditions for the utilization of EU structural funds were set in the Single Programming Document 2004-2006 (SPD). Those funds are:

- European Social Fund (ESF)
- European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)
- European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF)
- Financial Instrument for the Fisheries Guidance (FIFG).

The SPD contains strategic guidelines for the development of Slovenia. It defines four Priorities:

I. Promotion of the Enterprise Sector and Competitiveness,
II. Knowledge, development of human resources and employment,
III. Restructuring of agriculture, forestry and fisheries and
IV. Technical assistance.

The Slovene Fisheries sector has been supported within the third Priority - Restructuring of agriculture, forestry and fisheries. Within this priority 7 measures were implemented in 2004-2006, as follows:

- 4 measures in agriculture
- 1 measure in forestry
- 2 measures in fisheries:

3.1 Improving the production and marketing of agricultural products
3.2 Investments in agricultural holdings
3.3 Diversification of agricultural activities and activities close to agriculture
3.4 Investments in forests to improve their ecological and economical value
3.5 Marketing of quality agricultural and food products
3.6 Modernising of existing vessels and small-scale coastal fisheries
3.7 Aquaculture, processing and marketing

Measures 3.6 and 3.7 were co-financed by the Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG).

Table below shows financial provisions of the SPD 2004-2006 measures 3.6 and 3.7:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measures</th>
<th>FIFG-EU (in EUR)</th>
<th>FIFG-RS (in EUR)</th>
<th>SUM (in EUR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPD-3.6: Modernisation of vessels and small-scale coastal fishing</td>
<td>468.288,00</td>
<td>156.076,00</td>
<td>624.304,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPD-3.7: Aquaculture, processing and marketing</td>
<td>1.312,812,00</td>
<td>437.604,00</td>
<td>1.750.416,00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>1.781.040,00</strong></td>
<td><strong>593.680,00</strong></td>
<td><strong>2.374.720,00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Financial provisions of the SPD 2004-2006 measures 3.6 and 3.7

Major objectives within Modernising of existing vessels and small-scale coastal fisheries was to solve main structural imbalances in marine fisheries and to improve sector’s competitiveness as well as to ensure sustainable use of fisheries sources in the Adriatic sea. Main objective within Aquaculture, processing and marketing was to promote and ensure environmentally friendly aquaculture, achieving bigger fish consumption and a differentiated offer of fish on the market as well as more effective marketing of fish.
The experiences from the previous financial perspective were positive, Slovenia made use of all available funds and succeeded in improving the state of its fisheries sector.

3.4 CONTEXT INDICATORS AND DATA SOURCES

Slovenia has selected the following context indicators to monitor the implementation of the OP:

SEA FISHING

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>N° of vessels</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capacity (GT)</td>
<td>885</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>939</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>1076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total engine power (kW)</td>
<td>4204</td>
<td>3947</td>
<td>6383</td>
<td>8320</td>
<td>11363</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catch (kg)</td>
<td>2 077 563</td>
<td>1 783 035</td>
<td>1 629 949</td>
<td>815 861</td>
<td>1 021 647</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: Context indicators for sea fishing (Source: SORS, 2007)

* A change in the number of vessels occurred when the Fishing Vessels Register was established in 2004. The National Statistical Office was until then collecting data on vessels that were dealing with commercial sea fishing.

AQUACULTURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Marine aquaculture</td>
<td>Production (kg)</td>
<td>125 144</td>
<td>102 147</td>
<td>116 238</td>
<td>277 189</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freshwater aquaculture</td>
<td>Production (kg)</td>
<td>743 978</td>
<td>1 104 46 6</td>
<td>1 084 12 5</td>
<td>1 297 11 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workforce</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>240</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Context indicators for aquaculture (Source: SORS, 2007)

VOLUME OF PRODUCTION AND SALES OF PROCESSED AND CONSERVED FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1999</th>
<th>2000</th>
<th>2004</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total production volume (kg)</td>
<td>3 696 554</td>
<td>3 471 224</td>
<td>c*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total sales volume (kg)</td>
<td>3 436 219</td>
<td>3 398 352</td>
<td>c*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Context indicators for the volume of production and sales of processed and conserved fish and fisheries products (Source: SORS, 2007)

* From the remaining data on processed products individual data could be revealed, therefore they are confidential (c).
### AVERAGE PURCHASE PRICE FOR SPECIFIC AQUATIC SPECIES IN 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>PRICES IN €/kg&lt;sup&gt;10&lt;/sup&gt;</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sardine</td>
<td>0.792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other pelagic species</td>
<td>0.895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gilthead bream</td>
<td>5.767</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sea bass</td>
<td>7.947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other white fish</td>
<td>2.393</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trout</td>
<td>2.486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carp</td>
<td>2.335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mussels</td>
<td>0.774</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cephalopods</td>
<td>4.512</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9: Context indicators for average purchase price for specific aquatic species in 2004 (Source: SORS, 2007)

Data on processed products and their prices are individual and confidential.


### 3.5 DRIVING FORCES AND DEVELOPMENTAL TENDENCIES

A SWOT analysis of the fisheries sector was carried out in cooperation with all interested parties: representatives of local communities, fishermen and aquaculture operators, The Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry, the former Office for the Conservation, Diversification and Development of Sea Fisheries, the Slovenian Fisheries Research Institute and the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. The aim of the SWOT analysis was to use the strengths (current state) and opportunities (future potentials) to overcome the weaknesses (current state) and the threats to individual sub-sectors (sea catch, aquaculture, processing and marketing). The main objective of the analysis is to set out Slovenia’s strategic choice for the OP fisheries 2007-2013 and priority axes, so external and internal factors are ranked in order of importance. The selected objectives match the overall EU objective and the objectives set out in the EFF Basic Regulation.

The internal factors in the fisheries sector are described in accordance with the set objective of the sustainable development of the fisheries sector, in the sense of Axes 1, 2, 3 and 4. As the Slovenian fishing fleet is old, and vessels have outdated equipment, there is an opportunity – given the state of fisheries resources, as well as already very limited fishing area – to reduce the number of vessels by scrapping some. The remaining vessels could also be modernised by improving safety, product quality and energy efficiency (replacing old, uneconomic engines without increasing fishing capacity and using more selective fishing equipment). Public awareness of fish and fish products in Slovenia is still generally poor, and fish consumption per capita could be higher, so there is an opportunity to seek new markets and new forms of sales (e.g. using the internet, auctions in more distant locations). A further opportunity to improve working conditions lies in modernising and improving fishing ports, landing sites, moorings and infrastructure. Investments to improve safety at sea will reduce the danger of accidents at sea. The planned reduction in the number of fishing vessels or their diversification into non-fishing activities will help reduce the number of sea fishing activities, which will reduce sea traffic accidents caused by the density of shipping. This may

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<sup>10</sup> Prices were originally given in the former Slovene currency tolar. They were transformed according to exchange rate (1 EUR=239.640 SIT).
directly affect the continued reduction in fisheries resources. Ecological modernisation of the fleet (replacing engines with more efficient engines without increasing capacity) and modernisation using more selective fishing equipment can reduce pressure on fisheries resources, reduce by-catch of non-targeted species and immature fish, and could reduce discards. A major strength of the fishing industry is its links to tradition: opportunities appear in the development of the coastal area and its connections to cultural and natural heritage and tourism. One key activity is diversification into activities that are not directly connected to fishing. Creating an environment on land that is attractive to tourists (possible Axis 4 projects such as a fishing museum, fishing villages, shops for fishing products, tourist visits to vessel and fishing equipment repair sites, demonstrations of fishing techniques, etc.) can combine activities on land with those at sea.

In the aquaculture sector, Slovenia has significant, high quality freshwater resources that are generally smaller in capacity – Slovenia has good potential to increase aquaculture, however through an increase in smaller fish farms. Current aquaculture farms are very spread out, which enables a continual supply of fresh fish to market. Increased production, rearing new fish species and campaigns to raise consumer confidence in farm-raised fish will help increase per capita consumption of fish, while a more integrated sector (e.g. shared brands) will find it easier to compete against increasing pressures from sectors with cheaper processing. Introducing new technologies and possible reorientation towards organic aquaculture will reduce the threat of pollution to sea and inland waters and the threat to water sources. Introducing multi-purpose reservoirs, which have a positive influence on the water regime, expands the possibilities for freshwater aquaculture. In the field of processing and marketing, Slovenia has high quality raw materials (Adriatic fish is better sold on the market) and its processed products are also high quality. However, the modernisation of production lines would eliminate outdated processing technology that is not fully automated, improve working conditions and productivity, which would reduce the high cost per unit and relieve competitive pressure from other countries. As production and processing in Slovenia are generally located in the same place, access to products is good. As production can respond flexibly to current sales trends, the possibility of new forms of marketing and the production of new products would reduce market distrust of industrially processed fish products.

3.6 SWOT ANALYSIS AND STRATEGY OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

STRENGTHS

- Small fishing sector, flexibility and adaptability in terms of fisheries resources and new developments in the sector,
- Long and strong local tradition, and high levels of fishing experience,
- High quality of catch,
- Link between fishing and tourism – flexibility (diversification) of fleet,
- Good quality and quantity of inland water, but low capacity,
- Existence of aquaculture sales and processing,
- Controlled rearing of fish in aquaculture farms, ensuring full traceability,
- Good quality raw material,
- Production and processing at the same place, – direct sale from processing plants, good access to products,

OPPORTUNITIES

- Reducing the number of vessels in relation to accessible fisheries resources,
- Growth in fish consumption per capita and better awareness of health benefits of fish,
• Innovative sales methods (use of internet, auctions in remote areas),
• Connections to tourism, also in context of preserving traditional activities,
• Integrating fishermen in fisheries organisation,
• Possibilities to increase aquaculture production, in particular in light of growing pressures on the catching sector to reduce fishing effort,
• Rearing of new fish species,
• Introduction to new sales techniques,
• New techniques engagement (recycling/water purification systems),
• Favourable influence of extensive carp pond farming systems on water regime,
• Modernisation of production lines,
• Possibility to increase production,

WEAKNESSES

• Obsolete and inadequate structure of the fishing fleet in relation to fishing resources available,
• Absence of facilities (warehousing, boat repair premises, fishing equipment storage facilities, etc.) and auxiliary infrastructure (electrical installations, refrigeration facilities, sanitary facilities, etc.) for fishermen in existing fishing ports,
• Use of towed gear – negative impact on other fish species,
• Obsolete infrastructure in fish farming facilities and processing plants,
• Low fish consumption per capita and weak consumer base with loyalty to Slovenian products,
• Poor recognition of the quality of farmed fish,
• Insufficient representation of the sector (no recognised Producer organisations),
• Problematic transport routes to ports – cargo ships have priority over fishing,
• Unpredictability of fisheries resources – migratory species,
• Small products diversity,

THREATS

• Continuing aging of fleet and related poor working conditions,
• Continued reduction in fisheries resources,
• Environment accidents (ballast water, oil spills, pollution from inland waters),
• An increase in activities in the limited sea area of Slovenian territorial waters, such as tourism, shipping which limits the area for fishermen, in particular small-scale coastal fishermen,
• Cheap imports into Slovenia.
• Competitive pressures from areas (regional and international) with lower production costs,
• Environmental pollution from marine aquaculture,
• Occurrence of new diseases for all types of organisms reared/farmed,
• Lack of raw material for processing,
• Rising price of raw materials,
• Higher operational costs.

3.7 DESCRIPTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Ecologically important areas are of particular importance in terms of maintaining biodiversity (e.g. sea and sea shore). These are as well NATURA 2000 areas\textsuperscript{11} (Mura and

\textsuperscript{11} A map of Natura 2000 areas is annexed to the OP.
Drava rivers). Individual watercourses, lakes and individual parts of the sea and seashore are defined as valuable natural features – which as well as hydrological features also includes botanic and zoological features and entire ecosystems. Some areas are protected (e.g. Strunjan nature reserve, Soča river), and the rules for managing these areas are defined as part of the relevant protection regime.¹² The Nature Conservation Act and secondary legislation on nature conservation stipulate that interventions and activities in these areas must respect their basic purpose, i.e. conserving habitat types, threatened species and their habitats. In Natura 2000 areas and protected areas some activities and interventions or encroachments also have to be assessed in terms of nature conservation, involving a complete environmental impact assessment. The negative impact of fishing and aquaculture on the conservation of biodiversity and protecting valuable natural features is multi-layered and largely depends on the characteristics of the specific water body and local conditions. It includes:

- over-fishing,
- incidental catches of threatened species,
- degradation and destruction of habitat types,
- pollution from feed and other substances used in aquaculture,
- introduction of alien organisms etc.

These impacts are also present in freshwater fisheries with different levels of intensity, but are more of an issue in sea fisheries. Preventing or at least reducing these negative impacts through planning and implementing the development of fishing and aquaculture is an obligation under both domestic law and international conventions. Setting up sustainable fisheries and aquaculture that are in equilibrium with the available resources is also a condition for drawing on funds from the European Fisheries Fund.

**Over-fishing** comes from a lack of equilibrium between fishing and the available fisheries resources. A radical reduction in the fishing area with fishing effort remaining more or less the same undoubtedly increased the pressure on the available fisheries resources in the fishing area of Slovenian fishermen, but the absence of accurate monitoring, especially for small-scale coastal fishing, prevents any objective assessment of the current state of fisheries resources.

**Incidental catch** is the case when the fishing equipment catches organisms that were not the target of the fishing. Occasionally, these can involve threatened species, such as marine turtles and loggerhead sea turtles, and more frequently various species of fish from the coastal strip. Since 2003 the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, in cooperation with the Piran aquarium and the Marine Biology Station, has been running a project entitled Conserving Turtles in the Slovenian Sea. The project includes fishermen, as their cooperation is essential realising the main objective of the project, e.g. reducing the mortality rates of loggerhead turtles due to incidental catches. An Association Morigenos in cooperation with fishermen monitors dolphins. There are many other similar cases, so it would make sense to extend the resolution of the incidental catch problem to other species of marine organisms.

**Degradation and destruction of marine habitats and habitat types**; the main reason for it must of course be sought outside the fisheries sector, such as for example urbanisation of the coast and pollution from public utility and industrial effluent. Fishing and aquaculture only contribute a minor share, linked to changes on the sea bottom, caused by collecting date mussels and bottom trawling. In the first case the activity is prohibited by law, as date mussels are defined as a protected species, and trading in them is also prohibited by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Harvesting date mussels

¹² A map of protected areas at sea in annexed to the OP.
destroys the habitat of numerous species along the coastal strip, which has a negative effect on the fish population. In the fishing area of Slovenian fishermen bottom trawls are still being used which as well have an important impact on benthic species and habitat types, while the impact of floating nets on the sea bed is in principle less important. There is less degradation and destruction of habitats and habitat types in freshwater fishing and aquaculture, and it is mainly limited to the construction and cleaning of fish ponds, work on areas for rearing fish and linked to infrastructure for tourism, recreational or sport activities relating to fishing.

Pollution is related almost exclusively to aquaculture, both marine and freshwater. Compared to the impact of public utility and industrial effluent, aquaculture produces almost negligible quantities of foodstuffs and other substances used in aquaculture, which are usually limited to the individual aquaculture facility or area. Despite this it should be emphasised that negative impacts on habitats and habitat types in a specific area can be very serious. They are found above all in changes in the bioocoenosis (biotic community), where more opportunistic species benefit or the habitat type is degraded (e.g. Poseidonia beds)\textsuperscript{13}. As with pollution the problem of introducing alien organisms is not limited to aquaculture. Alien species represent a threat to indigenous species and entire ecosystems, so rearing alien species is only permitted exceptionally and based on a complete environmental impact assessment.

Possible impacts of chosen measures of the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 on the environment, respectively conservation of the biotic diversity and protection of valuable natural features, are defined in detail in the ex-ante evaluation.

3.8 DESCRIPTION OF EQUALITY BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

The Operational Programme contributes to the realization of the Lisbon Strategy by enhancing the quality of work places and promoting innovation in the Sector. An important part of the measures is designed to improve the situation in the field of human resources inside the Fisheries Sector as well as improving the offer in the Community market with fisheries and aquaculture products. In the sense of implementation of sustainable development principles and consequently controlling negative impact on the environment measures designed in the operational programme to promote complete and sustainable development of fisheries (coastal) areas are of great importance. Those measures also provide a greater possibility for the inclusion of women in certain activities and projects.

Equal opportunities is also one of the principles (objectives) in implementing axis 4. On the other hand, sector specificities need to be considered when analysing the representation of both genders in the sector. This applies in particular to fishing, but less to aquaculture and processing, where more women are employed.\textsuperscript{14} Greater inclusion of women can therefore be expected within measures connected to aquaculture and processing.

3.9 MAIN OUTCOMES OF THE ANALYSIS

Slovenia's vision of the future development is to improve the inter-connection of the fisheries sector in order to achieve its higher competitivenes in production and on the market. Slovenia wishes to achieve such a fisheries sector that it would be able to cover its own needs for fish and fisheries products with its own production. However, an optimum use of

\textsuperscript{13} Poseidonia is identified as endangered plant. The only known site of Poseidonia is in a 50 metres wide and 1 kilometer long strip along the coast between Koper and Izola (between Žusterna and Reks). It is as well the only site in the Trieste Bay and along the west coast of Istra.

\textsuperscript{14} See Context Indicators
natural resources on one side and their better protection on the other side should be achieved.

Key outcomes of the analysis are already presented in the SWOT analysis above. They can be summarised as follows:

**Management of the fleet**

- Improvement of the fleet, modernising fishing vessels (on board investments and selectivity) and decommissioning vessels, as well as their re-assignment
- Managing fishing vessels using towed gear in order to reduce or limit their number
- Support for fishermen that are affected by losses of fishing grounds and thus of available fishing resources (help for their diversification)

**Aquaculture**

- Modernisation of aquaculture facilities
- Diversity in new species of fish farmed
- Increase in the production

**Processing**

- Greater diversity of processed products
- Modernisation of processing plants
- Investments in new processing plants

**Marketing**

- Better recognition of fish quality
- Higher traceability and establishment of market chains
- Higher fish consumption per capita

**Fishing ports**

- Improvement of equipment in fishing ports for better working conditions of fishermen
- Modernisation of fishing ports in order to achieve better landing conditions and points of first sale

**Coastal area**

- Better interconnection of representatives from individual sub-sector (fishing, marine aquaculture, processing, marketing)
- Identify and develop human potential to contribute to local development in fisheries area
- Better employment opportunities for inhabitants of the fisheries area
- Opportunities to diversify economic activities
- Promotion of environmentally friendly activities

**Administrative capacity**

- Strengthening of the administrative capacity in terms of better implementation and control
- Improvement of the number of people/specialists trained in the sector
4. OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME LEVEL STRATEGY

The strategy proposed for the Operational programme of Slovenia has three main directions:

- Support for the objectives of the National Strategic Plan on the development of fisheries in the Republic of Slovenia (NSP), adopted in 2007,
- Support the achievement of the objectives laid down in Article 4 of the EFF Regulation,
- Taking into account the SWOT analysis undertaken by the Managing Authority.

The ex-ante evaluation that is a document attached to the OP fisheries 2007-2013 verified the coherence between the objectives established at the level of OP with the NSP and the EFF Basic and Implementing Regulations.

National strategic priorities in the NSP are consistent with the strategy proposed regarding the objectives set by the Priority axes.

4.1 OVERALL OBJECTIVES OF THE OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

As already laid down in the National strategic plan, the strategic vision of the fisheries sector is:

1. Ensuring sustainable and competitive fisheries that will be in balance with available fisheries resources
2. Achieving high level of competitiveness of aquaculture on the domestic and European market by encouraging the use of methods that reduce the negative impact of aquaculture on environment and the development of new species with good marketing possibilities
3. Promote competitiveness of processing industry through more effective exploitation of market niches and innovative technologies, as well as treating waste
4. Promoting fish, fisheries products and the fisheries sector
5. Ensuring adequate conditions for work and safety of fishermen through the provision of appropriate infrastructure, organisation of fishing ports, developing facilities for marketing of fish and fisheries products, as well as improving safety at sea
6. Development of coastal fisheries area and achieving long-term prosperity through the diversification of activities and connecting fisheries with tourism, cultural heritage and tradition
7. To support the proper delivery of the OP in the framework of CFP.
The following **impact indicators** can measure the achievement of this strategic vision:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OVERALL OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>IMPACT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>ANTICIPATED IMPACT IN 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ensuring sustainable and competitive fisheries that will be in balance with available fisheries resources</td>
<td>Reduction of the fishing capacity of the fleet</td>
<td>GT 967,54(^{15}) kW 10,307,63</td>
<td>10 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jobs maintained in the marine fishing subsector</td>
<td>142(^{16})</td>
<td>142</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieving high level of competitiveness of aquaculture on the domestic and European market by encouraging the use of methods that reduce the negative impact of aquaculture on environment and the development of new species with good marketing possibilities</td>
<td>Percentage of aquaculture facilities that reduce negative impact on the environment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jobs maintained in the aquaculture subsector (marine and freshwater)</td>
<td>187(^{17})</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promote competitiveness of processing industry through more effective exploitation of market niches and innovative technologies, as well as treating waste</td>
<td>Increase in production from processing</td>
<td>3471 tonnes(^{18})</td>
<td>20 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of new products</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>At least two new products</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{15}\) Data for fishing capacity in terms of GT and kW refer to Fishing Vessel Register on 1 October 2007.

\(^{16}\) The baseline data are for 2005 (Source: SORS).

\(^{17}\) The baseline data are for 2006 (Source: SORS).

\(^{18}\) Latest figure available for public: year 2000. It will be reviewed when more recent figure is available. The lastest figure is available for 2000 due to the small number of processing enterprises, taken into the data collection - the data within SORS are collected for only few processing enterprises, as the minimum treshold of the enterprises excluded in the collection of data is more than 20 people employed within an enterprise. This treshold is set within the Council Regulation (EEC) No 3924/91 of 19 December 1991 on the establishment of a Community survey of industrial production (OJ L 374, 31.12.1991, p. 1–3). Therefore, individual data could be exposed from aggregated data. Such data are protected with the National Statistics Law (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, 45/95, 9/2001).
Promoting fish, fisheries products and the fisheries sector

Increase in consumption of fish per capita

Ensuring adequate conditions for work and safety of fishermen through the provision of appropriate infrastructure, organisation of fishing ports, developing facilities for marketing of fish and fisheries products, as well as improving safety at sea

Fishing vessels using the relevant facilities in the fishing ports

Reduction of accidents at sea involving fishing vessels per year

Development of coastal fisheries area and achieving long-term prosperity through the diversification of activities and connecting fisheries with tourism, cultural heritage and tradition

New jobs directly related to fisheries and alternative activities to fishing in the area concerned

Table 10: Impact indicators of the programme

The OP fisheries 2007-2013 is the main tool for achieving this vision along with support given to the sector outside the EFF fund.

The strategic vision in the fisheries sector will be achieved by projects under other European financial instruments, too, which are represented in Chapter 6.7.

Projects undertaken to fulfil the requirements under the Council Regulation N° 861/2006 will also contribute to the achievement of the above-mentioned strategic vision for the fisheries sector. The main non-EFF activities for its accomplishment are as follows:

- Upgrading of the fisheries information system called InfoRib with reporting system and with cross-checks;
- Technical equipment of the Fisheries Monitoring Centre;
- Purchasing of technical equipment for the purposes of the first sale control;
- Modernisation of the inspection vessel;
- Trainings of civil servants and exchange of experiences between them;
- Exchange of good practices between different FMCs;
- Upgrading of the inspection information system;
- Purchasing of additional track devices for Vessel Monitoring System.

19 Baseline data are for 2007.
4.2 SPECIFIC PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND RESULT INDICATORS

The following specific objectives correspond to the overall objectives:

1. Ensuring sustainable and competitive fisheries that will be in balance with available fisheries resources
   1.1. Adjustment of the fishing fleet at a sustainable level
   1.2. Modernisation of the fishing fleet

2. Achieving high level of competitiveness of aquaculture on the domestic and European market by encouraging the use of methods that reduce the negative impact of aquaculture on environment and the development of new species with good marketing possibilities
   2.1 Promoting investments in aquaculture
   2.2 Popularisation of certain aquaculture methods that meet consumers needs and help protect human health, preserve biotic diversity and protected areas

3. Promote competitiveness of processing industry through more effective exploitation of market niches and innovative technologies, as well as treating waste
   3.1 Promoting investments in processing industry
   3.2 Encouraging processing plants to introduce treating waste

4. Promoting fish, fisheries products and the fisheries sector
   4.1 Improving fish and fishery product market
   4.2 Facilitating marketing and promotional campaigns

5. Ensuring adequate conditions for work and safety of fishermen through the provision of appropriate infrastructure, organisation of fishing ports, developing facilities for marketing of fish and fisheries products, as well as improving safety at sea
   5.1 Improving work safety of fishermen at sea
   5.2 Improving infrastructure in the fishing ports

6. Development of coastal fisheries area and achieving long-term prosperity through the diversification of activities and connecting fisheries with tourism, cultural heritage and tradition
   6.1 Facilitating the development of coastal fishery area

7. To support the proper delivery of the OP in the framework of CFP.
   7.1 Enhanced administrative capacity
   7.2 Better governance of the OP
   7.3 Full and proper documentation for the implementation of the OP
The following result indicators will be measuring the specific objectives:

**Axis 1: Measures for the adaptation of the Slovenian fishing fleet**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment of the fishing fleet at a sustainable level</td>
<td>Reduction of capacity of the fleet through permanent cessation of activities (GT, kW)</td>
<td>GT 967,54(^{20}) kW 10,307,63</td>
<td>According to conservation measures to be adopted</td>
<td>According to conservation measures to be adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernisation of the fishing fleet</td>
<td>Share of vessels modernised of the fishing fleet</td>
<td>175(^{21})</td>
<td>At least 4 % of the fishing vessels</td>
<td>At least 6 % of the fishing vessels</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Axis 2: Aquaculture, processing and marketing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promoting investments in aquaculture</td>
<td>Number of new aquaculture plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Production in fresh water aquaculture – tonnage/year</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>+100</td>
<td>+200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Production in marine aquaculture – tonnes/year</td>
<td>192(^{22})</td>
<td>+50%</td>
<td>+70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of new fish species(^{23}) reared</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of aquaculture facilities with on-farm retail trade</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+5</td>
<td>+16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Popularisation of certain aquaculture methods that meet consumers needs and help protect human health, preserve biotic diversity and protected areas</td>
<td>Increase in the number of aquaculture facilities that introduce treating waste water</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of aquaculture units with organic production</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of units that have implemented aqua-environmental measures as provided for in Article 30(2)(a) of the EFF Basic Regulation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{20}\) Data for fishing capacity in terms of GT and kW refer to Fishing Vessel Register on 1. 10. 2007

\(^{21}\) The baseline data is the number of vessels in the Fishing Vessel Register on 1. 10. 2007.
### Axis 3: Measures of common interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promoting investments in processing industry</td>
<td>Number of newly built processing plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of modernised processing plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging processing plants to introduce treating waste</td>
<td>Increase in the number of the processing plants treating waste</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving fish and fishery product market</td>
<td>Number of established producers organizations</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>provisionally 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of first sale points</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitating marketing and promotional campaigns</td>
<td>Increase of average fish consumption per capita per year</td>
<td>0(^{24}) kg</td>
<td>0 kg</td>
<td>2 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of operations in marketing fish and promotional campaigns</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

22 These are official data of SORS for the total production in marine aquaculture in 2006. However, the total production is to be increased for about 50% in 2007 due to new aquaculture concessions given in previous two years. This explains a 50% increase to 2010. The actual increase in total production in marine aquaculture until 2013 is expected to be 70%. Source: [http://www.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Okolje/15_kmetijstvo_ribistvo/08_15191_ribistvo/08_15191_ribistvo.asp](http://www.stat.si/pxweb/Database/Okolje/15_kmetijstvo_ribistvo/08_15191_ribistvo/08_15191_ribistvo.asp).

23 New fish species are species for which aquaculture production in the Member State is low or non-existent and for which there are good market prospects (source: EFF Implementing Regulation, Article 10). Diversification into new species in opened systems will be possible only for fish that are determined in Rules on wild fauna for which it is not necessary to obtain permit for animal breeding (OJ RS, No 62/07). Those are gilthead Sea bream, Sea bass, Mediterranean mussel as sea species and rainbow trout, brook trout, carp, grass carp, Bighead carp and Silver carp as freshwater fish species. There are no particular constraints under European standards for closed systems. For all other species an IEA is necessary. More information is available under Productive investments in Aquaculture.

24 Currently the per capita consumption of fish per year is around 6 kg.
### Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving work safety of fishermen at sea</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of vessels with new nautical equipment installed on board</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+5</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving infrastructure in the fishing ports</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of cold stores in all fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of storage places installed in all fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of quays restructured in fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Axis 4: Sustainable development of fisheries area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilitating the development of coastal fishery area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of actions approved for the animation and training of the local actors</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Population depending on fisheries and related activities in the area:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage covered by the group</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Axis 5: Technical assistance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE DATA</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced administrative capacity</td>
<td>Number of training projects for employees dealing with the OP</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of employees financed from the technical assistance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better governance of the OP</td>
<td>Number of projects to inform general public</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of projects on communications actions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full and proper documentation for the implementation of the OP</td>
<td>Number of projects to upgrade information systems</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3 CALENDAR AND INTERMEDIARY OBJECTIVES

The preparatory activities for the OP fisheries 2007-2013 started in September 2006, with the final phase of preparing the National Strategic Plan for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007–2013. A set of measures were selected based on the strategy and assessed state of the fisheries sector using the SWOT analysis and questionnaire survey. Several meetings of the Working group on the Preparation of the NSP and OP fisheries 2007-2013, which was appointed by the Minister followed. Parallel several consultations with the representatives of fishermen and fish farmers were made. On the basis of those consultations the first amendments to the OP fisheries 2007-2013 were made in March 2007. Last meeting of the Working group was held in April 2007. Basic contents of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 were set at that time (e.g. objectives, measures, provisional finances within axes etc.). In the same month (April 2007) draft Operational Programme was sent unofficially to the European Commission. On the basis of first unofficial annotations corrections to the draft needed to be done in June and July 2007. In June 2007 the latest comments on the draft OP fisheries 2007-2013 were provided also by social partners, interest group representatives (fishermen, aquaculture operators, local communities), and other interested parties. Parallel with the corrections to the draft OP fisheries 2007-2013 preparation work started for the Management Plan of Fisheries in waters that are under jurisdiction of the Republic of Slovenia.

Considering the procedure of adopting Operational Programme we expect the Programme to be adopted in 2008. When operational programme will be adopted, national authorities can adopt a national Regulation for the implementation of the operational programme on the national level.

At the national level, the Slovenian Government will be informed on preparations of Operational Programme as well as with the Commission Decision on the Programme.
In accordance with the provisions of Article 49 of the EFF Basic Regulation, the OP fisheries 2007-2013 is subject to an interim evaluation, the aim of which is to study the performance of the overall OP fisheries 2007-2013 or parts thereof, in order to adapt it to improve the quality of assistance and assistance implementation. The interim evaluation will take place in 2010 (it will be based on the state of realising OP fisheries 2007-2013 as of 30. 11. 2010 and will be compiled by 30. 6. 2011 at the latest). In order to make an interim evaluation possible, intermediary objectives of the OP need to be set. Since the interim year is 2010, intermediary objectives are estimated to the end of 2010. They refer to the amount of payments made.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority axes</th>
<th>Amount (only EFF contribution)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 1</td>
<td>420.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 2</td>
<td>2.520.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 3</td>
<td>2.640.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 4</td>
<td>300.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 5</td>
<td>900.000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>6.780.000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11: Mid-term amount payments made to the end of 2010

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Axis 1</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axis 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 3</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 4</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>Phase 2</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 5</td>
<td>(technical assistance)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interim evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ex post evaluation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 12: Calendar of activities

Substantial objectives as expressed in quantified targets for the end of 2010 against result indicators:

Priority axis 1: The reduction of capacity of the fleet through permanent cessation activities will be quantified according to conservation measures still to be adopted.

The share of modernised vessels in the fishing fleet is estimated at 4 % of the total number respectively 3 % of the number of vessels in the small-scale fishing fleet.

Priority axis 2: 5 new aquaculture plants, 1200 tons/year in freshwater aquaculture production, 288 tons/year in marine aquaculture production, 2 new fish species farmed, 5 aquaculture facilities with on-farm retail trade, 2 aquaculture facilities that introduce treating waste water, 2 newly built processing plants, 1 processing plant treating waste.

Priority axis 3: 1 point of first sale, 2 operations of marketing fish and promotional campaigns, 5 vessels with new nautical equipment installed on board, 1 cold storage facility installed in a fishing port, 1 storage facility installed in a fishing port, 1 quay restructured in a fishing port.

Priority axis 4: 1 action approved for the animation and training of the local actors, 40 % of population depending on fisheries activities in the area covered by the group.
Priority axis 5: 20 training projects for employees dealing with the OP, 6 employees financed from the technical assistance, 40 projects to inform general public, 20 projects on communication actions, 1 project to upgrade information systems.
5. **SUMMARY OF THE EX ANTE EVALUATION**

The ex-ante evaluation for the Operational Programme 2007-2013 was done by an expert in biology, Mr Robert Turk, in cooperation with the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation (Piran Branch Office). Its summary is as follows.

Based on the draft OP fisheries 2007-2013 and the findings relating to individual measures set out in the programme, we can state that the OP fisheries 2007-2013 is in accordance with the guidelines set out in Article 19 of the EFF Regulation on the EFF and with the relevant sections of the National strategic plan. The OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures follow the CFP guidelines and will achieve a stable balance between fishing capacity and fishing opportunities, as well as strengthen the balanced and sustainable development of economic activity, jobs and human resources. The OP fisheries 2007-2013 also contributes to realising the Lisbon Strategy objectives by strengthening job quality and promoting innovation in the sector and the Gothenburg strategy. An important part of the measures is aimed at improving conditions in the human resource field within the fisheries sector and improving supply to the community market of fisheries and aquaculture products. The OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures aimed at promoting integrated and sustainable development of fisheries areas are very important in terms of implementing the principles of sustainable development and hence also reducing negative environmental impact. The current state of the sector does not permit appropriate measures to improve the sector and does not permit the monitoring of parameters that could ensure the sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources or environmental impact, nor can international environmental protection objectives be met. In line with the above mentioned, we find that the implementation of the planned OP fisheries 2007-2013 is essential for improving the current state of the fisheries sector and its impact on the wider environment.

OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures are in accordance with the CFP objectives. The main such objective is the sustainable utilisation of fisheries resources and the long-term viability of the fisheries sector. The current state of Slovenian fisheries sector makes the pursuit of this objective even more important. The radical reduction in the fishing grounds, an imbalance between fishing effort and available fisheries resources and increased pressure on those resources demand careful thought on the future development of the fisheries sector.

In accordance with the above, it must be emphasised that the measures proposed in the OP fisheries 2007-2013 are compatible with the objectives and guidelines of the National Environmental Protection Programme. The opposite also applies, i.e. that the environmental protection guidelines support the objectives set out in individual OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures. Finally, the Slovenian sea has three protected areas, which make an important contribution to improving the natural environment and the fisheries resources. Appropriate management of these areas will undoubtedly extend their positive impact.

The measures set out in the OP fisheries 2007-2013 all comply with the principles of sustainable development, and more specifically, the sustainable use of fisheries resources. Nevertheless, the detailed definitions of individual measures (e.g. investment in aquaculture) will require additional checking (including spatial plans) of environmental impact and impact on protecting biodiversity and protection of valuable natural features.

As stated above, we find that the implementation of the planned OP fisheries 2007-2013 is essential for improving the current state of the fisheries sector and for environmental

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25 The contractor of the ex-ante evaluation was chosen via public procurement. On the basis of the conditions set the most appropriate contractor has been chosen.
protection, including biodiversity, local population, water, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape and the relations between all these factors.

In the Operational Programme none of the mentioned measures is incompatible with the principles of the sustainable development or sustainable use of fisheries resources. However, it will be absolutely necessary to evaluate separate measures (e.g. Productive investments in aquaculture) after they are specifically set in the view of strategic environmental assessment or in the view of biological diversity preservation and protection of valuable natural features.

5.1 STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) PROCEDURE

According to Article 3 of the Directive 2001/42/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 June 2001 on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment (OJ L 197, 21. 7. 2001, p. 30–37; hereinafter: SEA Directive) an environmental assessment, in accordance with Articles 4 to 9, shall be carried out for plans and programmes referred to in paragraphs 2 to 4 which are likely to have significant environmental effects; an environmental assessment shall be carried out for all plans and programmes, which are prepared for fisheries and which set the framework for future development consent of projects listed in Annexes I and II to Directive 85/337/EEC, or which, in view of the likely effect on sites, have been determined to require an assessment pursuant to Article 6 or 7 of Directive 92/43/EEC.

According to Article 9 (1) of the SEA Directive the member states shall ensure that when a plan or a programme is adopted, the authorities referred to in Article 6 (3), the public are informed and the following items are made available to those so informed:

a) the plan or programme as adopted;
b) a statement how environmental considerations have been integrated into the plan or programme and how the environmental report prepared pursuant to Article 5, the opinions expressed pursuant to Article 6 and the results of consultations entered into pursuant Article 7 have been taken into account in accordance with Article 8 and the reasons for choosing the plan or programme as adopted, in the light of the other reasonable alternatives dealt with, and
c) the measures decided concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10. Specific national rules for an SEA procedure (including public consultations and monitoring process) are set within Environmental Protection Act (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No 39/06 (ZVO-1 – official consolidated text 1)) and Regulation on Environmental Report and detailed procedure of comprehensive assessment of the programmes implementation environmental impact (Official Gazette of the Republic of Slovenia, No 73/05).

AD a

The Operational programme and the Environmental report, as well as all additional documents (Supplement for the Assessment of the Acceptability of the Impacts of the Implementation of the Programme on Protected Areas and Annexes etc.) are published (in PDF format) on official web page of the MAFF: www.mkgp.gov.si.

All documents are updated regularly. As soon as the definite version of the programme is adopted, the final versions of all documents will be available for download. Current web page of the MAFF is being modernised at the moment. After its modernisation, a special part of the official MAFF web page will be devoted to the Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 where all documents, public tenders, information on implementation of the OP will be published and available to download.
Ad b

The preparation of the Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 was carried out in such a way that already during the preparation the general public was consulted. MAFF organised several workshops and seminars where possible guidelines of future fisheries development where presented. Environmental partners were invited to participate in preparing the strategy of the operational programme.

Environmental considerations were taken into account during programme preparation, therefore a considerable portion of the operational programme takes into account environmental management and nature conservation. Institutions consulted during the preparation of the OP fisheries besides the authorities appointed according to Article 6(3)26:

External experts
Ministry of Transport
Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
Ministry of Culture
Ministry of Health
Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
Institute for Nature protection
Institute of Public Health Maribor
Local municipality Koper
Local municipality Izola
Local municipality Piran
National Institute of Biology
Association for bird studies and nature protection
Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry of Slovenia
University Development centre and Incubator of Primorska
Fisheries research Institute of Slovenia

Starting point for the process organization of the SEA was the development procedure of the Operational programme. First, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Republic of Slovenia, Sector for Strategic Environmental assessment (the SEA Sector), the Environment Agency of the Republic of Slovenia, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation, checked the environmental issues which have been included in the draft Operational programme and gave hints to improve the draft Operational programme. The support of the parallel implemented SEA and the preparation of the Environmental report (hereinafter: the report) and its Supplement for the Assessment of the Acceptability of the Impacts of the Implementation of the Programme on Protected Areas (hereinafter: the Supplement) can be regarded therefore as an integral component of the programming process.

The integration of the publicity as defined in Article 6 of the SEA Directive (Directive 2001/42/EC) was guaranteed within the consultations with environmental authorities. The environmental report and the Supplement, as well as the draft Operational programme 2007-2013, were subject to a public exhibition. National legislation (the Environmental Protection Act) foresees a public exhibition which lasts 30 days. Within the public exhibition a public discussion was organised within MAFF to which representatives of other ministries and authorities (MESP), environmental organisations and the general public were envited.

26 The following authorities were appointed according to Article 6 (3) as affected environmental autohrities: Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning of Republic of Slovenia, Sector for Strategic Environmental assessment (the SEA Sector), the Environment Agency of the Republic of Slovenia, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation.
Slovene legislation foresees also the audit of the Report and the Supplement, as well as the Operational programme. The audit is an independent expert control of all the documents; their quality and adequacy. The auditors check if the Report, the Supplement and the Operational programme are in accordance with the national legislation on protection of environment and nature. Independent auditors checked whether the Report, the Supplement and the Operational programme are in line with Slovene legislation in the field of environment and nature protection. The comments of the auditors were as follows:

### COMMENTS OF THE AUDITORS ON ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT, SUPPLEMENT FOR PROTECTED AREAS AND OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments of the Auditors</th>
<th>How It Was Taken into Consideration</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data on protected areas need to be completed in accordance with the Decree on changing the Decree on special protection areas (Natura 2000 areas) (OJ²RS, nos. 49/04, 110/04); the status of these areas need to be explained.</td>
<td>Completed in the Report and the Supplement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Few measures (e.g. organic aquaculture within Aqua-environmental measures) are not sufficiently explained in the context of preservation of specific habitats in certain NATURA 2000 areas – Leucorrhinia pectoralis)</td>
<td>the specific disadvantages or investment costs for units located inside or near NATURA 2000 areas will be taken into consideration as a criterion to calculate the compensations when implementing Aqua-environmental measures (public tender criteria).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBA Črte on Dravsko polje need to be added as a potential NATURA 2000 area. When mentioning biogeographical seminars it needs to be mentioned as well that for certain relevant qualification species (crustaceans, fish) and habitat types when implementing OP we can expect an announcement of bigger number of NATURA 2000 areas. This, however, will change the conditions for the OP implementation.</td>
<td>When the announcement of new NATURA 2000 areas will be made, they will be taken into consideration within the implementation of Aqua-environmental measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legislation, literature and other sources in the Report and the Supplement need to be completed.</td>
<td>Completed in both documents, as suggested.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In the Report an exact data on existing aquaculture facilities that have their permit for commercial use of waters need to be given</td>
<td>Corrected in the Report and OP. The data were taken form Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in the Operational programme, within Productive investments in aquaculture, an additional criterion need to be given for aquaculture plants to have a water permit or concession in accordance with the national legislation.</td>
<td>Corrected in the OP within Productive investments in aquaculture.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better indicator for an environmental objective would be: Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions for 8 % in the 2008–2012 period compared to the year 1986</td>
<td>Corrected in the Report</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
After an audit of the Report, the Supplement and the Operational programme, few changes were made to all documents. The inter-institutional consultation followed.

In the inter-institutional consultation we received comments from the Ministry of culture, Ministry of Health and Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation. They were mainly focused on inclusion of national legislation from the area of cultural heritage, its protection and definition in the Report in accordance with the national legislation, as well as the inclusion of dragonflies as possible endangered species in pSCI areas (the Report firstly mentioned only the species Leucorrhinia pectoralis).

After MESP conveyed its opinion to the MAFF that the environmental report of the Operational programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 is acceptable, the fulfilment of the condition for the initiation of second stage - the public display of the Report, the Supplement and the Operational programme, as well as the revision report of all documents was provided.

The public consultation lasted from 19 June 2008 to 18 July 2008. The relevant documents were published on official web page on the MAFF together with an information on the duration on the consultation in accordance with the national legislation (Environmental Protection Act). The information on the consultation process was published in Delo newspaper (newspaper with the biggest edition in Slovenia) on 18 June 2008. MAFF opened a special mailbox (op.mkgp@gov.si) where the public had the right to express their opinion and/or comments to the documents published in an electronic way as well.\(^{27}\) The above-mentioned information also included the announcement of a public discussion on the document published, that was held on 9 July 2008 in the conference room Avditorij Center Evropa. There were no participants at the event. The public had the right to express its opinion on the relevant documents. During this 30 days period no comments were submitted.

The SEA process as part of the OP’s programming process is as it is shown on the following page.

\(^{27}\) The mailbox is still opened in the case of any other questions considering the Operational programme.
AD  c

Monitoring system for state of environment which is based upon the state monitoring of the Environmental Agency of the Republic of Slovenia (EARS), statistical data on the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia, as well as on the monitoring system of the state of qualification species and habitat types, protected within the network of NATURA 2000 areas, that is being set by the Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation. The state of environment will be monitored using the indicators set in the Report, in such a way that at the beginning of the implementation of the programme their baseline is checked, then their state is monitored in the time of interim evaluation, as well as ex-post evaluation of the implementation of the programme.

5.1.2 A NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT, MEASURES DECIDED CONCERNING MONITORING (ANNEX I (J) AND ARTICLE 9(1)(C) OF THE SEA DIRECTIVE)

According to Annex I(j) of the SEA Directive, a non-technical summary of the information given in Annex I from (a) to (i) should be given in the OP fisheries 2007-2013.

The following aspects are considered in the Environmental Report:

- Climate
- Air quality
- Water
  - Sea
  - Surface water
Condition monitoring

In accordance with the procedure, mitigation measures have been set within the report. They need to be implemented during the Programme implementation, i.e. from the adoption of the programme to 2013. Whether the recommendations and mitigation measures are successfully observed is monitored by competent national bodies:

- Fisheries Research Institute of Slovenia
- Organisation competent for nature conservation
- MESP, Environmental inspector

Climate

In the implementation of the programme no adverse impacts on the climate are expected. Mitigation measures are not needed. Monitoring the climate due to the implementation of the Operational Programme for the Development of Fisheries is not necessary.

Air quality

In the implementation of the programme no adverse impacts on air quality are expected. Mitigation measures are not needed. Monitoring the air quality due to the implementation of the Operational Programme for the Development of Fisheries is not necessary.

Water

In the implementation of the Programme adverse impacts on continental surface waters and the sea can occur. Negative impacts are possible above all in the implementation of the productive investments in aquaculture measure (axis 2, measure 1) and in the case when aqua-environmental measures (axis 2, measure 3) fail to be implemented.

Mitigation measures are as follows:

a) Mitigation measures for AXIS 2, measure 1. Productive investments in aquaculture

New aquaculture plants (ponds) should be constructed in the following way: water from the stream should be channelled via a penstock to the grounds intended for the pond, and from it via drainage back into the stream. On the segment of watercourse from the capture to the outflow ecologically acceptable flow must be ensured for the needs of aquaculture. At the outflow from the ponds sedimentation pools should be located, decreasing the quantity of sediments that burden the stream, thus contributing to a better quality of the released water.

a.1) Warm water aquaculture:

Impacts of emptying and filling up ponds should be mitigated with the construction (use) of a sedimentation pool with appropriate dimensions located under the catching basin, and the use of an appropriate regime of emptying and filling ponds or hydro-accumulations.
a.2) Cold water aquaculture:

In waters appropriate for salmonid species the quality of water at the outflow should be maintained (sedimentation basins, air-blowing of water (elimination of ammonia, addition of oxygen). Deterioration in water quality to the extent that there is a change in classification in a lower quality class of the segment after the outflow should not be permitted.

A possible measure in cases where it is essential to maintain water quality (protected zones, use of water for drinking water supply, etc.) is to prescribe water sampling downstream from the outflow. The measure forces the user to preserve the original water quality. If water sampling is performed in the usual way, when the outflow is downstream from the catchment, on the segment of watercourse from the capture to the outflow ecologically acceptable flow must be ensured for the needs of aquaculture.

Monitoring of the water quality in the area of fish farms should be prescribed.

Mitigation measures for AXIS 2, measure 2. Aqua-environmental measures:

Aqua-environmental measures must be implemented. With appropriate support and promotion of ecological and extensive fish cultivation the probability of achieving the environmental objectives of the Programme will increase. The need to implement this measure is obvious in protected zones where the attainment of environmental objectives many times demands an adjusted method of fish cultivation.

Quality of life and human health
To ensure the quality of life and human health all mitigation measures prescribed in the Water segment have to be implemented, together with the following additional measures:

Mitigation measure for axis 4, measure 2: Selection of a coastal action group and local development strategy:

During the implementation of the measure an inclusion of fishermen representative is necessary, as well as to ensure his/her adequate training.

Mitigation measure for axis 2, measure 3: Measures for the protection of public health:

During the implementation of measures 3 and 4 under axis 2, the mitigation measure should consist of providing efficient accompanying measures for regular control of cultivated clams as prescribed by the Rules on the quality of fish and fish products placed on the market. Regular controls of the quality of clams and fish have to be ensured, since contaminated clams on the market can have negative effects on human health.

Nature
In implementation of the Programme negative impacts on nature segments can arise (flora, fauna and habitat types, protected zones, natural features and ecologically important areas). Negative impacts are possible during the implementation of the following measures: On board investments in vessels and selectivity (axis 1, measure 3), Measures for the protection of animal health, Productive investments in aquaculture (axis 2, measure 1) and if aqua-environmental measures fail to be implemented (axis 2, measure 3).
Mitigation measures for AXIS 1, measure 3. On board investments in vessels and selectivity:

The number of fishing vessels with relevant fishing gears has to be optimized. Assessments of the optimal number of vessels with relevant fishing gear should be kept up-to-date.

Considering the fact that the use of all types of dredgers is prohibited in inland maritime waters and territorial waters of the Republic of Slovenia, in limiting the number of permits for commercial fishing, areas for individual vessels have to be taken into account when considering boat dredgers. Vessels that are according to regulations not allowed to access international waters should not have this fishing gear registered.

Fishermen who fish with vessels using demersal or pelagic towed nets should be encouraged to resort to fishing with surrounding nets. If there are not enough voluntary conversions, the number of fishing licences with the stated gears should be reduced.

Licences for commercial fishing with coastal seines and open sea seines should not be issued. Similarly, new licences for the use of pelagic and demersal towed nets should not be issued.

Mitigation measures for AXIS 2, measure 1. Productive investments in aquaculture

Exotic fish species should not be introduced in waters outside fish farms, only the introduction of indigenous species characteristic of the fauna of a particular watercourse is allowed.

In the Adriatic catch area, the cultivation and introduction of fish from the catch area of the Danube River should be prohibited. This applies in particular to the brown trout (due to cross-breading with the Soča River trout).

Marine aquaculture: The expansion of fish and clam farms is possible on the basis of studies on the bearing capacities of individual areas where new plants are envisaged. Founded by studies, conditions of performing marine aquaculture activities in a certain area are determined. Cultivation of exotic crayfish species should be performed in closed systems. Furthermore, preventive measures have to be observed (drying of the fishing gear).

Additional measures in case of interventions in protected zones:

When the Operational Programme is being implemented, any interventions in protected zones have to be assessed beforehand in line with the Rules on the assessment of acceptability of impacts caused by the execution of plans and activities affecting nature in protected areas (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, n° 130/04, 53/06). In protected zones only aquaculture plants with exclusively indigenous species characteristic for the fauna of local watercourses and standing waters are allowed. Similarly, in these areas only indigenous species characteristic for local fauna can be introduced. In Natura 2000 areas for which qualification species of amphibians are declared, the aquaculture activity has to be adjusted in such a way that it does not endanger any of the development stages of
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

amphibian qualification species. In protected zones intensive cultivation of fish is in principle not permitted. Warm water ponds should be managed extensively (the quantity of fish is reduced, the intake of food, disinfectant and pharmaceuticals is limited, the regime of filling up and emptying should be adjusted to life cycles of qualification species). The reproduction cycle of qualification fish species downstream from the pond should also be brought to attention. We recommend that fishermen in protected zones convert to organic fish production. In case of loss of income due to extensive fish cultivation financial compensation should be provided by the Operational Programme.

Mitigation measure for axis 3, measure 2: Fishing ports, landing sites and shelters

If the aquaculture base in Seča or clam farm areas in Strunjan are modernized, all interventions have to be evaluated in accordance with the Rules on the assessment of acceptability of impacts caused by the execution of plans and activities affecting nature in protected areas (Official Journal of RS, no 130/04, 53/06).

Landscape
During the Programme implementation adverse impacts on the landscape are possible if processing plants and fish farms are placed in the areas of recognizable landscape features. Quality of the landscape image can be reduced.

Processing plants should be located in the areas of industrial zones, which have already been envisaged for this purpose by municipal spatial plans. Before placing fish farms in the areas of acknowledged landscape features, an expert (an experienced landscape architect) should assess the acceptability of such an intervention.

Cultural heritage
In the case of expanding aquaculture plants or intensifying the existing plants physical interventions in the areas of cultural heritage protection can occur (especially in the protected cultural landscape). Indirect impacts are possible due to changes in visual perception and due to hindering access to cultural heritage units. Processing plants on the Coast are planned to be expanded. Possible are negative impacts in the cases of intervening with cultural heritage areas.

Soil
If processing plants are expanded and new fish farms are constructed, degradation of the soil is possible. Processing plants should be located in the areas of industrial zones, which have already been envisaged for this purpose by municipal spatial plans. Similarly, fish farms should be placed in the areas already envisaged for this purpose by municipal spatial plans.

OVERALL ESTIMATION

The table presents impact assessments of Programme implementation with regard to individual segments of the environment that were brought to attention. Estimate of consequences arising from the impacts of Programme implementation for the attainment of objectives set under the integral assessment was established for the following classes:

A – no impact/positive impact
B – negligible impact
C – conditioned negligible impact (with the implementation of mitigation measures)
D – substantial impact
E – destructive impact
Table 13: Overall impact assessment with regard to individual elements of the environment.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Segment</th>
<th>AXIS 1</th>
<th>AXIS 2</th>
<th>AXIS 3</th>
<th>Axis 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Climate</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Air Quality</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water – continental surface waters</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water – groundwater</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water – the sea</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality of life and human health</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature - flora, fauna and habitat types</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature – Protected zones (Natura 2000 areas and protected areas)</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nature – Ecologically important areas and natural features</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Landscape</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural heritage</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the examined situation it follows that the Operational Programme for the Development of Fisheries in Slovenia 2007 – 2013 is acceptable.
6. PRIORITY AXES OF THE PROGRAMME

The state of the fisheries sector described in Chapter 3 of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 demands the implementation of certain measures described in the National Strategic Plan, which will lead towards the sustainable development of Slovenian fisheries and the general objectives set out in Chapter 4 of the OP fisheries 2007-2013. The Republic of Slovenia intends to implement provisionally fifteen measures from all 4 axes of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 and technical assistance as described below.

EFF Axis 1 provides funds for adaptation of the fishing fleet (e.g. permanent and temporary cessation, investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity, public aid for small-scale coastal fishing, socio-economic compensations for the management of the fleet). EFF Axis 2 funds are primarily aimed at aquaculture, processing and marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products (e.g. modernising and constructing aquaculture and processing facilities or plants to achieve the objectives set out in Article 35 of the EFF Basic Regulation) as well as aqua-environmental measures, public health measures and animal health measures. EFF Axis 3 provides funds for measures of common interest (e.g. collective measures such as improving working conditions and safety, promoting partnership between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector, creating Producers Organisations etc.), measures to support investment in existing fishing ports (e.g. to improve working conditions, provision of fuel, ice, water and electricity, construction, modernisation and extension of quays improving safety etc.), development of new markets and promotional campaigns (e.g. promotion campaigns for fisheries and aquaculture products, campaigns to improve the image of fisheries and aquaculture products and the image of the fisheries sector etc.). Axis 4 funds are for supplementary works for the other axes in accordance with the EFF Basic Regulation. As the sea fishing grounds are small in comparison to the number of fishing vessels, this includes, for example, the envisaged diversification into tourist activities or other non-fisheries related activities. Sea fishing is largely limited to the three local communities, Piran, Koper and Izola. The future in terms of Axis 4 lies mainly in the integration of local inhabitants, creation of a coastal action group, acquiring specialist skills, and promotional activities among the local population etc.

The set of measures was selected on the basis of the current state analysis of the fisheries sector, SWOT analysis, consultations with partners and other state authorities, and on the basis of the results of surveys on socio-economic data for vessels and data on aquaculture, and the objectives and priorities of the CFP and national strategy, as presented below. Guiding principles of the Article 19 of the EFF Basic Regulation have been taken into consideration as well:

- consistency with the principles of the CFP and NSP;
- enhancement of sustainable development of economic activities, jobs and human resources, as well as protection and the improvement of the environment;
- an appropriate allocation of the available financial resources between the priority axes and
- promotion of the operations contributing to the implementation of the Lisbon strategy.

Within axes 2 and 4 a sustainable level of employment in the fisheries sector is going to be encouraged; new opportunities within axis 4 are provisionally going to offer new quality jobs, providing access to the profession for young people and implementation of equal opportunities. Within chosen measures that are provisionally going to be implemented a promotion of the operations contributing to the objectives of the Gothenburg strategy is set. Therefore, social, economic, environmental, educational and other dimensions of the proposed measures have been taken into account (e.g. improvement of the situation of the human resources – axes 2, 4, improving working conditions – axis 3, diversifying professional skills – axes 1, 4, operations with high added value through the development of
innovative capacities that meet consumers’ needs for fisheries and aquaculture products – axes 2, 3, 4; operations promoting transparency of environmentally friendly production methods to consumers – axis 2, contribution to a better supply and to a sustainable development of the community market of fisheries and aquaculture products – axes 2, 3; promotion of gender balance – especially within axis 4 - promotion of sustainable development of the fisheries areas by fostering their inherent potential and improving quality of life – axis 4 - etc.).

Measures that Slovenia provisionally intends to implement within 4 axes of the Operational Programme will help to improve the state of the fisheries sector as a whole. This is also one of the findings from the ex-ante evaluation. Other results of the ex-ante evaluation are:

- The OP fisheries 2007-2013 is in compliance with the objectives of the CFP, mainly sustainable use of fisheries resources and long-term viability of the fisheries sector.
- Considering the current state of the fisheries sector, however, demands a weighty consideration of the further development of the fisheries sector.
- The OP fisheries 2007-2013 must include measures to balance the relation between fisheries resources that are available and fishing effort, measures to diversify the offer in fisheries.
- The OP fisheries 2007-2013 must include measures to protect nature (environment) that are the only guarantors for a long-term favourable state of fisheries resources.
- Measures suggested in the programme are mostly compatible with objectives and policies of the National Nature Protection Programme.
- Nature Protection policies actually support policies and objectives that are presented within certain measures of the OP fisheries 2007-2013.
- Appropriate management of protected areas at sea would increase their positive effect.
- Among all presented measures of the programme none is incompatible with the principles of sustainable development or sustainable use of fisheries resources.
- Certain measures (Aqua-environmental measures, Productive investments in Aquaculture etc.) will however need to be assessed again when defined in detail from the view of environmental impact or their impact on maintaining biodiversity.
- The implementation of the operational programme fisheries 2007-2013 is of key importance to improve the current state of the fisheries sector as much from the view of environmental protection including biodiversity, as for inhabitants, water, material assets, cultural heritage, landscape and the inter-connection of all those factors.

Within four axes of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 specific objectives have been set that will be measured with result indicators set in this chapter. Measuring, however, needs to be done in relation to baseline data (initial state).

The importance of chosen OP fisheries 2007-2013 activities can be seen from the total proportion of funds intended for individual priority axes below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PRIORITY AXIS</th>
<th>PROPORTION OF EFF FUNDS IN %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Axis 1</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 2</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 3</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 4</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Axis 5</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 14: The total proportion of EFF funds within priority axes (in %)

28 Due to a lack of data for initial state within certain objectives it is very difficult to foresee the exact numerical value of the result indicators. However, the expected numerical value of the result indicators is set within the axes’ description.
6.1 TARGET GROUPS AND BENEFICIARIES

As the funds for implementing the OP fisheries 2007-2013 are from the European Fisheries Fund, the target group for programme implementation are primarily people in the fisheries sector and its sub-sectors as they are set in the SWOT analysis. As fisheries sector in Slovenia consists of sea commercial fishing, marine aquaculture, freshwater aquaculture and processing, these areas or sub-sectors will be mainly targeted. Groups of people, therefore, who represent above-mentioned sub-sectors will be targeted as beneficiaries:

- fishermen and (joint) ship owners
- fish farmers (representatives of marine aquaculture and freshwater fish farming, as well as shellfish farming)
- actors of the fish processing industry
- local communities
- actors of the private non-fisheries sector
- public or semi-public bodies

Those groups are however generally targeted beneficiaries. Within each axis different groups of beneficiaries will be eligible:

Axis 1: all legal and natural persons with a valid Slovenian fishing permit; as axis 1 applies mostly to measures for the adaptation of the fishing fleet (e.g. scrapping or re-assignment of fishing vessels, investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity, small-scale coastal fishing) and considering commercial fishing, this comprises only commercial sea fishermen who, with a valid fishing permit, are targeted as beneficiaries within the measures of axis 1.

Axis 2: all legal and natural persons registered in Slovenia for aquaculture and/or processing and marketing of fisheries products. Besides the main target groups of beneficiaries (marine and fresh water fish farmers as well as shellfish farmers), a special group, i.e. farmers with a subsidiary occupation of aquaculture, is also targeted as a group of EFF beneficiaries. Within Investments in processing and marketing, legal and natural persons registered for fish processing in Slovenia are considered to be a targeted group of beneficiaries, as well as public and semi-public bodies.

Axis 3: all legal and natural persons and local communities

Axis 4: legal and natural persons as administrative-financial authority for coastal action groups selected by public tender to implement individual projects in accordance with the local development strategy (CAG). As funds within axis 4 are intended for the establishment of a coastal action group that is going to have representatives from the private non-fisheries sector, the fisheries sector and local communities, those groups are mainly going to be targeted as beneficiaries. Nevertheless the implementation of such a new measure demands an inclusion of as many local inhabitants as possible as well as non-governmental organisations in that area. Seminars that will be organised to present possible axis 4 measures will therefore need to be broad-based.

Axis 5: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food is a beneficiary within this axis for it is intended for administrative assistance to implement the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013.

6.2 PRIORITY AXIS 1: MEASURES FOR THE ADAPTATION OF THE SLOVENIAN FISHING FLEET

One of the main priorities of the development of Slovenian fisheries is the sustainable use of fisheries resources and fleet management. Slovenia currently faces significant structural
problems in its sea fishing sector. The main problems are the seasonal limits of fishing, the use of inappropriate fishing equipment, outdated vessels etc.

6.2.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 1

In compliance with the EFF Basic Regulation, NSP and the strategy presented in Section 4, the main objectives of priority Axis 1 will be to help Slovenia to:

- Stimulate sustainable fishing and long-term use of available and accessible resources.
- Adapting the fishing fleet to the fishery resources available.
- Assistance to vessels carrying out small-scale coastal fishing in terms of the modernisation of vessels with the purpose of improving safety on board.
- Promotion of the use of selective fishing tools and environmentally/resource-friendly fishing methods.

The following means will be used in order to achieve the above-mentioned objectives:

- Permanent and temporary withdrawal of vessels from fishing fleet.
- Investment on board fishing vessels and engine replacement (with equal or less power) and investment in on-board equipment, introducing technical measures to increase selectivity of fishing tools.
- Small-scale coastal fishing measures.
- Socio-economic compensations.

In addition, Slovenia will implement some of the provisions of Council Regulation (EC) No 744/2008 of 24 July 2008 instituting a temporary specific action aiming to promote the restructuring of the European Community fishing fleets affected by the economic crisis (OJ L 202, 31.7.2008, p. 1–8), including special measures applicable only to fleets concerned by the fleet adaptation schemes.

The fact is that there are too many vessels in the limited fishing area, which generates great pressure on fishing resources and can not guarantee economic survival to all fishermen. Due to this fact the Strategy for Fisheries Development until the year 2013 will also include the possibility of temporary or permanent withdrawal from the fishing fleet and the cessation of performing fishing activities. With the funds obtained from EFF on the basis of withdrawal, fishers can re-qualify for another job or occupation. There are no realistic possibilities to extend the fishing area or increase fish stocks and this is why the integration of this measure is reasonable. The consequence of withdrawal will be a decrease in the level of fishing capacity of the Slovenian fleet in terms of tonnage and engine power as determined in compliance with the Commission Regulation N° 916/2004 on the date of the accession of Slovenia to the EU.

Since in the structure of the fleet fishing vessels intended for small-scale coastal fishing prevail, particular attention will be given to the measures intended for small-scale coastal fishing.

Slovenia will carry out the following measures in Axis 1:

- Permanent cessation of fishing activities,
- Temporary cessation of fishing activities,
- Investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity,
● Small-scale coastal fishing and
● Socio-economic compensations for the management of the fleet.

6.2.2. RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS

Axis 1: Measures for the adaptation of the Slovenian fishing fleet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Adjustment of the fishing fleet at a sustainable level</td>
<td>Reduction of capacity of the fleet through permanent cessation of activities (GT, kW)</td>
<td>GT 967,54\textsuperscript{29} kW 10.307,63</td>
<td>According to conservation measures to be adopted</td>
<td>According to conservation measures to be adopted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modernisation of the fishing fleet</td>
<td>Share of vessels modernised of the fishing fleet</td>
<td>175\textsuperscript{30}</td>
<td>At least 4 % of the fishing vessels At least 3 % of the small-scale fishing fleet</td>
<td>At least 6 % of the fishing vessels At least 4 % of the small-scale fishing fleet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quantified target 2013 refers to baseline data

Table 15: Baseline and quantified targets within priority axis 1

6.2.3. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE

**Cessation of fishing activities (permanent and temporary)**

Slovenia is seeking to adapt its fishing fleet in order to create a stable and sustainable balance between the fishing capacity and the resources available. That is why Slovenia will temporarily and permanently reduce its fishing capacity with the intention of viability of the reduced fishing fleet. Slovenia will therefore adopt fishing effort adjustment plans according to Article 21 of EFF Basic Regulation. Nevertheless the extent of both measures can be estimated objectively only on the basis of long-term monitoring of the state of fishing resources.

**Investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity**

According to the Fishing Vessels Register on 1. 10. 2007 there are 175 registered Slovenian fishing vessels. 86 % of the vessels are less than 12 m overall length and only 3 vessels are longer than 18 m overall length. Only 2 vessels are longer than 24 m overall length.

Anyhow, the Slovenian fishing fleet is old. 46 % of the vessels are older than 30 years and 79 % older than 20 years. Equipment and installations do not offer operating safety and do not take into consideration environmental constrains. The Slovenian fishing fleet should be modernised with the purpose of better working conditions and safety, which will result in higher motivation of the fishers.

\textsuperscript{29} Data for fishing capacity in terms of GT and kW refer to Fishing Vessel Register on 1. 10. 2007
\textsuperscript{30} The baseline data is the number of vessels in the Fishing Vessel Register on 1. 10. 2007
The contribution from this measure will help to preserve biological diversity and protect valuable natural features, mostly due to a planned increase in selectivity of certain fishing gears. Namely, selectivity is of key importance to reduce by-catch and above all for a more efficient and sustainable use of fisheries resources.

**Small-scale coastal fishing**

For the Small-scale coastal fishing measure the same observations apply as for Investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity.

**Socio-economic compensation for the management of the fleet**

Due to the fishing technique and the migratory character of the majority of the fish, as well as to a decline in fishery resources the Slovenian commercial fishing is dependent on the season of the year. Slovenian fishermen need, therefore, in certain months of the year when they do not catch fish, to search for additional possibilities of employment. Especially there is a possibility of diversification in tourism. Fishing tourism is meant in the sense of taking people on a fishing trip to see the commercial fishing and not to stimulate sports fishing. Such a diversification would in any case help preserve job in fisheries sector, which is positive, as Slovenia is a marine country and the fisheries sector is of key importance to it – in spite of small added value.

**6.2.3.1 PERMANENT CESSATION OF FISHING ACTIVITIES**

**RATIONALE:**

The main objective of the CFP is the sustainable use of fishery resources and fleet management. Slovenia currently faces significant structural problems in its sea fishing sector, particularly: (1) imbalance between fishing capacities and available fishing resources, particularly the reduction of the fishing grounds after the Slovenian independence in 1991 (too many vessels in a limited fishing area); (2) an outdated and unsuitable fishing fleet that does not enable efficient use of fisheries resources on the open sea; (3) the seasonal nature of fishing.

The composition of the Slovenian fishing fleet and the fishing gears used in territorial waters is unbalanced – i.e. not aligned with available fisheries resources. That is also the result of the Management plan for marine fisheries in waters under the jurisdiction of the Republic of Slovenia, which has revealed that the Slovenian fishing fleet, conducting fishing activities primarily in territorial waters consists of too many bottom trawlers for such a limited area. This is one of the reasons why Slovenia should adopt a fishing effort adjustment plan according to Article 21(a)(v) of the EFF Basic Regulation (EC) N° 2371/2002 of 20 December 2002 on the conservation and sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources under the Common Fisheries Policy. In line with that article Member States may take measures for the national fishing fleet taking into account the conservation and management of stocks in waters under their sovereignty or jurisdiction.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The general objective of the measure is to reduce the fishing capacity of the Slovenian fishing fleet (reducing total gross tonnage (BT)) and to reduce the fishing effort in accordance with the CFP. On the basis of fishing effort adjustment according to Article 21(a)(v) of the EFF Basic Regulation the Minister will define national decommissioning schemes for the period of 2 years. This will reduce the capacity and reducing the structural imbalance between fisheries resources and the current fishing fleet.
Quantitative objectives:

- Reduction of fishing effort by 10 %. This figure may be revised according to an adopted fishing effort adjustment plan and taking into account future conservation measures.
- Reduction of capacity: for at least 10 %.
- Reduction of power of engine: for at least 10 %.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Permanent cessation of fishing activities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reassignment of fishing vessels into non-fishing activities</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 23 of the EFF Basic Regulation. In the case of adoption of recovery plans in the Adriatic Sea, priority will be given to their financing.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons who are (joint) owners of a fishing vessel with a valid Slovenian permit for commercial fishing.

AID INTENSITY

Financial support is 100 % public financing.

PREMIUMS FOR PERMANENT CESSATION

The level of public support will be established taking into account the best cost-effectiveness ratio based on objective criteria: the value of the fishing vessel and of its licence, its age, its tonnage expressed in GT or engine power expressed in kW. The Monitoring Committee will approve a scale of assistance fixing the maximum premium to be granted.

A scientific survey will be undertaken in order to assess the situation of fisheries stocks and the need to adopt conservation measures.

A fishing effort adjustment plan related to such conservation measures could in this way be adopted by the Slovenian authorities allowing the grant of premiums to vessels exiting from the fishing fleet.

6.2.3.2 TEMPORARY CESSATION OF FISHING ACTIVITIES

RATIONALE

Rationale for the implementation of the measure of temporary cessation is to temporarily reduce the fishing effort of the Slovenian fishing fleet, conducting fishing activities: in Slovenian waters and beyond.

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 24 and Article 21 (a) of the EFF Basic Regulation.
OBJECTIVES:

The general objective of the measure is temporary reduction of the fishing effort of the Slovenian fishing fleet in order to reduce the fishing pressure on marine resources. Temporary cessation of fishing activities will be therefore aimed at the temporary reduction of pressure on fisheries resources.

For the days that a vessel is granted a public aid for temporary cessation of fishing activities, the vessel must stop all fishing activities. This will be controlled with data from the Vessel Monitoring System or any other data (e.g. annual turnover, data on fish caught etc.) or with suspension of fishing permits during the period concerned by the temporary cessation.

The specific objective is:

- Protection and conservation of fisheries resources.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons who are (joint) owners of a fishing vessel with a valid Slovenian permit for commercial fishing, as well as fishermen.

AID INTENSITY

Financial support is 100 % public financing.

PREMIUMS FOR TEMPORARY CESSATION

The level of the premium for temporary cessation of fishing activities will be established by the Monitoring Committee and will be based on objective criteria such as:

1. Part of the loss of revenue incurred by the fishers and the vessel owners. Due to seasonal nature of fishing activities, the loss of revenue in an individual month will be compared with the same month in the previous year.
2. Part of the basic salary currently received by the fishers.

6.2.3.3 INVESTMENTS ON BOARD FISHING VESSELS AND SELECTIVITY

RATIONALE:

Slovenian fishing faces the problem of outdated and poorly equipped fishing fleet. The inefficiency is seen primarily in its incapacity to fish in international waters, which means that there is a concentration of vessels using several different fishing techniques in Slovenian internal and territorial waters. Slovenia intends the inclusion of this measure to modernise the fishing fleet in the sense of achieving a higher quality catch, greater on board security, through engine replacement and purchase of equipment and modernisation works in accordance with Article 25 of the EFF Basic Regulation. The reduction of engine power can be achieved by a group of vessels for each category of vessels. Replacement of engines will enable greater energy efficiency and have a positive impact on the environment.

OBJECTIVES:

The general objective is to improve safety on board and improve the living conditions for fishermen on board. Replacing engines will achieve energy efficiency and have a positive impact on the environment. A combination of engine replacement with power reduction and
modernisation or financing of proper equipment for reducing the impact of fishing on non-commercial species could lead to a better use of fisheries resources. Technical measures to achieve greater selectivity of fishing gears are to be considered as well.

The specific objectives are:

- Protection and conservation of fisheries resources.
- Improving on-board working conditions.
- Better quality of fish.

**Quantitative objectives:**

- 10 vessels are foreseen for modernization of equipment and selectivity measures,
- 15 vessels are foreseen for modernization under the small-scale coastal fishing measure

**SELECTED ACTIVITIES**

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Replacing vessel engines/reduction of engine power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving on-board safety, working conditions, hygiene and product quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical measures to increase the selectivity of fishing gear</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION**

If a group of vessels will participate in the engine replacement, compliance with the conditions defined in the EFF Basic and Implementing Regulations will be supervised with the use of the data from InfoRib system (data on fishing fleet, logbooks) and VMS system.

The decrease of 20% of the capacity in terms of power by a group of vessels may be achieved, either through exiting from the fleet one or more fishing vessels belonging to the group, or by decreasing the capacity in terms of power of individual vessels of the group in such a way that the final result, after replacement of the engines, is a reduction of at least 20% of the capacity in terms of power of the engines replaced.

In compliance with the Commission document Vademecum the following formula shall apply for the calculation of 20% reduction in engine power to be achieved by group of vessels:

**Final power <= Initial power – 20% Power reduction**

Where,

**Initial power** = power of all the vessels belonging to the group before any replacement has taken place,

**20% Power reduction** = 20% of the power of the engines being replaced with public aid,

**Final power** = power of all the vessels belonging to the group after the engines have been replaced.

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 25 of the EFF Basic Regulation.
The highest amount per vessel under Investments on board, fishing vessels and selectivity measure shall not exceed the amount per vessel provided for under the measure of Permanent cessation of fishing activities. If the amount for investments on board fishing vessel and selectivity exceeds the provided amount per vessel under the permanent cessation of fishing activities, the eligible cost is up to the amount of the premium set per fishing vessel.\(^31\)

However, the Managing Authority will try to establish the value for each vessel supported under this measure on a case by case basis.

**BENEFICIARIES**

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons who are (joint) owners of a fishing vessel with a valid Slovenian permit for commercial fishing.

**AID INTENSITY**

Public co-financing may range from 20% to 60%.

**6.2.3.4 SMALL-SCALE COASTAL FISHING**

**RATIONALE:**

The major part of the Slovenian fishing fleet considering the number of vessels represents a group of vessels that are in overall length less than 11.9 metres long (151 vessels\(^32\)). Slovenian fishing faces the problem of an outdated and poorly equipped fishing fleet. The inefficiency is seen primarily in its incapacity to fish in international waters, which means that there is a concentration of vessels using several different fishing techniques in Slovenian internal and territorial waters. With the inclusion of this measure Slovenia intends to modernise the fishing fleet in the sense of achieving a higher quality catch, greater on-board safety, and greater energy efficiency through engine replacement which will have a positive impact on the environment.

**OBJECTIVES:**

The general objectives of this measure are modernisation of the fishing vessels for improving safety on board, living and working conditions of fishermen, replacement of equipment to reduce the impact of fishing on non-commercial species, to reduce the impact of fishing on the ecosystem and the sea bottom. Replacing engines will achieve energy efficiency and have a positive impact on the environment. Engine replacement with power reduction and modernisation or financing of proper equipment for reducing the impact of fishing on non-commercial species could lead to a better use of fisheries resources. Technical measures to achieve greater selectivity of fishing gears in favour of small-scale coastal fishing are to be provisionally implemented (Article 25(7) of the EFF Basic Regulation).

The specific objectives are:

- Protection and conservation of fisheries resources,
- Improving on-board working conditions,
- Better quality of fish.

\(^31\) For more information on the premiums set within Permanent cessation of fishing activities measure see chapter 6.2.3.1.

\(^32\) The data are taken from Slovenian Fishing Vessels Register on 1. 10. 2007.
SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Replacing vessel engines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving on-board safety, working conditions, product hygiene and quality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technical measures to increase selectivity of fishing tools</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 25 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons who are (joint) owners of a fishing vessel with a valid Slovenian permit for commercial fishing, as well as fishermen.

AID INTENSITY

Where the EFF provides financing for measures under Article 25 in favour of small-scale coastal fishing the private financial participation rate shown in Group 2 of the Table in Annex II may be reduced by 20 percentage points.33

6.2.3.5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC COMPENSATIONS FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FLEET

RATIONALE:

As Slovenian commercial fishing is seasonal and Slovene fishermen need additional occupation Slovenia sees an opportunity in socio-economic compensations for the management of the fleet, especially for a diversification of activities with promoting new jobs. A diversification into fishing tourism was seen as an option. Fishing tourism is meant in the sense of taking people on a fishing trip to see the commercial fishing and not to stimulate sports fishing. Practice in other states is such, that fishing tourism, for example, is identified as commercial activity on the basis of national legislation, which means that there are detailed rules on how to obtain a permit for this activity. In Slovenia such a possibility does not exist yet. The regulations are dispersed through many areas (e.g. maritime safety, health, hygiene etc.). An important provision, namely Article 6(5) of the EFF Basic Regulation, is that EFF may not co-finance activities that would increase fishing effort. It should therefore be established in detail how great the fishing effort of those is, who decide for such a diversification – they need to be fishermen who are affected by developments in fishing. On the other side this means as well, that the negative impact on the environment would not increase. Such a diversification would in any case help preserve job in fisheries sector. The measure cannot contribute to increasing a vessel’s ability to catch fish.

OBJECTIVES:

The general objective is to ensure compensation for the fishermen affected by the management of the fleet.

The specific objective is:

33 This means that measures under Article 25 of the Basic Regulation (within measure Investments on board fishing vessels and selectivity) are granted higher aid intensity if they are implemented in the context of Small Scale Coastal Fishing.
- Helping fishermen to diversify their fishing activity and overcome difficulties related to the seasonality of fishing.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>diversification of activities with a view to promoting multiple jobs for fishers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 27 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons who are owners of a fishing vessel with a valid Slovenian permit for commercial fishing.

AID INTENSITY

Financial support is 100 % public financing.

DESCRIPTION OF METHODS FOR CALCULATION OF COMPENSATIONS

Compensations will be calculated on the basis of costs incurred by the diversification of the activity.

The Monitoring Committee will fix the level of premiums regarding socio-economic compensation under Article 27.

6.3. AXI 2: AQUACULTURE, INLAND FISHING, PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRODUCTS

A) Aquaculture

In 2003 aquaculture already represented over half of the entire Slovenian commercial catch and rearing, with freshwater fish farming a bit less than half of it. On Slovenia’s EU entry in May 2004 the state of aquaculture significantly deteriorated. The main reason was the fall in the market price for fish due to the single market and competitive pressures from other Member States. Fresh impetus will be needed in the Slovenian aquaculture sector in the new programming period 2007-2013.

B) Processing and marketing

The data indicates that fish and fisheries products' consumption is constantly increasing, but is significantly lower than the EU average. In Slovenia in addition to canned fish (tuna, sardines) the highest sales are still for fresh fish, followed by simply packaged fish (fresh fillets), with far less consumption, or sales of smoked, simply packaged frozen fish and processed fisheries products. Due to slowly, but continually changing nutritional habits, more and more possibilities are opening up for the production of processed fisheries products.

The objective of developing the sector is to modernise processing capacity and to promote product diversification. The added value of the products (which may be based on traditional or new technologies) will make it easier for the processing sector to continue its activity and invest in continually needed modernisation and development. In addition to promoting the
setting up of new plants, in the 2007 to 2013 period special attention will be paid to support for modernising existing capacity and the purchase of new modern technological equipment. The development of processing and marketing will be directed to creating an environment that will enable increased competitiveness of processing plants and aquaculture farms.

### 6.3.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 2

In compliance with the EFF Basic Regulation and the strategy presented in Chapter 3.4 above, the main objectives of the Priority Axis 2 will be to help Slovenia to:

- Modernise the aquaculture sector in a sustainable way,
- Create an environment to raise the long-term competitiveness and profitability of the freshwater and maritime aquaculture on the domestic and European market,
- Promote the diversity of fish supply and introducing new species of fish, shellfish and molluscs,
- Promote the use of extensive and/or environmentally friendly methods,
- Create an environment to raise the long-term competitiveness of processing plants,
- Enhance the marketing of fisheries products.

Following measures will help to achieve the above-mentioned objectives:

- Productive investments in aquaculture
- Aqua-Environmental measures\(^{34}\)
- Public health measures\(^ {35}\)
- Animal health measures\(^ {36}\)
- Processing and marketing

### 6.3.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS

**Axis 2: Aquaculture, processing and marketing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Promoting investments in aquaculture</td>
<td>Number of new aquaculture plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Production in freshwater aquaculture – tonnage/year</td>
<td>1100</td>
<td>+100</td>
<td>+200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Production in marine aquaculture – tonnes/year</td>
<td>192(^{37})</td>
<td>+50%</td>
<td>+70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of new fish species reared</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of aquaculture facilities with on-farm retail trade</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+5</td>
<td>+16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^{34}\) Aqua-Environmental measures are only provisionally going to be implemented.

\(^{35}\) Public health measures are only provisionally going to be implemented.

\(^{36}\) Animal health measures are only provisionally going to be implemented.
## Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

### Table 16: Baseline and quantified targets within Axis 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Popularisation of certain aquaculture methods that meet consumers needs and help protect human health, preserve biotic diversity and protected areas</th>
<th>Increase in the number of aquaculture facilities that introduce treating waste water</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>+2</th>
<th>+15</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of aquaculture units with organic production</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of units that have implemented aqua-environmental measures as provided for in Article 30(2)(a) of the EFF Basic Regulation</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promoting investments in processing industry</td>
<td>Number of newly built processing plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of modernised processing plants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Encouraging processing plants to introduce treating waste</td>
<td>Increase in the number of the processing plants treating waste</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quantified target 2013 refers to baseline data

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37 These are official data of SORS for the total production in marine aquaculture in 2006. However, the total production is to be increased for about 50% in 2007 due to new aquaculture concessions given in previous two years. This explains a 50% increase to 2010. The actual increase in total production in marine aquaculture until 2013 is expected to be 70%.


38 New fish species are species for which aquaculture production in the Member State is low or non-existent and for which there are good market prospects (source: EFF Implementing Regulation, Article 10). Diversification into new species in opened systems will be possible only for fish that are determined in Rules on wild fauna for which it is not necessary to obtain permit for animal breeding (OJ RS, No 62/07). Those are gilt-head Sea bream, Sea bass, Mediterranean mussel as sea species and rainbow trout, brook trout, carp, grass carp, Bighead carp and Silver carp as freshwater fish species. There are no particular constraints under European standards for closed systems. For all other species an IEA is necessary. More information is available under Productive investments in Aquaculture.
6.3.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE

**Productive investments in aquaculture**

Slovenia is mainly seeking the modernisation of existing aquaculture facilities in a way to satisfy environmental conditions. An expansion of the production is expected mainly through diversification into new species. As existing aquaculture facilities are old and fish farmed in freshwater aquaculture sold mainly in local markets, these facilities need modernisation in order to set proper working conditions for fish farmers and to introduce on-farm retail trade.

**Aqua-Environmental measures**

Slovenia will provisionally adopt these measures, mainly in order to introduce more stringent environmental conditions than those to be considered under Productive investments in aquaculture. One of the main objectives of OP fisheries 2007-2013 to be taken into account within these measures is the promotion of extensive aquaculture methods.

**Public health measures**

Public health measures will be implemented only provisionally. The main objective of these measures is to help molluscs farmers during the temporary suspension of harvesting of farmed molluscs.

**Animal health measures**

These measures, too, will be implemented only provisionally. Before their implementation an eradication programme should be conducted.

**Processing and marketing**

The processing industry in Slovenia is mainly represented through a few smaller companies spread around Slovenia and a bigger one that is located on the sea shore. The existing plants are obsolete, they need modernisation in order to become more competitive. On the basis of the sector analysis it has been established that the range of products should be broadened.

6.3.3.1 PRODUCTIVE INVESTMENTS IN AQUACULTURE

**RATIONALE**

The Republic of Slovenia has a large number of high-quality small inland water sources, which offer a sound potential for increasing aquaculture with smaller-capacity aquaculture farms. For environmental reasons the only possibility of growth in maritime aquaculture lies in rearing shellfish, while the possibilities of rearing finfish, are more limited. The measures will be targeted on the construction of smaller aquaculture farms on inland waters, particularly where there is a possibility of selling farmed fish on the local market, and on the setting up new shellfish farms. The measures will be targeted at modernising existing aquaculture farms, procuring new technology and equipment that is environmentally-friendly and helping to achieve better sales opportunities through the construction of retail shops within aquaculture farms, to creating better working conditions, better veterinary hygiene conditions for rearing and protection against fish-eating birds. The goal of this measure is to diversify the production into that of new species, particularly indigenous species, to expand above all the culinary and restaurant products offered. This measure will further encourage
the territorial coverage and product diversity, which will have market diversity at the regional level as its objective.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The aims of this measure are:

- To increase and diversify the production of aquaculture through new species with good market prospects.
- To enhance the quality and the support for traditional aquaculture concerning social and environmental aspects.
- To apply a system of good production practices for the monitoring of quality and the sanitary and hygiene requirements.

Actions funded under this measure will include the construction of new farms and hatcheries, the extension or modernisation of existing farms and improvement of working and safety conditions. Investments related to the improvement of quality will be targeted as well as equipment for the protection from wild predators.

In compliance with the Commission document Vademecum mussel farming in coastal areas and extensive carp pond farming as it is in some areas of Central Europe are considered ‘traditional methods’.

Quantitative objectives:

- About 15 aquaculture facilities are foreseen for modernisation
- About 21 aquaculture facilities are foreseen for introducing on-farm retail trade
- Production in freshwater aquaculture is foreseen to increase by 300 tonnes
- Production in marine aquaculture is foreseen to increase by 130 tonnes
- There are 7 aquaculture units foreseen to introduce organic production

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investments in construction or improvements to property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investments in new technologies and equipment, including hardware and software</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Investments related to on farm retail trade39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 29 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

Aquaculture plants must have a valid water permit or concession in accordance with water legislation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are micro and small-sized enterprises that are legal and natural persons registered in Slovenia for aquaculture activities.

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39 Considering Article 10(3) of the EFF Implementing Regulation without prejudice to Article 35(6) of the EFF Basic Regulation support under Article 29 of that Regulation may cover investments related to on-farm retail trade where such trade forms an integral part of the aquaculture farm. An on-farm retail trade means a shop located inside a fish farm, where the production of the fish farm is sold directly by the fish farmer to consumers.
DESCRIPTION OF HOW PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO MICRO AND SMALL ENTERPRISES

When implementing Productive investments under the Aquaculture measure Slovenia must ensure that priority is given to micro and small-sized enterprises. The definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises is taken from the Commission recommendation of 6 May 2003 (2003/361/EC).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SIZE OF COMPANY</th>
<th>NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES</th>
<th>SALES REVENUES</th>
<th>or</th>
<th>VALUE OF ASSETS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MEDIUM/LARGE</td>
<td>&lt; 250</td>
<td>&lt; € 50 million</td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; € 43 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMALL</td>
<td>&lt; 50</td>
<td>&lt; € 10 million</td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; € 10 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MICRO</td>
<td>&lt; 10</td>
<td>&lt; € 2 million</td>
<td></td>
<td>&lt; € 2 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 17: Definition of micro, small and medium/large enterprises

The priority of micro and small enterprises will be enforced in the selection process. 50 % of funding will be earmarked for viable projects coming from this type of enterprises. The Monitoring Committee may revise this percentage in the light of the actual demands by the sector.

6.3.3.2 AQUA-ENVIRONMENTAL MEASURES

RATIONALE

At the moment we have no such methods in aquaculture that would go beyond so-called good aquaculture practice. Until now aquaculture was mostly concentrated on reducing negative impact on the environment. As one of the objectives of the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia within axis 2 is promoting the use of extensive and/or environmentally friendly methods, e.g. closed systems, there is a need to introduce and implement aqua-environmental measures in aquaculture. Fish consumption per capita in Slovenia is rather low in comparison with other European countries. As the popularisation of products goes in the direction of satisfying consumer needs and at the same time protecting human health, assuring sustainable use of natural resources and at the same time reducing environmental impacts, and as certain activities could have great impact on the maintenance of biotic diversity and cultural landscape, the Republic of Slovenia will provisionally implement aqua-environmental measures.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

General objective is to popularise and stimulate such aquaculture methods that meet consumers needs and protect human health as well as ensure the sustainable use of natural resources, the minimisation of negative impacts on the environment and the preservation of protected areas.

Specific objectives are:

1. To transfer to aquaculture methods that include protection and improvement of environment, natural resources, genetic diversity and management of the landscape and traditional features of aquaculture zones,
2. To stimulate organic aquaculture methods on the basis of Community legislation and, if necessary, national legislation,

METHODS FOR THE CALCULATION OF COMPENSATIONS

The Managing Authority will fix the level of the premium taking into account the following criteria:

a) in the case of specific objective (1) taking into account the loss of revenue incurred on the basis of a maximum amount per hectare of the area of the enterprise to which aqua-environmental commitments apply a one-off compensation shall be given;

b) in the case of specific objective (2) the additional cost which may result from the application of aqua-environmental methods will be taken into account; a compensation shall be given for a maximum of two years during the period of the conversion of the enterprise to organic production;

c) in the case of specific objective (3) for a maximum of two years subsequent to the date of the decision establishing the NATURA 2000 area and only for aquaculture units existing prior to that decision; either on the basis of the loss of revenue incurred or on the basis of the additional cost which may result from the application of aqua-environmental methods.  

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons that are registered for fish farming in Slovenia, as well as farmers with aquaculture as subsidiary occupation and public or semi-public bodies.

6.3.3.3 PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES

RATIONALE

Although the pathogenic quality of seaweed is relatively minor in the comparison with that of bacteria and viruses for humans and animals we could still find some of them that present a serious threat to human and animal health. Pathogenic effects of seaweed are strictly linked with their toxins that are mostly major as well as the only toxic factor of those organisms. Humans mostly come in contact with them through food. An excessive presence of those toxins in water represent a serious threat to human health. With mussels farming in Trieste Bay almost every year mussels contamination occurs due to an expansion of the plankton that produces toxins harmful to human health as a result of which the veterinary inspection temporarily prohibits the sale of mussels. In the last years a prohibition of mussels’ sale would last around one month. There is a possibility to extend a prohibition of mussels sale due to different toxins occurring in mussels up to a period longer than four months, or the losses may exceed 35 % of the annual turnover of the company. Accordingly, we envisage this measure in the OP fisheries 2007-2013 within axis 2 under Public health measures in order to provide possible compensations, if it will be implemented.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

40 A specific way of calculating a method within this specific objective will be known when measures are going to be set that are coming from NATURA 2000 areas.
41 Those measures will be implemented only if necessary.
The general objective is to help Slovenian mussel farmers to overcome difficulties due to an occurrence in the sea of toxins or toxin-producing plankton or the presence of plankton containing bio-toxins and consequently contaminating molluscs on the basis of which mussels sale is prohibited.

METHODS OF CALCULATION FOR THE SCALE OF COMPENSATIONS

The Managing Authority will fix the level of the premium taking into account the following criteria:

- Actual losses of the animals farmed, in case of extremely long closures.
- Lower value of the molluscs in the market due to excessive size.
- Lower market prices at the moment of restarting the harvesting.
- Financial losses (operating costs of the enterprises when harvesting is closed).

In case of single suspension lasting for more than twelve months, or of repeated suspensions imposed to the same enterprise lasting more than four months each and totalling more than twelve months, the compensation is calculated over the entire period but is paid only up to a fraction corresponding to maximum twelve months of suspension. For example: a single suspension lasting fifteen months, and creating economic losses for 15,000 EUR, will receive a maximum compensation of 12,000 EUR \([(15,000/15) \times 12]\).

If the Public health measure will be implemented, compensations will be calculated based on one of the above-mentioned methods.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons registered for shellfish farming in Slovenia.

The maximum duration for which compensation may be granted shall be 12 months over the entire programming period.

6.3.3.4 ANIMAL HEALTH MEASURES

RATIONALE

Animal health measures are intended to finance control and eradication of diseases in aquaculture. Measures will be implemented in the case of occurrence and spread of diseases that could strongly affect aquaculture production in Slovenia.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

General objective of the above-named measures is to establish a system of control and eradication programmes for diseases in aquaculture.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

According to the second paragraph of Article 12 of the EFF Implementing regulation the Managing Authority of the Operational Programme shall decide whether it will contribute to the financing of control measures referred to in paragraph 1(a) of that Article or an

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42 Animal health measures will be implemented, if necessary.
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

eradication programme referred to in paragraph 1(b) of the same Article, and adopt the detailed arrangements for its financial participation before submitting the measures or the programme, respectively, in accordance with the provisions of Decision 90/424/EEC and Council Directive 2006/88/EC of 24 October 2006 on animal health requirements for aquaculture animals and products thereof, and on the prevention and control of certain diseases in aquatic animals.

Therefore, the selected activities will be chosen if the animal health measures are going to be implemented.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons registered in Slovenia for fish farming, as well public and semi-public bodies.

SELECTION CRITERIA


Specific criteria and a more detailed description of those measures, if implemented, will be given in the national implementing regulation and a public tender, which will feature open procedures.

6.3.3.5 PROCESSING AND MARKETING

RATIONALE

Processing and marketing is one of the most important factors in the development of aquaculture in Slovenia, and increasing the per capita consumption of fish and fisheries products. The measures will be directed towards increasing and improving fish and fisheries products, increasing the number of fisheries products, and utilising underused species and side products, which will lead to a reduction in fish waste. Working conditions in the fish processing industry are generally difficult, so it is essential to improve working conditions if we want to ensure sustainable employment and promote equality between men and women. The fish processing industry is a relatively large consumer of quality water and potentially a major environment polluter, so measures will be directed towards reducing its environmental impact. In order to help secure the existence of traditional sea fishing and the development of domestic aquaculture, we will promote the marketing of products primarily from local landings and local aquaculture.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objective of the measure is to promote sustainable employment and improve competitiveness in the fisheries sector.

The specific objectives are:

- Increasing production and the range of fisheries products by constructing new processing facilities.
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

- Improving competitiveness by modernising production and the existing processing facilities.
- Promoting greater supply and consumption of fish originating from local landings and aquaculture.
- Treatment of waste – utilisation of waste from processed aquaculture products for by-products (fish meal and/or others) aiming at avoiding pollution caused by them.
- Improvement of the working conditions and safety at work.

Quantitative objectives:

- There are 6 new processing plants foreseen to be newly built
- About 9 processing plants are foreseen to be modernised.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Investments in construction or improvements to property</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments in new hardware and equipment, including computer and software</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 35 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons registered in Slovenia for fish processing.

DESCRIPTION OF THE METHOD FOR PRIORITISING MICRO AND SMALL-SIZED ENTERPRISES

The priority of micro and small sized enterprises will be enforced in the selection process. 50% of funding will be earmarked for viable projects coming from this type of enterprises. The Monitoring Committee may revise this percentage in the light of the actual demands by the sector.

6.4 AXIS 3: MEASURES OF COMMON INTEREST

6.4.1. MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 3

Axis 3 is intended to support measures of common interest with a broader scope than measures normally undertaken by private enterprises and which help to meet the objectives of the common fisheries policy. Common measures may relate to collective actions implemented by operators or by producer’s organisations or other bodies that help to protect fisheries resources, improve working conditions for fishermen etc. In compliance with the EFF Basic Regulation, NSP and the strategy presented in Section 4, the main objectives of priority Axis 3 will be to help Slovenia to:

- Improve and modernize ports, fish landing sites, and establish points of initial sale for fish.
- Promote and develop new markets with an emphasis on implementing promotional campaigns for fisheries products and the fisheries sector.
- Improve safety at sea and working conditions for fishermen.
- Promote partnership between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector.
- Promote the establishment of Producers Organisation.
One of the key priorities in the new programming period will be the modernisation of existing fishing ports in the three coastal municipalities (Izola, Koper, and Piran), the improvement of landing sites, and promotion of fish and fisheries products.

Within axis 3 Slovenia intends to implement the following measures:

- Collective actions;
- Fishing ports, landing sites and shelters;
- Development of new markets and promotional campaigns

6.4.2. RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS

Axis 3: Measures of common interest

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving fish and fishery product market</td>
<td>Number of established producers organizations</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>provisionally 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of first sale points</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+1</td>
<td>+2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitating marketing and promotional campaigns</td>
<td>Increase of average fish consumption per capita per year</td>
<td>0.043 kg</td>
<td>0 kg</td>
<td>2 kg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of operations in marketing fish and promotional campaigns</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+2</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving work safety of fishermen at sea</td>
<td>Number of vessels with new nautical equipment installed on board</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+5</td>
<td>+10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Improving infrastructure in the fishing ports</td>
<td>Number of cold stores in all fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of storage places installed in all fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of quays restructured in fishing ports</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quantified target 2013 refers to baseline data

Table 18: Baseline and quantified targets within Axis 3

43 Currently the per capita consumption of fish per year is around 6 kg.
6.4.3. SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE

Collective actions

The purpose of collective measures is to settle basic conditions and set up an environment to boost the competitiveness of the fisheries sector as well as to improve safety at sea for fishermen and implement the objectives of the common fisheries policy. A part of these activities is earmarked for the promotion of the use of technology and standards to ensure the safety of fishing vessels at sea. Priority will be given to the use of AIS stations to ensure safety at sea. At the same time this creates the linkage with commercial shipping and thus goes along with the actual Commission strategy of an Integrated Maritime Policy. Cooperation between scientific and research fields and operators in the fisheries sector will ensure a long-term favourable environment for fishing and aquaculture. The establishment of Producer organisations means creating a platform for stakeholders which will ensure a harmonised planning of development in the fisheries sector.

Fishing ports, landing sites and shelters

The purpose of this measure is to modernise existing fishing ports in Piran, Koper and Izola and in this way to improve services that are offered to fishermen in those ports. This way the measure could contribute to better working conditions of fishermen and consequently to a bigger efficiency and safety of fishermen at work.

DEMARCATION WITH SIMILAR ACTIVITIES UNDER OTHER COMMUNITY FUNDING AND MEASURES TAKEN TO ENSURE COMPLEMENTARITY

The equipment and modernisation of existing ports will be funded by the EFF only if these are exclusively fishing ports.

Development of new markets and promotional campaigns

The purpose of the measure is to develop new markets, promote fisheries as well as fisheries products in Slovenia, achieve better recognition of different fish species on the Slovenian (in particular continental) market, to promote consumption of fish and educate people about different ways of using and preparing fish in a healthy way.

6.4.3.1 COLLECTIVE ACTIONS

RATIONALE

The purpose of this measure is to arrange the basic conditions and to create an environment to increase the competitiveness of the fishing sector. To improve working conditions as well as health and safety at work, Slovenia wants to promote the use of technologies and standards for the safety of fishing vessels at sea. Priority will be given to the use of AIS devices for maritime safety in accordance with the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and Council amending Directive 2002/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community vessel traffic monitoring and information system. These devices, however, will hopefully help within the double control system of fishing vessels, as it works on a different basis from that of the VMS system which sends signals on an hourly basis. The AIS system will hopefully help with preventing traffic collisions and

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44 The new Directive has not been adopted yet.
improve working conditions of fishermen, as it will solve the situation within the traffic separation scheme\textsuperscript{45} where fishing vessels are impeded.

Other activities that are provisionally going to be implemented under those measures are the establishment of Producers organizations and promotion of partnership between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objective is to create an environment which will raise the competitiveness of the fishing sector.

The specific objectives are:

- Improving safety at sea.
- Promoting partnership between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector.

Quantitative objectives:

- To establish at least one Producers organization.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be provisionally entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects to promote partnership between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Setting up a Producers Organisation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Projects to improve safety at sea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IMPROVEMENT OF MARITIME SAFETY

The main objectives of the development strategy for Slovenian fisheries include promoting the use of technology and standards for safety of fishing vessels at sea. Slovenia has three fishing ports, Koper, Izola and Piran, one of which (Koper) is also a transport and cargo port and also the largest in the country. As small-scale coastal fishing constitutes a major part of Slovenian fisheries, and because the fishing area where Slovenian fishermen conduct fishing is small, there is an urgent need to properly organise the problematic transport routes to the ports. AIS devices are of great importance for vessels in open waters as well as in offshore waters. The current arrangements mean that cargo ships have priority over fishing vessels. In this framework, priority is given to the use of AIS devices for maritime safety in accordance with the Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and Council amending Directive 2002/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a Community vessel

\textsuperscript{45} In Trieste Bay commercial maritime traffic has great influence on the traffic of fishing vessels. Due to an agreement on a common traffic separation system and a traffic separation scheme in the northern part on North Adriatic Sea which passes through the middle of Trieste Bay and thus is located in Slovenian waters, fishing vessels during fishing shall not impede the traffic of ships sailing in the direction of the navigational route. This means that fishing in that area of the Slovenian sea is impeded.
traffic monitoring and information system. AIS devices would be installed on board fishing vessels.

PROJECTS TO PROMOTE PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND OPERATORS IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR

Projects to promote partnerships between scientists and operators in the fisheries sector are of great importance for fishermen and other representatives of the sector as well as for professional and scientific institutions. Cooperation between all those representatives could help to find innovative solutions for the fisheries sector. However, an active support of operators themselves or by organisations acting on behalf of producers or other organizations recognised by Slovenia is necessary.

SETTING UP A PRODUCER ORGANISATION

So far, Slovenia doesn't have a Producer Organisation in the fisheries sector. In the commercial fishing sector and the aquaculture sector, however, there have been already some attempts to create such an organisation. The absence of Producer Organisations, however, was marked as a one of the weaknesses in the SWOT Analysis.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal (private companies, public or semi-public bodies) and natural persons.

AID INTENSITY

The public co-financing may range from 80 % to 100 %. The exact contributions will be determined by the Managing Authority.

6.4.3.2 FISHING PORTS, LANDING SITES AND SHELTERS

RATIONALE

Slovenia has three fishing ports in Koper, Izola and Piran. They are located in three coastal municipalities (Koper, Izola, Piran) which cover the whole coastal area. All three fishing ports are obsolete and inadequately equipped. So far, the State didn't make any investments in their modernisation nor maintenance; only local communities have put some funds that were mainly small, as they were coming from mooring charges. Those charges are calculated on the basis of the overall length of a fishing vessel. As the income from the charges was not big, the investments made into fishing ports were not really big. On the other side, however, in spite of the fact that fisheries is a historical activity closely related to tradition, local communities did not have enough interest for the modernisation of the ports, as for them fishing does not represent a strong economic activity any more.

When we say that fishing ports are obsolete we mean that their piers are decrepit, fishermen do not have basic infrastructure that would help to improve their working conditions, there are no sufficient fresh water supplies, nor sufficient supplies of ice and electricity, fishing gear is mainly stored on board vessels or on the piers which is not really attractive for tourists, access to the piers is made impossible for bigger vessels as the water is not sufficiently

46 It is actually one of the last traditional activities in the ports.
deep. In the fishing ports there are no landing sites set, therefore, fishermen land their catch where vessels are moored - this means practically all along the ports.

In the life of a fishing port, there should be a place where fish are sold. Tourist should have an opportunity to see what fish have been caught, which fishing gear fishermen have been using etc. Points of first sale would give an added value to the ports, as they are creating the life of the fishing port. Since until now fishing ports have not been equipped (organised) in such a way, and local communities did not invest that much in their maintenance, fishermen lost their interest in cooperating with the local communities. They preferred to go to Trieste and sell their catch there instead of offering it to local inhabitants and tourists. In order to work perfectly, there must be a precaution maintenance, training and cleaning schedule established and enforced in the ports. This can not be done, however, if fishermen are not stimulated. Many fishing vessels come to the existing ports only to land and then leave to other cheaper moorings. Fishing ports this way lose their primary intention. As one of the main objectives is to improve the competitiveness of the fisheries sector, a bigger amount of EFF funds has been intended for their modernisation. Local communities, however, will have to accomplish basic conditions and rules before the implementation of the measure itself which will ensure bigger rentability of the investments made. Such a condition is for example: local communities will have to commit themselves not to change the purpose of the fishing ports for the 10 following years.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objective is to improve the existing fishing ports and landing sites and servicing facilities for initial marketing.

The specific objectives are:

- Improvement of working conditions for fishermen within existing fishing ports and landing sites modernisation,
- Improvement of safety of fishermen within existing fishing ports and landing sites modernisation,
- Improvement of moorings in fishing ports,
- To arrange infrastructure in existing fishing ports and landing sites (water and electricity, refrigeration units, etc.),
- To organise better conditions for the sale of fisheries and aquaculture products in ports and to meet better needs of fish hygiene requirements.

Quantitative objectives:

- Increase of landings in the fishing ports by at least 10 %;
- Modernisation and equipment of all three fishing ports.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Improving conditions for the landing, processing, storage and sale of fisheries and aquaculture products in ports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supply of ice, water and electricity etc. to improve working conditions of fishermen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction, modernisation and extension of quays to improve safety during landing or loading</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The measure "fishing ports, landing sites and shelters" is co-financed on the basis of Article 39 of the EFF Basic Regulation. More detailed rules for implementing this article are set out in Article 17 of the EFF Implementing Regulation.

**BENEFICIARIES**

The beneficiaries are local communities, public and semi-public bodies, associations and other legal and natural persons.

**AID INTENSITY**

The public contribution may be up to 100 % of total eligible cost.

**SPECIFIC INFORMATION**


Sanitary rules will have to be taken into consideration when carrying out investments in fishing ports, e.g. provisions on the quality of water used for human consumption, provisions from the Regulation (EC) N° 852/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the hygiene of foodstuffs and others will have to be met. 47

Additional criteria will be defined in greater detail in the public tender, which will feature open procedures.

**6.4.3.3 DEVELOPMENT OF NEW MARKETS AND PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGNS**

**RATIONALE**

Average fish consumption per capita in Slovenia is rather low (in between 6 and 7 kilograms per capita per year)48. Up to now Slovenia has invested very little in the promotion of fish and fisheries and aquaculture products. Therefore, the quality of Slovenian fisheries and aquaculture products is not very well recognised by consumers, fish and fisheries products are not considered as healthy food either. The fisheries sector, too, is not well recognised.49

The Slovenian fisheries sector is small, fishing is largely restricted to Slovenian waters. The coastal region where fishing takes place is very dependent on tourism, which reduces the role and status of fishing in the region. We want to tell Slovenes that fishing is a traditional activity, that Slovenian sea and freshwater fish are of high quality, and that there is a wide range of fish available. We want to make the general public aware of the importance of fisheries policy as it is strongly connected to landscape conservation, water bodies regulation

47 Slovenia however prepared a national regulation on first sale where sanitary rules are set specifically for fish sold at first sale.
48 The data are counted up by FAO methodology and taken from the Statistical Office of the Republic of Slovenia.
49 It is however of key importance that the Republic of Slovenia already in 1991 adopted a Resolution on maritime orientation of the Republic of Slovenia in which Slovenia has committed itself to raise stimulation of using and producing food and other goods from the sea (fisheries, marine aquaculture, salt harvesting etc.) within the limits of space capacity.
and conservation of fisheries resources. Not least, the fisheries sector – in spite of its small size and only 0.014 % share of the Slovenian GDP - provides a certain number of working positions.

Within promoting fish and fisheries products the fishing sector is being promoted as well. Anyway, separate projects to promote both – the fisheries sector as well as fish and aquaculture products – are of great importance and will hopefully stimulate fish consumption in Slovenia. A collective interest in carrying out several different promotional campaigns is therefore very high. As we want to inform the general public, that is all Slovenian consumers, of the quality of fish and fisheries products, the results of the operations (promotional campaigns in the form of publishing, adverts, films and others) will be public.

OBJECTIVES

The general objective is to increase the per capita consumption of fish and fisheries and aquaculture products.

The specific objectives are:

- Achieving greater awareness of a range of fish species on the Slovenian market.
- Increase the transparency of first sale markets, particularly first sale of fresh fish.
- Increase the consumption of fisheries products.
- Improving the reputation of fisheries and aquaculture products.
- Improving the reputation of the fisheries sector.

Quantitative objectives:

- Increase of fish consumption up to 8 kg/year.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Running promotional campaigns for fisheries and aquaculture products</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running promotional campaigns to improve the reputation of the fisheries sector</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The measure "development of new markets and promotional campaigns" is co-financed on the basis of Article 40 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are legal and natural persons, as well as public and/or semi-public bodies.

AID INTENSITY

The public contribution may be up to 100 % of total eligible cost.
6.5 AXIS 4: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF FISHERIES AREAS

Fishing in the coastal area is largely dependent on seasonal restrictions, and there is a significant fall in available fisheries resources. Small-scale coastal fishing predominates, especially in the municipality of Piran. The small size of the coastal area means that fisheries and sea fishing are under pressure from tourism, the construction of tourist facilities, the pressures of urbanisation and other activities in this area. Slovenian fishing is generally seasonal in nature, and many fishermen need parallel additional income, therefore their diversification in other activities is necessary. A challenge of Axis 4 is to create new working positions in tourism, environmental protection etc. Slovenia sees Axis 4 as an opportunity to establish a single development plan for the coastal area that could unite all fishermen, as well as other participants in the process, offering a better future to those currently making their living with activities in the sea fisheries sector.

Activities within axis 4 are divided into 3 phases:

1. Selecting the coastal area in which Axis 4 activities will take place.
2. Selecting a coastal action group with a local development strategy.
3. Implementing the local development strategy and acquiring new skills.

1. Due to the fact that the Slovenian coast is only 46 km long and has just three municipalities (Piran, Koper, and Izola) with a total population of 82,000 people, and particularly given the fact that the area is united by common historical and cultural heritage, the entire coastal strip is dealt with as a single area. This will facilitate the uniform development of the entire coastal area, and hence greater positive competition between the individual municipalities. Selecting the area in this way will ensure sufficient critical mass (human, financial and economic resources) and a sufficient level of coherence, identity and cooperation.50

The selected area therefore satisfies the criterion to geographically and socially represent a sufficiently homogenous whole. It includes small fishing communities located along the coast, and the population shares a common history, tradition and customs. The selected area covers about 0.3 % of whole Slovenian area.

2. The public tender will be awarded to the coastal action group from the selected area that puts forward the most appropriate local development strategy. The coastal action group will be a public-private partnership, and the main agent of development in the selected area. It must have a manager capable of leadership and management, and coordinating the partners involved. Slovenia intends to select one coastal action group (CAG).

3. Since Slovenia has decided to implement Axis 4 in a single area, it expects a single local development strategy for the area. The local development strategy will be based on local development potential, expressed needs and the problems defined in the area. The strategy will set out development guidelines for the selected area. The strategy must be in accordance with Articles 43 and 44 of the EFF Basic Regulation, as well as Articles 24 and 25 of the EFF Implementing Regulation. Detailed criteria for the local development strategy will be given in a public tender.

Besides the specific conditions for each measure, for the measures under axis 4 the following provisions shall apply:

50 A map of the selected area, that is all three coastal municipalities of Koper, Izola and Piran, is annexed to the OP.
- The measures shall be implemented in the chosen coastal area throughout the programming period,
- The measures shall be implemented as one-year or multi-annual commitments in accordance with the criteria set,
- The beneficiary shall fulfill all conditions in accordance with the applicable legislation and the specifications under the call for tender,
- Co-financed shall be eligible costs arising after the date of the confirmation of the coastal action group,
- A beneficiary, who has already received funds from the national budget of the Republic of Slovenia or European funds for the same investment as quoted in the application for obtaining funds, is not eligible to co-financing.

6.5.1 MAIN OBJECTIVES UNDER PRIORITY AXIS 4

The main objective of Axis 4 is the sustainable development of fisheries areas. The main target is to improve the quality of life in existing fishing communities, which are affected by the development of Common Fisheries Policy objectives. Slovenia needs to build a capacity among local stakeholders which could get involved in the process of development of the fisheries area and increase the cooperation between public authorities and the people engaged in the fisheries sector. This will help Slovenia to:

- preserve the economic and social welfare of fisheries area,
- add value to fisheries and aquaculture products,
- maintain and develop jobs in the fisheries area through support for diversification or the economic and social restructuring of the area,
- promote the quality of the coastal environment.

Access to Axis 4 is open to all interested actors who want to put together and participate in a local initiative to develop the coastal area. These may be representatives of public institutions at the national, regional or local level, representatives of the fishing sector, and other relevant local socio-economic sectors.

The following measures will help to achieve the above-mentioned objectives under Axis 4:

- Selecting a coastal action group and a local development strategy
- Implementing the local development strategy through different projects

The implementation of the abovementioned measures is to be made in the same order. First, a Coastal action group (CAG) is going to be established in 2010. The local development strategy can be implemented from 2011 to 2013.
6.5.2 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facilitating the development of coastal fishery area</td>
<td>Number of actions approved for the animation and training of the local actors</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Population depending on fisheries and related activities in the area: Percentage covered by the group</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40 %</td>
<td>60 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 19: Baseline and quantified targets within Axis 4

6.5.3 SPECIFIC INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR EACH MEASURE

As of yet there are no public-private partnerships in the coastal area in line with Axis 4, which could function as the agent for development in the area. There are no organisations, unions, cooperatives or associations in order to represent fishermen and their interest, joint position etc. In the chosen coastal area, there is a lack of local initiatives coming from the population (self-initiative), and a need for them to act independently in new activities. The local population needs to be encouraged to integrate into local public-private partnerships (coastal action groups). The successful establishment of a group is dependent on previous activities, such as training and animating local inhabitants. Therefore, it is necessary to previously organise such activities as well, in order to successfully introduce axis 4. Such activities, however, will be co-financed within axis 5 – Technical assistance. The general objective of this measure is to raise the awareness of the local population of the need for Axis 4 activities. This will hopefully help to establish a coastal action group (hereinafter: CAG), which will be the first measure. CAG will be chosen on the basis of the local development strategy submitted.


When a Coastal Action Group is chosen via public tender it will be certified by a decision of the Managing Authority.

CAG collects project proposals and prepares a collection of the projects. An extract of report needs to be done for each project in the collection process. When a collection of the projects is done, it is sent to the Managing Authority that verifies whether the projects proposed are in accordance with the strategy chosen. The Managing Authority selects and formally certifies (recognises) projects chosen.
Control of the Managing Authority over the administration of the Coastal Action Group will be implemented before the projects are formally certified. If necessary, on-site checks will be implemented.

FINANCIAL CIRCUITS AS FAR AS THE BENEFICIARY

Beneficiaries send their claims to the CAG. When a claim for payment is submitted, the CAG needs to establish whether the project is in accordance with the criteria given and eligible to co-financing. CAG sends claim for payment that has already been checked and project papers and documents to the Managing Authority. The Managing Authority conducts administrative control and transfers the funds to the CAG. CAG needs to transfer the money given to the beneficiary in 2 working days. CAG informs the Managing Authority about the transfer. The Managing Authority sends the application for reimbursement to the Paying Authority.

TIMETABLE OF AXIS 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selecting coastal action group</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing local development strategy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6.5.3.1 SELECTING A COASTAL ACTION GROUP AND A LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

RATIONALE

Coastal action groups have to be established to implement Axis 4. They will propose and implement a local development strategy. Coastal action groups will be selected via public tender, based on the local development strategies submitted.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objective is to select a coastal action group that has produced a strategy for the coastal area and formed an effective working group. This will help to implement a local development strategy (implementation of the projects).

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Selection of the group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selection of a local development strategy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Articles 44 and 45 of the EFF Basic Regulation, as well as Articles 24 and 25 of the EFF Implementing Regulation.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

The coastal action group will be selected via an open public tender, with groups submitting integrated local development strategies. One of the things to be evaluated when choosing a
Coastal Action Group is the inclusion of marginal groups (women and young people etc.) in the group; therefore a group that will include the highest number of women will be chosen as most proper when this criterion is going to be taken into account.

The local development strategies shall be evaluated for their innovation, feasibility, sustainable stance and consistency with other development programmes. Evaluated shall also be the contribution of the strategy to the creation of new jobs and the integration of the marginal population groups (women, young people) into the drawing up and implementation of the strategy.

The establishment of a group requires the equal involvement of partners from different socio-economic sectors. The majority of the operations selected by the group on the basis of the strategy shall be implemented by the private sector.

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1) Running costs of the group are eligible to co-financing.
2) Co-financed shall be eligible costs arising after the date of the confirmation of the coastal action group.

6.5.3.2 IMPLEMENTING THE LOCAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

RATIONALE

The coastal action group and local development strategy are selected by public tender. When the local development strategy is selected and confirmed by the Managing Authority (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, LEADER Office), the group will select operations financed on the basis of the local development strategy. The operations (projects) will be reviewed and confirmed by the Managing Authority before implementation. The Managing Authority will check whether operations are in accordance with the local development strategy and the eligible measures set out in Article 44 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objective is the sustainable development of the fisheries area, which means a sustainable and territorially integrated local development strategy.

The specific objective is:

- implementing projects in the selected area in accordance with the eligible measures set out in Article 44 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The activities selected under this measure must be in accordance with the eligible measures from Article 44 of the EFF Basic Regulation. They will be selected by the coastal action group and confirmed by the Managing Authority. However, they must be in line with the approved local development strategy.

The eligible measures from the abovementioned Article are:

- strengthening the competitiveness of the selected area,
- restructuring and redirecting economic activities, in particular by promoting ecotourism, provided that these activities do not result in an increase of the fishing effort,
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

- diversifying activities through the promotion of multiple employment for fishermen through the creation of additional jobs outside the fisheries sector,
- adding value to fisheries products,
- supporting small fisheries and tourism-related infrastructure and services for the benefit of small fisheries communities,
- protecting the environment in the fisheries area in order to maintain its attractiveness, regenerating and developing coastal settlements and villages with fisheries activities and protecting and enhancing the natural and architectural heritage,
- re-establishing the production potential in the fisheries sector when damaged by natural or industrial disasters,
- Promoting inter-regional and trans-national cooperation among groups in fisheries areas, mainly through networking and disseminating best practice,
- Acquiring skills and facilitating the preparation and implementation of the local development strategy,
- Contributing to the running costs of the group.

SPECIFIC INFORMATION

Running costs of the group are eligible to co-financing. However, they shall not exceed 10 % of all funds given to the coastal area chosen.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiaries are coastal action groups selected on the basis of a public tender. See EFF Basic Regulation, Article 44, for limitations on the final beneficiaries of the actions selected by the fisheries group.

AID INTENSITY

Public funding may range from 60 % to 100 %.

RATIONALE

The establishment of a group requires the equal involvement of partners from different socio-economic sectors. Operations selected by the group on the basis of the strategy will be implemented by the private sector.

DEMARCATION

The projects under this measure are related to a specific selection based on the strategy of the CAG and differ from other axes.

The measure is delimitated from other operational programmes in the following:

- The projects are of local importance.
- Support is intended for the coastal area.

As regards the Fisheries group supported under priority axis 4 of OP fisheries 2007-2013 and LAGS supported under priority axis 4 RDP, an overlapping of the territory of the fisheries area with area selected under LEADER axis of the RDP is possible. Where this occurs, it is possible for a common implementing structure to be used. The group will have to develop a separate development strategy for LEADER actions (under EAFRD) and those to be supported by EFF.

Applications for projects will be verified in the relation to other funds before their approval.
6.6 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

RATIONALE

Achieving the set objectives of the Operational Programme (OP) at all levels – from general OP objectives to individual projects – requires the creation of an adequate technical support system. Technical assistance includes activities relating to the preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, publicity, control and audit of operational programme assistance, as well as networking. Implementing these activities will increase awareness of the programme and its component parts, the quality of implementation, and ensure efficient monitoring and control over the implementation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEASURE

The general objectives of technical assistance measures are:

- providing properly trained employees
- ensuring the smooth and high quality implementation of the programme, including all accompanying activities (evaluation, control, studies, etc.).

The specific objectives are:

- providing adequate support for activities required for programming and implementing measures (preparation, implementation, monitoring, evaluation and control)
- ensuring the smooth and high quality implementation and monitoring of the programme, through preparing and selecting projects, carrying out studies and evaluations, professional assessments, reports, etc., and adequate administrative qualifications of beneficiaries
- ensuring coordination and familiarity with the programme among the social partners, the general public and specialists
- providing information support for management, monitoring and reporting on the programme.

SELECTED ACTIVITIES

The following activities will be entitled to support under this measure:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ACTIVITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Actions relating to the preparation, management, monitoring, evaluation, publicity, control and audit of the operational programme, as well as networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Actions relating to the improvement of administrative capacities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities aiming to successfully introduce Axis 4, such as the successful establishment of a Coastal Action Group, are dependent on previous activities, such as training and animating local inhabitants. The latter activities will be co-financed within Axis 5 – Technical assistance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Activities financed under this measure relate to Article 46(2) of the EFF Basic Regulation.

BENEFICIARIES

The beneficiary is the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food.
6.6.1 RESULT INDICATORS AND QUANTIFIED TARGETS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE</th>
<th>RESULT INDICATOR</th>
<th>BASELINE DATA</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2010</th>
<th>QUANTIFIED TARGET 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enhanced administrative capacity</td>
<td>Number of training projects for employees dealing with the OP</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of employees financed from Technical assistance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Better governance of the OP</td>
<td>Number of projects to inform general public</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Number of projects on communications actions</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Full and proper documentation for the implementation of the OP</td>
<td>Number of projects to upgrade information systems</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Quantified target 2013 refers to baseline data

Table 20: Baseline and quantified targets within Axis 5 (Technical assistance)

FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK OF THE MEASURE

The funds for this measure (euros, current prices) are distributed as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EU participation</th>
<th>National participation</th>
<th>Public participation total</th>
<th>Private participation</th>
<th>OVERALL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.731.221</td>
<td>577.075</td>
<td>2.308.296</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.308.296</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>75%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 21: Funds distribution within Axis 5 (technical assistance)

6.6.2 RATIONALE FOR THE INCREASED TOTAL FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The Republic of Slovenia will implement the operational programme over the 2007–2013 period, and intends to implement (provisionally) fifteen measures under four axes, and a technical assistance measure. The Managing Authority is the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food. The Sector for Hunting and Fisheries, which is responsible for the preparation of OP fisheries 2007-2013, has in whole six employees who deal with fisheries issues, covering national and European legislation, Common Fisheries Policy related tasks and tasks related to the implementation of the European Fisheries Fund. The structure of the Sector has changed recently (in the last two years) and experiences with the structural funds or the FIFG are very few. The management of the funds was up to now mainly done under the Rural development sector that belongs to the Directorate General for Agriculture. As this Sector has tasks connected to the EAFRD (the preparation and implementation of the Rural development Programme), the tasks, connected to the EFF are now dealt with within the
Sector for Hunting and Fisheries. However, only one person is fully occupied with the preparation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013. Since there are not enough people who could cover a full preparation of the OP measures (e.g. national implementing regulation, additional possible criteria etc.), the fisheries sector could have problems in the coming financial perspective when implementing the operational programme (OP). This includes the preparation of individual measures, public tenders documentation, monitoring OP implementation, preparation of reports, implementation and progress assessments, implementing interim and ex post controls, publicity and promotion for the programme, individual measures and public tenders, as well as managing finances.

MAFF is for the first time fully responsible for the implementation of a fisheries OP. To avoid potential problems in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the OP, the technical assistance funds must be allocated to increase the number of employees, administrative training for existing and new employees, and also to services from external operators. Since there are so many tasks and fixed costs at the OP level, i.e. defined by the EFF Basic and Implementing Regulation, and this regardless of the amount of funds from the EFF intended for the OP, Slovenia will allocate 8% of all EFF funds to technical assistance.

6.7 INFORMATION ON COMPLEMENTARITY WITH OTHER FUNDS

Complementarity, consistency and compliance are set out as basic principles in Article 6 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

The OP fisheries 2007-2013 provides for conformity and complementarity within the individual axes and also among them, as well as with the Common Fisheries Policy, Cohesion Policy and Rural Development Policy. Internal consistency is confirmed by the synergies that the proposed goals and activities contained in individual axes are to have in relation to the goals and measures contained in other axes.

6.7.1 EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT

The National Strategic Plan for Rural Development (NSPRD) forms the basis or reference frame for preparing the Rural Development Programme 2007–2013. The NSPRD defines the priorities for rural development policy. The priorities are planned in accordance with the Community’s priorities for rural development policy. The NSPRD is prepared for the 2007-2013 period, and will be implemented across the entire territory of the Republic of Slovenia, unless individual priorities state otherwise.

The NSPRD priorities are intended to strengthen a multi-purpose role for agriculture in Slovenia. It sets out in particular the need to restructure agriculture and the agro-industry and to strengthen competitiveness of the entire agro-food chain. The NSPRD builds on the principles of sustainable management of renewable natural resources and pays particular attention to maintaining cultural landscapes, environmental protection, and maintaining rural population density and rural identity. The NSPRD also expresses the multi-purpose role of forests, which are a special feature of Slovenian landscapes and a major component of the environment and source of biodiversity. The NSPRD priorities will contribute to economic and social strengthening of rural areas, and establish new approaches to increasing rural employment, not only in primary agricultural activities.

The Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 with the activities within priority axes does not affect areas of priority axes of the European Rural Development Fund. The Rural Development Programme (RDP) follows objectives hereunder.

- Improvement of the competitiveness of agricultural, food and forestry sector
promoting environmentally-friendly (organic) farming
improvement of the socio-economic position in rural areas
reinforcement of local development initiatives.

Strategic objectives of the agricultural policy, as defined in the Rural Development Programme, are complement to the objectives of the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013.

The demarcation between rural development and fisheries is based principally on fishery policy measures targeting a select group of beneficiaries (fishermen, aquaculture and fish processing industry). This group is not entitled to support within RDP. Farmers with aquaculture as a subsidiary occupation are entitled to support under the measure Productive investments in aquaculture and under Aqua-Environmental measures.

For cases of proven and justified complementarity, demarcations shall be set during the process of drafting public tenders under the Managing Authority.

For the 2007-2013 programming period Slovenia intends to carry out 22 measures within 4 priority axes together with measures of technical assistance as part of the Rural Development Programme that is funded with the aid of EAFRD (European Agriculture Fund for Rural Development).

Axis 1 - Improvement of the competitiveness of the agriculture, food and forestry sectors with the goal of increasing productivity and competitiveness of the agricultural and forestry sector, preservation of the environment and improvement of the quality of life in rural areas. It includes measures to increase competence and enhancement of human potential in agriculture and forestry, measures to restructure physical capital in agriculture and forestry as well as enhancing innovation and measures to improve the quality of the agricultural production and products. These measures complement objectives of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures under axis 1. Measures and activities as well as target group of beneficiaries within this axis under RDP are not entitled to support under axis 1 of the OP fisheries 2007-2013, special demarcation, therefore, is not necessary.

Axis 2 – Improvement of the environment and rural areas with objectives of environmental protection and natural resources protection and reducing negative impact of agriculture on the environment, air and biotic diversity including a compensatory allowance measure for areas with limited possibilities for agricultural activity as well as agri-environmental payments is complementary to axis 2 of OP fisheries 2007-2013. Activities and beneficiaries to be supported under EARFD do not overlap with activities and beneficiaries of support under measures within axis 2 OP fisheries 2007-2013. Activities and beneficiaries, registered for aquaculture and/or processing and marketing of fish, including farmers with a subsidiary occupation of aquaculture are eligible for support within Productive investments in aquaculture that are economic in nature only within OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures and are not eligible for support within axis 1 measures of RDP. Beneficiaries for support within Aqua-environmental measures under OP fisheries 2007-2013 are legal or natural persons registered for aquaculture activity and farmers with aquaculture as a subsidiary occupation. Farmers with aquaculture as subsidiary occupation cannot receive support in the form of agri-environmental payments from the RDP for their aquaculture related activities. Activities within Aqua-environmental measures OP fisheries 2007-2013 and agri-environmental measures RDP are mutually complementary.

Axis 3 – Quality of life in rural areas and economic diversification of the rural economy with an objective of supporting employment and creating new working positions in non-agricultural activities in rural areas and promoting rural development. Activities within this axis RDP do not overlap with activities in OP fisheries 2007-2013 axis 3 measures. In the case of possible
overlapping with OP fisheries 2007-2013 eligible projects within Axis 4’s Coastal development strategy, individual project will be checked, whether the beneficiary has already received aid for the same purpose. This means that eligible costs within such projects must not overlap.

Axis 4 – LEADER with an objective of encouraging decision-making about specific rural areas development through a bottom up approach, that is, with an objective of building local capacity for employment and diversification with objectives of the 1., 2. and 3. axis RDP. Within measures of this axis RDP local action groups are established in rural areas, from which towns with more than 10.000 inhabitants are excluded. If a chosen area and partners within LAG overlapped with a chosen area and partners of CAG under axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013 and the same operator to implement both local strategies (e.g. for coastal and for rural area development) was chosen, activities and finances under corresponding local strategies would be delimited in a transparent way. A beneficiary can only receive aid for the same purpose once in the case of similar projects in two or more programming documents. A necessary coordination between the relevant services of both programmes will ensure that any possibility of double financing will be excluded. For more detailed demarcation see Axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013.

The accompanying measure Technical assistance of the RDP is intended for administrative support to implement RDP measures and does not overlap with OP fisheries 2007-2013 technical assistance.

6.7.2 COMPLIANCE WITH COHESION POLICY

In implementing the convergence objective within the EU Cohesion Policy, the National Strategic Reference Framework (NSRF), which defines the general strategy for achieving faster convergence, defines three operational programmes:

- Operational programme to strengthen regional development potential (European Regional Development Fund – ERDF),
- Operational programme for human resource development (European Social Fund - ESF),
- Operational programme for the development of environmental and transport infrastructure - DETI (Cohesion Fund and European Fund for Regional Development – ROPI/DETI).

The general NSRF objective – improving the welfare of the population of the Republic of Slovenia with an emphasis on promoting economic growth, creating jobs, and strengthening human capital, and ensuring balanced development, particularly between regions – will be met by the OPs stated above, and will also receive a key contribution from the Cross-Border Operational Programmes (5), Transnational Operational Programmes (4), the Rural Development Programme (RDP) and the OP fisheries 2007-2013.

The NSRF also forms the basis for preparing the National Development Programme 2007–2013 (NDP). The NDP should include all development-investment programmes and projects in Slovenia for the 2007–2013 period that will be financed or co-financed from the national budget and municipal budgets, including rural development and fisheries development.
6.7.2.1 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL

The Operational Programme for Regional Development Potential, financed under the European Regional Development Fund, with its activities within separate axes is complementary to OP fisheries 2007-2013 activities.

The Operational Programme for Regional Development Potential follows up on the key objectives of the NSRF as follows:

- supporting entrepreneurship, innovations and technological development,
- improving the quality for the educational system and scientific, research and development activities,
- improving labour market flexibility through providing employment security, especially within creating new working positions,
- assuring conditions for growth through assuring sustainable mobility, environmental quality and adequate infrastructure improvement,
- coherent regional development.

Specific objectives of the OP SRDP are as follows:

- Newly established business zones, including brown fields,
- Bigger number of new broadband connections,
- Increase in tourist accommodation capacities,
- Bigger number of supported enterprises,
- Innovations and patents by beneficiaries,
- Higher population regularly using internet,
- Bigger number of tourist overnight stays
- Higher number of gross jobs created,
- Increase in value added per employee in companies receiving aid
- Prevention of increasing regional disparities

Strategic goals, defined in the Operational Programme for Regional Development Potential do not overlap with strategic goals (objectives) of the fisheries policy.

The Operational Programme for Regional Development Potential has the following development priorities:

1. priority – Enterprises’ competitiveness and research excellence are directed toward supporting research and development activities in connection with economy and institutions of knowledge. It includes supporting bigger entrepreneurship activity, long-term existence of processing activity, development and establishment of high technologies etc. Measures are complementary to axis 2 objectives of OP fisheries 2007-2013. Projects relating to fish farming and processing of fish into fisheries products are not eligible for support under Operational Programme for Regional Development within the 1. priority. Those projects are co-financed under OP fisheries 2007-2013.

A similar area to the OP SRDP promotion of entrepreneurship is the modernisation and construction of aquaculture and processing facilities while observing the goals set out in Article 35 of the EFF Basic Regulation (Axis 2 of the OP fisheries 2007-2013) but according to the purpose the division is clear. Within the OP of the Fisheries Development companies dealing with fish farming and/or fish processing will be supported whereas within the OP SRDP these activities are not eligible.
The activities of this Axis are also similar to the activities of Axis 3 of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 in the field of investments in ports, but in the case of OP SRDP the eligible investments are restricted to ports in relation to the needs of local passenger transport and therefore these do not overlap with the OP fisheries 2007-2013.

2. priority – Economic and Development infrastructure is intended for establishing main developmental centres of Slovenia that will ensure high quality economic research, educational, information and logistic infrastructure as a whole. Activities and beneficiaries to support within this priority do not overlap with activities and beneficiaries within OP fisheries.

3. priority – The connection of natural and cultural potentials is aimed at a faster development of services in tourism as well as in the educational and economic systems (e.g. creative industry), trade and cultural revitalisation of cities with a goal of inter-connection and preservation of natural and cultural potentials for tourism as well as recreational development. Activities and beneficiaries within this priority could overlap with activities and beneficiaries within axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013, for example when implementing a part of local development strategies. Demarcation criteria in this case will be defined with a limited value of the project that will be set among Managing Authorities of both programmes (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy) and could be adapted by arrangements between both Authorities throughout the programming period.

4. priority – Development of regions - ensures complementary infrastructural conditions that are based on a bottom-up initiative and provide the development and functioning of regions as effective and functional units. The projects of national importance are determined from top to bottom and include key development projects. They are defined in the Resolution on National Development Projects up to 2023 that the Government of the Republic of Slovenia adopted in October 2006 and are especially related to development priorities one, two and three.

The activities of Axis 4 of the OP SRDP might have some overlapping with the activities within Axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013. However, the purpose of those activities is specific (development of the coastal area and helping the fisheries sector).

The demarcation criterion is determined through the project threshold value that will be subject to agreement between the Managing Authorities (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and the Government Office for local Self-Government and Regional Policy) and can be further changed during the programming period.

6.7.2.2 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The OP for Human Resource Development, supported by ESF funds allocates particular attention to promoting entrepreneurship and flexibility, promoting the employability of jobseekers and inactive people, developing human resources and lifelong learning, promoting social inclusion and institutional and administrative qualifications.

The OP for human resource development has the following priorities:

1. priority - Supporting entrepreneurship and flexibility especially supports mobility of highly educated and qualified workers as well as training and educating employees. The objectives of the priority are:

- establishing flexible and competitive economy
- investments in human resources development to obtain knowledge and skills
training, education, promoting scholarships and inter-connection of the economic, educational, developmental, research and employment spheres.

Objectives and activities on the 1. priority level do not overlap with objectives and activities of OP fisheries.

2. priority – Supporting employability for jobseekers and inactive people is aimed at encouraging and support for the inactive and unemployed to actively solving their unemployment. The objective of the priority is improvement of conditions of entrance to the labour market and employment for jobseekers as well as inactive persons. The goal of employment support is complementary to axis 1 objectives of OP fisheries 2007-2013. Objectives and activities within the 2 priority of OP human resources development do not overlap with objectives and activities of OP fisheries 2007-2013.

3. priority – Human resources development and lifelong learning foresees a development of elements and mechanisms of lifelong learning that provides quality inclusion of individuals into life and work. The objective of this priority is human resources development for work and life in a knowledge-based society through modernisation of educational and training systems as well as the promotion of lifelong learning. The objective and activities do not overlap with objectives and activities of OP fisheries. A complementarity is possible especially within axis 1 objectives of OP fisheries (permanent cessation of fishing activities), axis 2 OP fisheries 2007-2013 (aquaculture, processing and marketing) and axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013 (sustainable development of fisheries areas).

4. priority – Equal opportunities and support to social inclusion is mainly focused on social inclusion in the light of social protection, employment and entrepreneurial policy, equal opportunities in the upbringing and educational process as well as supporting social inclusion in the light of accessibility and visibility of cultural property. The objective of the priority is combating any kind of discrimination in a labour market, upbringing and educational system as well as achieving greater social inclusion in the field of culture and diminishing material endangerment of vulnerable groups. This would contribute to an enforcement of the equal opportunities concept. The objective is complement to objectives of OP fisheries 2007-2013, especially within axis 4 where the equal opportunities principle will be taken into consideration when choosing coastal action group.

5. priority – institutional and administrative competence is mainly focused on strategic and complete accession to administrative and institutional competence improvement and follows an objective of adequate institutional and administrative competence development for efficient structural adaptation, growth, working positions and economic development. Objective and activities of the 5. priority do not overlap with objectives and activities of OP fisheries 2007-2013.

The Cohesion Policy Managing Authority and the OP fisheries 2007-2013 Managing Authority (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food) will regularly coordinate the detailed provisions of implementing documents, in order to prevent double financing.

6.7.2.3 OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AND TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

The Operational Programme of Environmental and Transport Infrastructure Development for the Period 2007-2013 (hereinafter: OP ETID) represents an implementation document of the Republic of Slovenia for the period between 2007-2013, determining legal obligations and rights related to the implementing of the cohesion policy of the European Union (hereinafter EU) in Slovenia. Slovenia will put the available funds from the Cohesion Fund (hereinafter CF) and the European Regional Development Fund (hereinafter ERDF), the funds from other
financial sources (e.g. funds from European Investment Bank) and own co-financing funds into the economic convergence of the state. The main objectives of latter are to improve the conditions for growth and employment by investing into physical and human resources as well as innovations, to improve the ability to adapt to economic and social changes and to improve environmental protection as well as management efficiency. The priorities in environmental protection development are municipal waste management, drainage and treatment of municipal waste water, the distribution of drinking water and the reduction of the negative impacts of waste waters, as well as sustainable use of energy.

Due to the emphasis on adequate transport infrastructure and economy supply as well the environmental component of development, which together with social and economic aspects contributes to Slovenia’s sustainable development, the OP fisheries 2007-2013 has a closer connection to »Road and maritime infrastructure development priority«, as well as to the objectives of environmental protection.

The OP fisheries 2007-2013 is expected to contribute with its priorities and measures to the achievement of OP ETID priorities, where possible. OP ETID 2007-2013 has following priorities:

1. priority – railway infrastructure is very important for diminishing the impact on the environment, e.g. support environmentally-friendly railway traffic. It follows especially the objectives of modernisation and extension of railway network.

2. priority – Road and maritime infrastructure with the objective of accelerated modernisation of traffic infrastructure, inland traffic interconnection within the Country and its connection into international traffic currents with a special attention to maritime highways. Its purpose is a connection of transport by several traffic ways, especially sea transport, as well as inland navigational routes together with railway and road transport. The objective of transport arrangements at sea is complementary to the objective of improving safety at sea within axis 3 OP fisheries 2007-2013. Activities and beneficiaries within this priority do not overlap with activities and beneficiaries of OP fisheries 2007-2013. A demarcation with OP ETID is not necessary.

3. priority – transport infrastructure with the objective of remedying bottlenecks, as well as increasing movement and safety in traffic.

The development of cycling routes network that is planned within this priority in accordance to the Spatial Development Strategy of Slovenia could be complementary to the projects within axis 4 OP fisheries 2007-2013. Activities and target group of beneficiaries of OP ETID 3. priority and OP fisheries 2007-2013 Axis 4 do not overlap. In any case, the Managing Authorities (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and the Government Office for local Self-Government and Regional Policy) will regularly meet and coordinate the implementation of the provisions in implementing documents that will prevent double financing.

4. priority – Municipal waste management is based on the Operational Programme of waste removal with the objective to reduce the quantity of biodegradable waste in the period to the end of 2008 which the Government of the RS adopted in 2004, and on the Operational Programme for the treatment of separately collected waste fractions for the period 2007-2009 adopted in 2007, as well as the EU directives regulating the field of waste management.

The key tasks of this priority are to set up the entire waste management infrastructure and complete harmonisation with the EU standards in this field. The objectives of this priority – construction of regional centres for waste management where separation and sorting of various sorts of waste, preliminary waste processing, waste disposal, etc., as well as
construction of collection centres for separate waste management – are complementary to specific objectives within Axis 2 OP fisheries 2007-2013.

Activities and beneficiaries within this priority do not overlap with activities and beneficiaries of OP fisheries 2007-2013.

5. priority – Environment Protection – water sector – defined the following areas that need infrastructural investments: drinking water supply, collecting and treatment of urban waste water, reducing water damages. The following goals of this priority are supplement to the objectives of Axis 2 and Axis 3 OP fisheries:

- reducing environmental impact. This is also one of the specific objectives with the measure Productive investments in Aquaculture and Aqua-Environmental measures within Axis 2 OP fisheries 2007-2013.
- Ensuring adequate infrastructure for drinking water supply and
- Improving the health status of the population is supplementary to the specific objectives within Axis 3 of OP fisheries 2007-2013. Arrangement of existing fishing ports within the measure Fishing ports, landing sites and shelters has as a key priority to settle basic hygiene and work infrastructure in the fishing ports, where water supply is necessary.

In order to prevent possible overlapping within these specific objectives, the Managing Authorities (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy) will regularly meet and coordinate the implementation of the provisions in implementing documents that will prevent double financing.

6. priority – Sustainable use of energy – has the following goals: to increase energy efficiency by the year 2010, to increase the scope of co-generation of heat and electrical energy and to increase generation of heat and electrical energy from renewable resources and to increase the share of bio-fuel in transport. The aim of these goals is to ensure, by means of efficient use of energy and production of energy from renewable energy sources, reliable energy supply and support for the development of the economy and to reduce negative environmental impacts. As this developmental priority relates to increasing the energy efficiency in industry, service sector, public sector and transport it complements the objectives of Axis 1 OP fisheries 2007-2013 (e.g. the measures Productive investments on board fishing vessels and Small-scale coastal fishing), where the modernisation of fishing vessels through replacement of engines (e.g. with those that have lower capacity) means more efficient use of energy in the fisheries sector, too.

Activities and beneficiaries within this priority do not overlap with activities and beneficiaries of OP fisheries 2007-2013.

In order to prevent possible overlapping within these specific objectives, the Managing Authorities (Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food and the Government Office for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy) will regularly meet and coordinate the implementation of the provisions in implementing documents that will prevent double financing.

As Technical assistance OP ETID is aimed at administrative support to the implementation of OP ETID measures it does not overlap with the technical assistance OP fisheries 2007-2013 that is aimed at administrative support of the implementation of OP fisheries 2007-2013 measures.

OP fisheries 2007-2013 within priority axes and activities on axis 1, 2, 3 and 4 will contribute to the attainment the objectives of road and maritime infrastructure developmental priorities, as well as environmental objectives of OP ETID through following activities:
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

- Permanent cessation of fishing activities,
- Investments on board fishing vessels,
- Improving safety at sea,
- Modernisation of fishing ports and
- Sustainable development of fishing areas.

In general, any potential overlapping between the two programmes could only occur in the areas of arranging and modernising ports (activities to improve the third terminal of the Port of Koper), where the planned development project for the Port of Koper within OP ETID will not be financed from fisheries funding. The aim of OP ETID activities is to ensure port services for international trading and port services for international public transport. Therefore, the investments are going to be made in public ports and not fishing ports.

In any case, however, the Managing Authority of the Cohesion Policy and the Managing Authority of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 will regularly meet and check the implementation of each project in order to prevent double financing.
7. **FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>EFF Amount (EUR)</th>
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<td>2007</td>
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<td>2013</td>
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<td><strong>Total EFF</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,640,283</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Table 22: Annual programme resources in EUR, convergence objective  
Note: Amounts stated at current prices

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Priority</th>
<th>Share (%)</th>
<th>Total public</th>
<th>EFF contribution</th>
<th>National contribution</th>
<th>EFF co-financing rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(a)=(b+c)</td>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>(d)=(b)/(a)*100</td>
</tr>
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<td>2,164.029</td>
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<td>2,164.029</td>
<td>721.343</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Priority axis 5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2,308.296</td>
<td>1,731.221</td>
<td>577.075</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>100</td>
<td><strong>28,853.712</strong></td>
<td><strong>21,640.283</strong></td>
<td><strong>7,213.429</strong></td>
<td><strong>75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 23: Financial table for OP by Priority Axes  
Note: Amounts stated at current prices
8. IMPLEMENTING PROVISIONS

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food (hereinafter: MAFF) is the responsible authority for the preparation of the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013 and for the management and control of the operational programme. The Draft OP fisheries 2007-2013 was subject to inter-ministerial cooperation (environment and spatial planning, finances etc.), governmental offices (local self-government and regional development) and social partners, representing following sub-sectors of the fisheries sector: fishing, aquaculture (marine and freshwater), processing, marketing of fisheries products.

An organisational chart added below shows the organisational structure of the MAFF, including bodies that are involved in the monitoring and implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013.

The main task of the Directorate for Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries is to ensure sustainable development of forests, hunting and fisheries. Within the tasks of forestry it monitors the state of forests and prepares systematic solutions to ensure sustainable development of forests as ecosystems in the meaning of their biodiversity and ecological production as well as social functions. Preservation of game and its natural environment is in the national interest of Slovenia, as it represents public good. Diversity of species and populations of game, their gene pool and living environment are a crucial value and an important natural resource of Slovenia. With ensuring suitable conditions for the work of fishermen and fish farmers, and encouraging the modernisation of vessels, fish farms and processing plants in order to achieve a better adjustment to the current situation that needs to be in accordance with the EU and national regulations, the Directorate’s main goal is to achieve a sustainable development of the fisheries sector.

In accordance with the above-mentioned objectives, the Directorate is divided in two sectors: Sector for Forestry and Sector for Hunting and Fisheries. The Directorate prepares the national legislation from the fields it covers (forestry, hunting, fisheries). The Sector for Hunting and Fisheries awards concessions for the implementation of the fisheries management in 67 fisheries districts where only sport fishing can be performed, as well as for the sustainable management of the game. It awards fishing permits for commercial fishing to fishermen, prepares systematic solutions in fisheries, takes care of the implementation of European Union legislation within the Common Fisheries Policy, monitors the work of public services in the fisheries sector, as well as educational and research activities of the sector, conducts administrative procedures and takes decisions through the organisational structure of the Ministry, participates in working bodies of the EU and international and regional organisations in the field of fisheries and drafts reports, analyses and other material in the fisheries sector. The Sector for Hunting and Fisheries manages the Slovenian fishing fleet and the information system for the monitoring of sea fishing (e.g. data on fishing vessels, permits, catch etc.).
MAFF is responsible for implementing the provisions of the Council Regulation (EC) 1198/2006. It is also responsible for establishing suitable governance and control mechanisms for balanced implementation of OP 2007-2013.
8.1 DEFINING COMPETENT AND RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES

Managing Authority:

The tasks of the Managing Authority will be performed by the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food, in accordance with Article 58(1)(a) of the EFF Basic Regulation.

The Managing Authority of OP fisheries 2007-2013 shall be responsible for the management and implementation of the programme in accordance with the provisions of the EFF Basic Regulation and respecting the principle of sound financial management. The main tasks of the Managing Authority are:

- ensuring that operations are selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the operational programme and that they comply with applicable Community and national rules, for the whole of their implementation period;
- verifying that the co-financed products and services are delivered and that the expenditure declared by the beneficiaries has actually been incurred and complies with Community and national rules;
- verifications on-the-spot of individual operations on a sample basis in accordance with the detailed adopted rules;
- ensuring the system for recording and storing in computerised form accounting records of each operation under the operational programme and that the data on implementation necessary for financial management, monitoring, verifications, audits and evaluation is collected;
- ensuring that beneficiaries and other bodies involved in the implementation of operations maintain either a separate accounting system or an adequate accounting code for all transactions relating to the operation without prejudice to national accounting rules;
- ensuring that the evaluations of the operational programme are carried out in accordance with the provisions of the EFF Basic Regulation;
- setting up procedures to ensure that all documents regarding expenditure and audits required to ensure an adequate audit trail are held in accordance with the prescribed requirements;
- ensuring that the certifying authority and the audit authority receive all necessary information on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure for the purpose of certification and audit respectively;
- guiding the work of the monitoring committee and providing it with the documents required to permit the quality of the implementation of the operational programme to be monitored in the light of its specific goals;
- drawing up and, after approval by the monitoring committee, submitting to the Commission the annual and final reports on implementation;
- ensuring compliance with the information and publicity requirements laid down in the EFF Basic Regulation.

The Director general of the Directorate for Forestry, Hunting and Fisheries is the head of the Managing Authority and is as such responsible for all contents related to the OP fisheries 2007-2013. An operational assistance to the Managing Authority shall be conducted through the coordination at programme and axes level and administrative procedures support connected with monitoring and reporting via SFC 2007. The Managing Authority will implement also the Secretariat functions for the Monitoring Committee.

Given the current organisational chart of MAFF the Managing Authority shall operate at various levels. The top level shall represent the Steering Committee – composed of representatives from the office of the Minister responsible for Agriculture, Forestry and Food,
directors of the Directorate for Food Safety and Directorate for Agriculture. The function of Steering Committee of the Managing Authority is proper guiding of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 on the level of decision-making. A key role in the Steering Committee shall also belong to the Head of the Sector for Hunting and Fisheries that is responsible for individual measures, as well as to the support bodies, such as the Finance Office and Legal Affairs Office and EU Affairs Section.

The Managing Authority shall coordinate the collection of data for monitoring and reporting, inform beneficiaries of their obligations stemming from the OP fisheries 2007-2013, inform the public about the benefits of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 and ensure a balanced information flow between MAFF and the Certifying Authority with a view to ensure effective implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013. The Managing Authority shall compile annual and other reports for the Monitoring Committee before sending them to the European Commission.

Individual working groups within the Managing Authority will be established for monitoring and guiding the implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013. These groups are responsible for providing technical aid and information for Axis coordinators, functioning of SFC2007 reporting system, data collection and reporting to higher levels. Support bodies shall implement tasks regarding deciding on appeals and financial questions related to grant allocation.

Written rules shall be drawn up outlining the activities of the Managing Authority.

The Managing Authority envisages delegating some of its tasks to the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (AAMRD) in accordance with Article 58 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

To ensure a balanced implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013, the Managing Authority shall prepare an agreement in the form of instructions with the Certifying Authority determining the obligations and division of tasks of each body and the necessary data flow.

The measure of Technical Assistance and measures within Axis 4 shall be carried out at MAFF level in the framework of the Managing Authority.

The organisational chart of the Managing Authority is foreseen, as follows.\(^51\)

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\(^51\) It is, however, provisional.
The role of the Certifying Authority will be performed by the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (hereinafter: AAMRD).

A more detailed description of responsibilities and tasks, as well as relations between institutions and individual bodies will be defined by a national implementing regulation and will be included in the Description of Management and Control Systems.

In accordance with Article 60 of the EFF Basic Regulation AAMRD as the Certifying Authority of the operational programme shall be responsible in particular for:

(a) drawing up and submitting to the Commission certified statements of expenditure and applications for payment;
(b) certifying that:
   (i) the statement of expenditure is accurate, results from reliable accounting systems and is based on verifiable supporting documents,
   (ii) the expenditure declared complies with applicable Community and national rules and has been incurred in respect of operations selected for funding in accordance with the criteria applicable to the programme and complying with the applicable Community and national rules;
(c) satisfying itself that the information received on the procedures and verifications carried out in relation to expenditure included in statements of expenditure provide an adequate basis for certification;
(d) taking account for certification purposes of the results of all audits carried out by or under the responsibility of the audit authority;
(e) maintaining accounting records in computerised form of expenditure declared to the Commission;
(f) keeping an account of amounts recoverable and of amounts withdrawn following cancellation of all or part of the contribution for an operation.

AAMRD was established on 7 January 1999 on the basis of a Governmental Decision as a body within MAFF for the implementation of the national reform programme of agricultural policy, payment of pre-accession aid programmes (SAPARD) and CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) measures. Since 2004, AAMRD has full accreditation for the implementation of agricultural market measures, food-processing and rural development area measures.

The AAMRD is organised in accordance with accreditation criteria set out in the Commission Regulation (EC) N° 885/2006 and carries out the following basic tasks:

- Authorisation of payments,
- Execution of payments,
- Accounting for payments.

AAMRD has already confirmed procedures for application handling, administrative and on the spot controls and procedures for correctness and timely payments of funds to the beneficiaries.

The structure of the AAMRD guarantees the implementation of all measures of the OP fisheries 2007-2013. The organisational chart of the AAMRD is below.
With its functioning, AAMRD ensures the integration of all Community legal texts, guidelines and working documents into the internal written procedures.

AAMRD's internal auditing service monitors the implementation of internal control procedures, based on an audit trail for all measures or aid schemes introduced.

AAMRD has a system in place for the recovery of unduly paid funds, as well as a system for discovering, preventing and reporting on irregularities and suspicions of fraud. The Budget Supervision Office at the MF is the central unit in the Republic of Slovenia for reporting to the European Anti-Fraud Office. It coordinates also activities referring to the protection of EU financial interests.

Audit Authority:

The tasks of the Audit Authority will be performed by the Budget Supervision Office, in accordance with Article 58(1)(c) of the EFF Basic Regulation.

On the basis of the Finance Act (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, № 79/99), Article 101, the Budget Supervision Office of the Republic of Slovenia as a body working within the Ministry of Finances (MF) is the central audit body for all EU co-financed programmes and expenditures.

The organisational chart of the Budget Supervision Office is as follows:
In accordance with Article 61 of the EFF Basic Regulation the Budget Supervision Office shall be responsible in particular for:

(a) ensuring that audits are carried out to verify the effective functioning of the management and control system of the operational programme;

(b) ensuring that audits are carried out on operations on the basis of an appropriate sample to verify expenditure declared;

...  

(d) ensuring that the managing authority and the certifying authority receive all necessary information on the audits and controls carried out;

(e) by 31 December each year from 2008 up to 2015:

(i) submitting to the Commission an annual control report. The first report to be submitted by 31 December 2008 shall cover the period from 1 January 2007 to 30 June 2008;

(ii) issuing an opinion based on the controls and audits that have been carried out under its responsibility as to whether the management and control system functions effectively, so as to provide reasonable assurance that statements of expenditure presented to the Commission are correct and, as a consequence, reasonable assurance that the underlying transactions are legal and regular;

(iii) submitting, where applicable, a declaration for partial closure assessing the legality and the regularity of the expenditure concerned;

(f) submitting to the Commission at the latest by 31 March 2017, a closure declaration assessing the validity of the application for payment of the balance and the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions covered by the final statement of expenditure, which shall be supported by a final control report.

The Budget Supervision Office shall ensure that the audit work takes account of internationally accepted audit standards.
The report with an opinion on the implementation structure for the OP fisheries 2007-2013 in accordance with Article 71 of the EFF Basic Regulation, will be conducted by a private body, an external Audit Institution, no later than 12 months after the programme approval.

8.2 AUTHORITY COMPETENT TO RECEIVE COMMISSION PAYMENTS AND PAYMENT AUTHORITY FOR BENEFICIARIES

The authority competent to receive Commission payments is MAFF as the holder of a special bank sub-account for EFF.

Authority responsible for payments to beneficiaries is the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (AAMRD).

AAMRD assumes its basic tasks of handling payments and accounting on the fact that calculation of the aid amount is accomplished only after administrative and other verifications are completed. In the next phase, the Financial Service of the AAMRD after account-coding in a special computerised programme (DF), which enables separate and accurate accounting also for the OP fisheries 2007-2013 expenditure, executes the payments to the beneficiaries. Before booking the expenditure, each beneficiary receives a unique customs number within the AAMRD Central Register of Customers. For the purpose of OP fisheries 2007-2013 expenditures, the AAMRD accounting system will introduce specific budget lines. The accounting system of AAMRD is connected with the automated payment system through the Ministry of Finance (MFERAC). This system is used for the execution of payments directly to the beneficiary’s bank account. For the timely execution of payments AAMRD signed in the year 2004 a special agreement with MF to ensure five-day payment deadline.

The supporting documentation for the claims authorised to be paid assures the audit trail from the time of receiving the application to the payment to the beneficiary, as well as for the corresponding application for reimbursement and statement of expenditure in accordance with the Community legislation.

AAMRD has the procedure in place, which is necessary for the recovery of unduly paid expenditures. Corresponding book-keeping in the AAMRD Finance Service is assured (including interests to the special EFF sub-account). The interests will be used as a national contribution following the example of the pre-financing.

8.3 CONTACT POINTS

Managing Authority:

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
Dunajska 58
SI 1000 Ljubljana
Phone: + 386 1 478 9000
Fax: + 386 1 478 9021
E-mail: gp.mkgp@gov.si

SFC2007 coordination
Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Food
Dunajska 56, 58
SI 1000 Ljubljana
Phone: + 386 1 478 9309
Fax: + 386 1 478 9056
E-mail: leon.ravnikar@gov.si
Certifying Authority:

Agency of the RS for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development
Dunajska 160
SI 1000 Ljubljana
Phone: + 386 1 580 7617
Fax: + 386 1 478 9206
E-mail: aktrp@gov.si

Audit Authority:

Budget Supervision Office
Fajfarjeva 33,
SI 1000 Ljubljana
Phone: + 386 1 369 69 25
   + 386 1 369 69 06 (Cohesion and Structural Funds Audit Sector)
Fax: + 386 1 369 69 14
E-mail: mf.unp@mf-rs.si

8.4 DESCRIPTION OF PROCEDURES TO RELEASE AND CIRCULATION OF FINANCIAL FLOWS

For the monitoring and reporting on OP fisheries 2007-2013, a special information system linked to the Rural Development Programme 2007-2013 operational support shall be created at AAMRD. In this operational support the application handling process may be included. From this operational support, the Certifying Authority shall have access to the data necessary for monitoring and reporting at any time.

The contribution from the EFF shall be defined at the measure-level in relation to total public expenditure. The Managing Authority and AAMRD shall ensure that beneficiaries receive the total amount of the public contribution as quickly as possible and in full payment.

On the basis of verified and executed payments to beneficiaries the AAMRD certifies the statement of expenditure and application for reimbursement of expenditures and forwards them in an aggregated form to the European Commission via SFC 2007.

A more detailed definition of financial flows is provided in the Description of Management and Control Systems, pursuant to Article 71 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

The flowchart of the above-mentioned financial flows is as follows:
The Agency has adequate internal controls and especially controls for payments in line with eligibility conditions confirmed by the Managing Authority.

The Control service at the Agency is responsible for carrying out on-site checks and drafting risk analyses.

The Agency moreover ensures harmonized implementation of the Community's executive legislation, hands out the Community's documents and guidelines and reports to the European Commission. The Agency has a Control Service in place for sending requests for reimbursements and the required reports to the Commission.

The Agency's internal auditing department (Internal Audit Service) meanwhile monitors the implementation of internal controls of administrative and executive procedures based on an audit trail.
The Agency has a comprehensive system in place for uncovering, preventing and reporting on irregularities and suspicions of fraud. The central unit for launching procedures in the event of a discovery and for preventing and reporting irregularities and suspicions of fraud is the Control Service, which reports to the European Anti-Fraud Office and the Budget Supervision Office at the MF. The agency has a procedure in place for a timely recovery of unduly paid amounts.

8.5. DESCRIPTION OF THE MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEM AND COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

8.5.1. EVALUATION

The OP fisheries 2007-2013 is subject to ex-ante, interim and ex-post evaluations. The aim of the evaluations is to improve the quality and effectiveness of assistance from the EFF and the implementation of the OP fisheries 2007-2013.
EX-ANTE EVALUATION

The ex-ante evaluation process was initiated at a relatively early stage of the programming process making the opportunity for the evaluator to be involved in the process in an interactive way. This has resulted in day to day assistance as well as commenting on measure sheets and the National Strategic Plan for Fisheries Development.

It has been established that the draft OP is in compliance with the Guiding Principles of Article 19 of the EFF Basic Regulation and with the National Strategic Plan.

The ex-ante evaluation is annexed to the OP as a separate document.

INTERIM EVALUATION

The Managing Authority will execute all activities required to implement the interim evaluation of OP in the sense of checking the progress of OP implementation with respect to the objectives set. Following implementation of the interim evaluation the Managing Authority will study the need for any changes to the OP to improve the quality of the programme and its implementation.

The evaluation includes measures to improve the quality of assistance and its implementation. The implications of the interim evaluation can be a change of the OP on measures level (e.g. substantive changes) or a change of financial amounts under separate priority axes considering disbursement of funds and mid-term amount payments made to 2010.

The indicator system defined under Chapter 6 will be used for the interim evaluation.

EX POST EVALUATION

In 2015 an ex-post evaluation will be done at the initiative and under the responsibility of the Commission in consultation with the Managing Authority, which shall collect the information necessary for its implementation.

The ex-post evaluation will examine the degree of utilisation of resources, the effectiveness and efficiency of the operational programme and its impact in relation to the objectives set out in Article 4 and the guiding principles set out in Article 19 of the EFF Basic Regulation. It will provisionally identify the factors that contributed to the success or failure of the implementation of the operational programme, including from the point of view of sustainability and best practice.

The ex-post evaluation shall be completed not later than 31 December 2015.

8.5.2. MONITORING

The Monitoring Committee and the Managing Authority will monitor the implementation of the OP. Monitoring is implemented taking into account financial indicators and the indicators defined for individual axes. Where possible, the statistics shall be broken down by gender and by the size of the beneficiary’s enterprise.

Monitoring means a comparison between planned figures, which in most case are defined at higher levels (measures, priority axis) and achieved figures, which in most cases are gathered at a lower level (e.g. project). It is important that already in the OP preparation phase, the monitoring system is planned to ensure that the OP implementation processes
facilitate the collection and saving of data that can be used with information system support and aggregated at higher levels for comparisons with the planned figures, in order to check if the OP monitoring is effective. Monitoring and reporting will be executed using an information system. The Managing Authority will prepare specific instructions on monitoring.

The Managing Authority is responsible for data collection and data processing.

The product of the monitoring will be the annual reports and final reports on implementation, pursuant to Article 67 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

8.6. ENVISAGED COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

Based on the MAFF proposal the Government of the RS shall appoint the members of the Monitoring Committee for OP fisheries 2007-2013 within a maximum of three months following the decision approving the programme.

The Monitoring Committee shall draw up its rules of procedure within the institutional, legal and financial national framework and adopt them in agreement with the Managing Authority in order to perform its duties in accordance with the EFF Basic Regulation N° 1198/2006.

The chair of the Monitoring Committee shall be the State Secretary of the MAFF.

Based on Article 63 of the EFF Basic Regulation the Monitoring Committee shall be set up in agreement with the Managing Authority, after a consultation with partners pursuant to Article 8 of the EFF Basic Regulation. Therefore, the Monitoring Committee in a new financial perspective 2007-2013 will certainly have a different structure from the Monitoring Committee in the perspective 2000-2006, as the latter was composed of representatives from all areas that were included in the Single Programming Document (agriculture, fisheries, social field, economy, local municipalities representatives, trade unions representatives, non-governmental organisations etc.).

The members of the Monitoring Committee for the OP fisheries 2007-2013 are provisionally going to be representatives of ministries, government offices, public agencies and institutes, economic and social partners and non-governmental organisations. It is of particular importance that the Monitoring Committee shall have representatives of governmental bodies and organisations responsible for environmental protection (Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning, as well as representatives of non-governmental organisations for environmental protection, the association of non-governmental organisations for environmental programmes, public institutions for protection areas management and social partners related to the environment). All members must respect the objectives of the Monitoring Committee and the partnership principle. It is of particular interest to have a balanced representation of NGO representatives in comparison to other institutions/organisations that shall have their representatives in the Monitoring Committee.

The Monitoring Committee must be assured of the effectiveness of the OP fisheries 2007-2013 implementation. For this purpose and pursuant to Article 65 of the EFF Basic Regulation it shall carry out the following activities:

(a) it shall consider and approve the criteria for selecting the operations financed within six months of the approval of the operational programme and approve any revision of those criteria in accordance with programming needs;
(b) it shall periodically review progress made towards achieving the specific targets of the operational programme on the basis of documents submitted by the managing authority;
(c) it shall examine the results of implementation, particularly achievement of the targets set for each priority axis and the interim evaluations referred to in Article 49;
(d) it shall examine and approve the annual and final reports on implementation referred to in Article 67 before they are sent to the Commission;
(e) it shall be informed of the annual control report and of any relevant comments the Commission may make after examining that report;
(f) at the initiative of the Member State, it may be informed of the written information submitted to the Commission referred to in Article 16(1);
(g) it may propose to the managing authority any revision or examination of the operational programme likely to make possible the attainment of the EFF’s objectives set out in Article 4 or to improve its management, including its financial management;
(h) it shall consider and approve any proposal to amend the content of the Commission decision on the contribution from the EFF.

The transition between the FIFG 2000-2006 and the EFF 2007-2013 will be ensured as follows: at least one part of the institutions that nominate their representatives to the Monitoring Committee for the EFF will be the same as it was in the FIFG Monitoring Committee.

The Monitoring Committee will monitor and examine OP implementation at least twice a year (projects carried out, payments executed, commitments etc.).

The Monitoring Committee will be set up after an agreement with the Managing Authority and as a result of consultations with the partners pursuant to Article 8 of the EFF Basic Regulation.

8.7. PROCEDURES FOR DATA EXCHANGE BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION AND THE MEMBER STATE IN ELECTRONIC FORM

For the 2007-2013 programming period, the European Commission has set up a new information system (SFC2007) – a web-based application – to collect data on programme implementation by Member States. The application is intended to ensure the secure exchange of data in the common interest between the Commission and individual Member States. During the new financial perspective, SFC2007 will fully replace the old (paper) form of communication between the Commission and Member States. The Commission has produced the new application to standardise and speed up reporting procedures and reduce the possibility of error. The system will support electronic exchange of data between the Commission and the Member States on Operational Programmes for all EU funds, as well as manually inputting of data via the web application.

SFC2007 will primarily be used to support the exchange of the following document types:

- National strategic plans and their updates,
- Operational programmes and their updates,
- Summary reports,
- Annual progress reports,
- Reimbursement claims,
- Commission decisions and other relevant documents.

8.8. DEFINITION OF PARTNERS AND RESULTS OF COOPERATION

The basic element of modern democracy is cooperation in decision-making. The quality, adequacy and effectiveness of EU policy depend on ensuring a wide range of participation in the creation and implementation of public policy. The partnership principle means bringing in decentralised decision-making procedures, because it requires close cooperation between the EU, national, regional and local authorities, social partners, NGOs and the rest of civil society. In Slovenia these forms of partnership are wide-ranging and used in the preparation
of all long-term development plans and programmes, including the Operational Programme for Fisheries Development 2007–2013. Taking into account the principles of European governance, the national legal basis, we want to include as many interested parties as possible in the preparation and implementation of OP fisheries 2007–2013. In accordance with Article 8 of the EFF Basic Regulation, the EFF objectives are realised through close cooperation (partnership) between the Commission and the Member State. The Member State organises, in accordance with the current national rules and practices, a partnership with the authorities and bodies which it designates, such as:

— the competent regional, local and other public authorities
— the economic and social partners
— any other appropriate body.

In accordance with Article 8(4) of the EFF Basic Regulation, the partnership shall cover the preparation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the operational programme.

As part of the preparations of draft development documents for fisheries (the National Strategic Plan for Fisheries Development 2007-2013 and the OP for Fisheries Development 2007-2013), the MAFF prepared a significant number of presentations, consultations, workshops and meetings with numerous government institutions and agencies (Ministry of the Environment and Spatial Planning, Institute of the Republic of Slovenia for Nature Conservation), the competent regional, local and other public authorities (public institutions, utilities, local communities), social partners, NGOs and local representatives of communities where the fisheries sector is important. The Minister issued a decision appointing a project group to prepare the NSP, which has been functioning as a working group to study the OP as well. The last meeting of this group was held in April 2007 where main issues were set (e.g. funds per axis, measures that are necessary to implement etc.). The MAFF also organised consultations with other state bodies (Ministry of the Environment), and government offices (Government Office for Local Self-government and Regional Policy), local communities (the municipalities of Izola, Koper and Piran), economic and social partners and other interested civil society representatives, fisheries consultancy services (Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry), representatives of the former Office for the Conservation, Diversification and Development of Sea Fisheries and other fisheries representatives. The partners already participated in the preparation of the OP, and unofficial comments on the first draft were submitted, which the Ministry has taken into account in the new draft.

Partners and bodies that were consulted in a process of setting up NSP and OP fisheries 2007-2013 were:

| Representatives of fishermen |
| Representatives of the marine aquaculture sub-sector (shellfish farmers, finfish farmers) |
| Representatives of freshwater aquaculture |
| Office for the Conservation, Diversification and Development of Sea Fisheries |
| Representatives of Local Communities (Izola, Koper, Piran) |
| Public company Komunala |
| Chamber of Agriculture and Forestry |
| Institute Biocen (institute for ecological research, consulting and educating) |
| Ministry for Environment and Spatial Planning |
| Institute for Nature Conservation |

8.8.1 RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATIONS AND COOPERATION:

Workshops and meetings of the project group for NSP and OP fisheries 2007-2013 first resulted in defining measures that are necessary to improve the state in fisheries sector. The last two meetings of the Representatives of the catching sub-sector (commercial sea fishing) and the marine aquaculture sub-sector brought on an agreement on funds under axis 1 and 3. Within Permanent cessation of fishing activities a criterion of 60 diaries in a period of two years before the implementation of the measure was set up. It was, however, strongly recommended to define the activity of a vessel in a different way. Fishermen representatives strongly recommended socio-economic compensations as there is a great need for diversification of fishing due to a seasonal character of fishing. Within the measure Fishing ports and landing sites however it has been strongly recommended to insert a provision of minimum 5 years period after the end of the project in which local communities should engage themselves to destine modernised fishing ports to fishing and fishermen. Within the Aquaculture sector a strong need for Aqua-Environmental measures has been expressed although the ex-ante evaluation showed that there is still a lot of work that needs to be done to implement those measures (e.g. adoption of national legislation). However, Animal health measures and Public health measures have been included after additional meetings with representatives of the aquaculture sub-sector.

8.9. ELEMENTS ENSURING OPERATIONAL PROGRAMME INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY

Effective publicity is essential to raising general public awareness and the transparency of European Fisheries Fund (EFF) operations, and it increases the interest in utilising the financial assistance available. It is intended to increase the absorption rate of these EU funds. Full and clear information for each specific issue is a condition for establishing trust among the groups directly involved (the public) and the competent authorities. Publicity is an essential precondition for public cooperation in the process of monitoring and implementing public policies, which bolsters the legitimacy of the decisions taken. Ten per cent of technical assistance funds for the 2007-2013 programming period are therefore allocated to communication tools and support activities. The EU will cover 75 % of eligible costs, and Slovenia the remaining 25 %.

8.9.1 MEASURES TO INFORM POTENTIAL BENEFICIARIES

The Managing Authority must provide potential beneficiaries with clear information on: administrative procedures to be followed, the application management system, information on criteria used in selection procedures and evaluation mechanisms, the names and people or contact points that can explain how the OP fisheries 2007-2013 functions, and criteria for acquiring assistance from the EFF. This group includes all potential beneficiaries to EFF funds that are included in the OP.

In addition to the overall coordination of information and publicity for the EFF 2007-2013, the MAFF will also prepare:

- Programme logo and “corporate identity”
The rapid spread of Internet access confirms the importance of websites as media for an organisation's key messages and as the source of up-to-date information. The website will be the main communication tool for the communication plan.

The website will present the EFF 2007–2013 in full. Potential beneficiaries will be able to find all the information they need on individual measures (purpose, eligible activities and costs, beneficiaries, financial provisions and specific conditions). The website will also be used to publish public tenders and print-ready tender dossiers, plus all the INFO-Points where people can obtain additional information.

An electronic forum will be available on the website of the Agency of the Republic of Slovenia for Agricultural Markets and Rural Development (AAMRD) for all interested parties. They will be able to use this to exchange opinions, ask questions and receive answers about EFF measures, produce business plans and prepare public tender documentation or gather information on the implementation of measures.

The INFO-Points will be information offices where interested parties will be able to obtain information on utilising EFF funds.

A range of different publications is planned for issue over the programming period. These will be used at various presentations of EFF 2007–2013 (e.g. round tables, seminars, workshops, press conferences and fairs). We will also produce a leaflet on the EFF.

Press releases will be issued to the media on an on-going basis, to provide news and reply to current questions and issues arising in relation to the EFF 2007–2013.

These will offer a wider-ranging presentation of news to the media, alongside major events. They will be organised by the MAFF and AAMRD. We will actively present examples of successful investments in fisheries and aquaculture and increase the accessibility of these investments for our target groups.

Media appearances

MAFF and AAMRD representatives will actively participate in radio and television programmes and in the printed media. We will focus on live discussion programmes where viewers or listeners have the chance to ask their own questions. This would be the best way
of providing on-going solutions to dilemmas or problems that potential beneficiaries face in utilising EU funds.

Seminars and workshops

In the initial phase we will organise seminars to provide general information to the professional public about EFF 2007−2013 measures, tender conditions, documentation preparation, procedures to acquire funds and information systems across Slovenia. These seminars are primarily intended for regional development agencies, municipalities and other specialist services in direct contact with potential beneficiaries.

Lectures and discussions

We will participate when invited to do so by other institutions and organisations in various events such as round table discussions, consultations, etc.

Promotional material

Promotional material will be prepared to increase EFF awareness. The material will provide useful information on the EFF, the OP fisheries 2007-2013 and individual measures. The material will be practical and visually attractive and will be used at various events (press conferences, seminars, workshops, training).

As the Managing Authority, the MAFF will inform beneficiaries receiving funds that they are on the list of beneficiaries. The list will be published in electronic form on the Managing Authority website, and will list beneficiaries, operations and the amount of public funding allocated to the operations.

8.9.2 PLANED MEASURES TO INFORM BENEFICIARIES OF THE COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION

Informing the wider public of the Community contribution is a very important part of the publicity agenda. A “corporate identity” will be designed for the programme as well as a manual giving details on project identification, which will be an essential component of all publicity and information material. The manual and corporate identity will include clearly defined rules, which must be followed by all participants involved in publicity and information on projects co-financed by the EFF.

8.9.3 MEASURES TO INFORM THE GENERAL PUBLIC OF THE COMMUNITY ROLE IN THE PROGRAMME AND RESULTS

We will use a range of communication tools to inform the general public about the OP fisheries 2007−2013 in the Republic of Slovenia (e.g. website, INFO-Points, publications, press releases, press conferences, media appearances, seminars, promotional material, etc.), with an emphasis on national media, such as television, radio, newspapers and web media.

8.9.4 ANNUAL REPORTS AND FINAL REPORTS ON IMPLEMENTATION

For reporting purposes, the MAFF has established a system of recording all activities and monitoring indicators to measure the effect of publicity and information activities. INFO-Point staff will record all information activities they organise and report all enquires made by
clients. A database has been prepared to make recording these data quicker and easier. All the activities and indicators we use to monitor publicity effectiveness will be recorded in this database.

The Managing Authority reports to the Monitoring Committee on the communication plan and gives progress reports on the implementation of the plan, publicity and information measures carried out, and means of communication used, providing examples.

Annual reports will include a detailed description of individual publicity and information measures designed to inform the public about the OP, which will be realised in the communication plan, how information and publicity measures are organised, and the content of any major amendments to the communications plan. In addition to information on implementing the communication plan using evaluation indicators, the 2010 annual report and the final report on implementation will also include assessments of the results of publicity and information measures, in terms of public awareness of the OP and the Community role within that programme.

The effectiveness of information measures and the public response will be monitored using the following indicators:

- Number of instructions to communication partners
- Number of press releases
- Number of press conferences
- Number of press clippings
- Number of publications issued (leaflets, brochures, etc.)
- Number of website hits
- Number of seminars and workshops
- Number of INFO-Points
- Number of enquiries (visits, calls, emails) at INFO-Points.
9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND NON-DISCRIMINATION

Protection of individual's rights with regard to human rights and freedoms and the equality before the law is provided directly and by the institute of the Ombudsman as an independent body and by the Office for Equal opportunities.

In the drawing up of the OP fisheries 2007-2013, which systematically promotes equal opportunities and accessibility to all measures regardless of the gender and ethnical, religious or any other origin, the provisions of the national legislation have been taken into account. Equal opportunities are and shall be considered during all stages.

The Operational fisheries programme 2007–2013 in the Republic of Slovenia will promote equal opportunities and access to all measures, regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion or any other personal conviction or circumstance. Equal opportunities will be taken into account in the implementing documents and in the planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of all operations.

As the fisheries sector features a specific situation in terms of representation of men and women, the opportunities to include more women in individual activities and projects are particularly clear within Axis 4 and the sustainable development of fisheries areas, as there will be actions promoting access for women to education, training, employment and other human resource development activities. This will promote greater inclusion of women in the fisheries sector.

The principles of gender equality and equal opportunities will also be one of the criteria for individual projects. Reports on implemented measures will, where possible, also provide data on inclusion and implementation broken down by gender.

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53 Pursuant to Articles 2 and 3 of the EC Treaty, the Lisbon Strategy, the Communication from the Commission to the Council, European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, and on the basis of Articles 4, 8, 11, 15.2, 19 and 37 of Council Regulation (EC) N° 1198/2006 of 27 July 2006 on the European Fisheries Fund.
10. ANNEXES

OP considers sea protected areas as areas of protection and enrichment of fishing resources and therefore they are not designed for fishing or collecting marine organisms.

Picture 3: Areas with legal regimes, put into effect at sea (some of them are also functionally land-related)

Source: Surveying and Mapping Authority of the Republic of Slovenia, data on the use of the sea, Faculty of Building, Surveying and Mapping – Gosar L., 2000, The use the sea in water management, University of Ljubljana, e-mail: fsteinman@fgg.uni-lj.si, lgosar@fgg.uni-lj.si.

Interpretation of the map:

- coastal area
- protected area – protection of nature
- protected area - cultural heritage
- aquatoriums (marine part) of the ports
- anchorages
- waterways
- bathing area
Operational programme for fisheries development in the Republic of Slovenia 2007-2013

- fishing preserve
- aquatoriums (water part) of marine aquaculture
- water courses
- borders of municipalities
- state border

Picture 4: Water bodies in the Republic of Slovenia in accordance with the provisions of the Directive 2000/60/EC and Rules on determining water bodies of surface waters (Official Journal of the Republic of Slovenia, N° 63/05 and 26/06.

Source: Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Interpretation of the map:

- SI5VT1 Number of a water body
- Artificial surfaces
Picture 5: Areas for mussel farming and fish farming at sea set in accordance with water regulations.

Source: Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Interpretation of the map:

- Farming
- Free harvesting
Picture 6: Protected areas at sea

Explanation of the map:

- National park
- Landscape park
- Natural monument
- Nature reserve

Source: http://kremen.arso.gov.si/NVatlas/ewmap.asp?
Picture 7: Slovene coastal municipalities of Koper, Izola and Piran. All three municipalities cover the whole coastal area chosen for the implementation of measures within axis 4.

Source: http://kremen.arso.gov.si/NVatlas/ewmap.asp?

Picture 8: NATURA 2000 areas

Source: http://kremen.arso.gov.si/NVatlas/ewmap.asp?
Explanation of the map:

- SPA areas
- pSCI areas


NATURA 2000 areas are indicated as SPA areas on the map; they were set in accordance with Council Directive 79/409/EEC, and as pSCI areas that were set in accordance with Council Directive 92/43/EEC. The Slovenian Government has set SPA areas as definitive, pSCI areas will be still verified in a proceeding of the European Commission.

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<td>12-17,9</td>
<td>310,30</td>
<td>3844,47</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-23,9</td>
<td>30,76</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 24</td>
<td>312,40</td>
<td>1200</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOGETHER</strong></td>
<td><strong>967,54</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,307,63</strong></td>
<td><strong>175</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 24: Structure of the Slovenian fishing fleet according to size of vessels. Source: MAFF, Fishing Vessel Register, InfoRib, 1. 10. 2007.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AGE (YEARS)</th>
<th>GT</th>
<th>KW</th>
<th>NUMBER OF VESSELS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 10</td>
<td>116,96</td>
<td>2657,36</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11-20</td>
<td>67,23</td>
<td>1090,74</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21-30</td>
<td>448,06</td>
<td>3329,16</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 30</td>
<td>335,29</td>
<td>3230,37</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOGETHER</strong></td>
<td><strong>967,54</strong></td>
<td><strong>10,307,63</strong></td>
<td><strong>175</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 25: Structure of the Slovenian fishing fleet according to age of vessels. Source: MAFF, Fishing Vessel Register, InfoRib, 1. 10. 2007.