

APPLICATION FORM

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014 – 2020)

*Investing in
Sustainable Fisheries
and Aquaculture*

EMFF Measure Title	Article 41(1) On board investments; energy efficiency audits and schemes; studies to assess the contribution of alternative propulsion systems and hull designs
EMFF Measure Code	I.20

Call Year	2018
Call Round	2
Deadline for Submission (dd-mm-yyyy hh:mm:ss)	31-08-2018 11:00:00

[For office use only – Ref No. OC/UP1I.20/2018/2]



Maritime and Fisheries Operational Programme 2014-2020
Part-financed by the European Union
European Maritime Fisheries Fund
Co-financing rate: 37.5% European Union Funds;
12.5% National Funds; 50% Private Funds¹



Investing in sustainable fisheries and aquaculture

¹ Operations related to small-scale coastal fisheries may benefit from an increase of 30% in public aid intensity, while operations implemented by enterprises that fall outside the definition of SMEs shall have the public aid intensity reduced by 20%.

GUIDANCE NOTES TO THE APPLICATION FORM

- Applications are being received from fishing vessel owners for
 - o Investments in equipment or on board aimed at reducing the emission of pollutants or greenhouse gases and increasing the energy efficiency of fishing vessels. Investments in fishing gear are also eligible provided that they do not undermine the selectivity of that fishing gear;
 - o Energy efficiency audits and schemes; and
 - o Studies to assess the contribution of alternative propulsion systems and hull designs to the energy efficiency of fishing vessels.
- Investments in equipment or on board should be in line with Articles 13 to 16 of Regulation (EU) 2015/531. A list of the eligible costs is being reproduced below for ease of reference.

Art. 13 Eligible costs related to the hydrodynamic of the hull of the vessel	
13.1(a)	Investments on stability mechanisms such as bilge keels and bulbous bows that contribute to improving sea-keeping and stability;
13.1(b)	Costs related to the use of non-toxic antifouling such as copper coating in order to reduce friction;
13.1(c)	Costs relative to the steering gear, such as steering gear control systems and multiple rudders to reduce rudder activity depending on weather and sea-state conditions;
13.1(d)	Tank testing in order to provide a basis for improving hydrodynamics.
Art. 14 Eligible costs related to the improvement of the propulsion system of the vessel	
14(a)	Energy efficient propellers including drive shafts;
14(b)	Catalysers
14(c)	Energy efficient generators such as those using hydrogen, or natural gas;
14(d)	Renewable energy propulsion elements such as sails, kites, windmills, turbines, or solar panels;
14(e)	Bow thrusters;
14(f)	Conversion of engines to run on biofuels;
14(g)	Econometers, fuel management systems and monitoring systems;
14(h)	Investments in nozzles that improve the propulsion system.
Art. 15 Eligible costs related to investments in fishing gear and equipment	
15(a)	Change from towed gear to alternative gear;
15(b)	Towed gear modifications;
15(c)	Investments in towed gear monitoring equipment.
Art. 16 Eligible costs related to investments aimed at the reduction of electricity or thermal energy consumption	
16(a)	Investments to improve the refrigeration, freezing, or insulation systems for vessels under 18 m;
16(b)	Investments to encourage the recycling of heat within the vessel involving the heat being recovered and reused for other auxiliary operations within the vessel.

- Energy Efficiency Audits are to be carried out by trained and qualified energy auditors. An updated list of trained qualified auditors can be found at the following link: <https://www.rews.org.mt/#/en/a/81-providers-res-and-energy-audits>
- In line with Article 10 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, operators that committed serious infringements determined by a decision taken as from 1 January 2013, shall **not** benefit from financial assistance from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014-2020). The duration of the inadmissibility period shall be proportionate to the nature, gravity, duration and repetition of the serious infringement, offence or fraud.
- In line with Article 41.9 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, support shall **not** be granted more than once for the same type of investment during the programming period for the same fishing vessel.
- In line with Article 95 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, a maximum intensity of public aid of 50% of the total eligible expenditure of the project/operation can be applied. The applicant is therefore required to finance the remaining 50% of the project/operation. However, as per Annex I of the same Regulation, operations related to small-scale coastal fisheries may benefit from an increase of 30 percentage points. In this case, the applicant will be required to finance 20% of the project/operation. Similarly, for operations implemented by enterprises that fall outside the definition of SMEs, the intensity of public aid shall be reduced by 20 percentage points. In this case, the applicant will be required to finance 70% of the project/operation.

- In line with Article 71 of Regulation (EU) N° 1303/2013 a beneficiary shall repay the contribution from the ESI funds if within five years of the final payment to the beneficiary, any of the following has occurred:
 - ⇒ A cessation or relocation of a productive activity outside the Maltese Islands;
 - ⇒ A change in ownership;
 - ⇒ A substantial change affecting its nature, objectives or implementation conditions which would result in undermining its original objectives.
- In line with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, the owner of a fishing vessel, having received support, shall not transfer that vessel outside the Union during at least the five years following the date of actual payment of that support to the beneficiary. If a vessel is transferred within that time-frame, sums unduly paid in respect of the operation shall be recovered, in an amount proportionate to the period during which the condition has not been fulfilled.

CONTACT PERSONS

- The Final Settlement and Social Security Contribution Compliance Certificate and the Income Tax Compliance Certificate can be acquired from the following Inland Revenue Department official:

Alexander Cassar
 Tel. N°: 22962755
 E-mail: alexander.cassar@gov.mt

- The VAT Compliance Certificate can be acquired by contacting the following VAT Department Officials:

Mariella Orlando
 Tel. N°: 22799231
 E-mail: mariella.orlando@gov.mt

Or

Joseph Attard
 Tel. N°: 22799232
 E-mail: joseph.b.attard@gov.mt

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The following activities shall **not** be eligible under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014 – 2020):

- Activities increasing the fishing capacity of a vessel or equipment increasing the ability of a vessel to find fish;
- 'In-kind' contributions;
- Preventive or scheduled maintenance of any part of the equipment which keep a device in working order;
- Basic hull maintenance;
- Activities physically completed or fully implemented before the application for funding is submitted by the potential beneficiary to the Managing Authority, irrespective of whether all related payments have been made by the potential beneficiary;

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

- All applications must be made on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Application Form. **The form must be submitted both in electronic and paper format.**
- All applications must be completed in full, signed and dated by the applicant (Project Leader). Supporting documentation should be invariably attached to the completed application form.
- A checklist of attachments is included in the Application Form. For the application to be considered complete, all attachments marked **obligatory** are to be submitted with the Application Form by the closing date of the application stage. The Managing Authority will undertake a validity check following receipt of the application. Any required documentation not submitted with the application form shall have to be submitted by the applicant within **five working days from the Managing Authority's disclosure/request**. Only complete applications will be considered by the Project Selection Committee.
- The deadline for all submissions is **Friday 31st August 2018 at 11:00hrs**. Applications received after this deadline **WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**. Applicants are encouraged not to leave to the last day to submit their application.

- All applications are to be delivered **BY HAND** to the Managing Authority at the following address:
 Funds and Programmes Division
 Triq il-Kukkanja
 Santa Venera
 E-mail: fpd.meae@gov.mt
 Tel. Nº: 22001108
 Website: www.eufunds.gov.mt / www.eufundsmalta.gov.mt
- An information session for prospective applicants is expected to be held. The registration form to participate in such information session can be downloaded from the following link: www.eufunds.gov.mt / www.eufundsmalta.gov.mt and forwarded to fpd.meae@gov.mt by not later than 13th July 2018 noon.

THE SELECTION PROCESS

- An independent Project Selection Committee has been purposely set up, to assess all proposals received, determine their eligibility and assess those eligible proposals against the relevant selection and award criteria. The Project Selection Committee has full power and authority to consider and/or select applications for funding during the project appraisal process.
- The Project Selection Committee shall award marks, to each individual proposal, according to the selection criteria. Proposals shall then be ranked according to the marks obtained.
- In order to qualify for selection, proposals need to obtain at least 50% of the total marks available. Proposals will be ranked according to marks and funds allocated to those proposals which obtain the highest marks. Other proposals which obtain the pass mark but which are not funded will be placed on a reserve list according to marks obtained and funding offered, if and when, funds become available.
- A copy of the Admissibility and Selection Criteria is available online in English, in PDF format, at <https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%20links%20and%20downloads/Adopted%20EMFF%20Admissibility%20and%20Selection%20Criteria%20v120418.pdf>
- A copy of the Admissibility and Selection Criteria is available online in Maltese, in PDF format, at <https://eufunds.gov.mt/en/EU%20Funds%20Programmes/Agricultural%20Fisheries%20Fund/Documents/EMFF%20links%20and%20downloads/Admissibility%20and%20selection%20criteria%202014-2020%20final%20MT.pdf>
- The Managing Authority shall inform all applicants about the outcome of the selection process. Aggrieved Applicants shall have the right of appeal within five (5) working days from the date of the letter of rejection by the Project Selection Committee, which shall be sent to the applicant (project leader) both in paper and electronic copy.
- As a result of this call, the Project Selection Committee, intends to select and co-finance, operation/s in line with Article 41.1 of Regulation (EU) Nº 508/2014, for a maximum total public eligible amount of € 200,000.00 (two hundred thousand EURO). The Managing Authority reserves the right to decrease or increase the indicative allocation.

DISCLAIMER:

The Maltese version of the application form is a translation of the original in English. In case of any discrepancies, the English original will prevail.

SECTION 1 – THE APPLICANT

1.1 Applicant's Details

1.1.1 General Details

Legal Status of Applicant: Natural Person (Individual) Legal Person
↓
 Private (Business Entity or Non-Governmental Organisation)

Applicant's Name & Surname²:

Legal Name of Applicant Organisation (if applicable):

Type of Business Entity (if applicable):

- Private Limited Liability Company
 Public Limited Liability Company

Registration N^o (if applicable):

VAT Number (if any):

Postal Address:

Post Code:

Tel. N^o:

E-mail Address (if available):

Website Address (if available):

² The **Applicant** means the **Project Leader** from the beneficiary organisation, who, in line with the Admissibility and Selection Criteria (April 2018), should carry the monetary and legal responsibility for implementing a project on behalf of the beneficiary. The person's direct association with the beneficiary is crucial, especially with a view to ensure that the grant is exclusively used for the agreed purpose. For this call the applicant also means the owner of the vessel or authorised co-owner in case of multiple vessel owners (refer to section 1.3)

1.1.2 Additional/Work Information

Applicant's Date of Birth:

Job title and description:

Date of Commencement/
Duration of Employment:

In case of applicant organisations, please provide information on its main activities and the number of employees (whether self-employed or employed) working on board the vessel together with their assigned responsibilities:

State the number of years that the vessel concerned and its related fishing activities has been in operation:

Identify any individuals/organisations which will assist the applicant during the implementation of the project. For instance, an accountant, engineer or surveyor). Describe briefly their roles and responsibilities in the project implementation process:

Applicant is to attach:

- A copy of the Employment History (Jobsplus) [Attachment Required].

1.2 Fishing Vessel's Details (Maximum Marks: 5)³

Applicant is to attach:

- A copy of valid Fishing Vessel Licence [Attachment Required];
- A copy of valid Certificate of Malta Registry (Transport Malta) [Attachment Required ONLY for vessels with an overall length exceeding six (6) metres];
- Survey Report including Certificate of Seaworthiness issued by a recognised Surveyor [Attachments Required].

³ **Measure-Specific Selection Criteria:** Preference given to investments made on older but still operational vessels which operations are to be in line with the investments defined in Article 41.1(a) of Regulation 508/2014 and eligible costs defined in Article 13 – 16 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/531. Max. marks: 5 (2 year-old vessels = 1 point; 3-5 year-old vessels = 2 points; 6-8 year-old vessels = 3 points; 9-10 year-old vessels = 4 points; >10 year-old vessels = 5 points)

1.3 Owner/s of the fishing vessel

Applicant is to attach:

- *Certified documentary evidence proving ownership of the vessel and the engines thereof [Attachment Required].*

In case of multiple owners, co-owners are to also complete the declaration, below, whereby authorising the applicant to submit an application form on their behalf, and if successful in obtaining funding, enter into a grant agreement with the EMFF Managing Authority.

I the undersigned, hereby authorise the applicant to act on my behalf in entering into a grant agreement with the EMFF Managing Authority for the purposes of the Energy Efficiency Grant Aid Scheme, and further authorise the applicant to receive, on my behalf, grant aid due from my participation in the Scheme. In signing this form, I agree to the terms and conditions of the scheme and declare that the information provided is true and accurate.

Name of Vessel Owner/s	Address of Vessel Owner/s	I.D. Card Nº of Vessel Owner/s	Signature of Vessel Owner/s

If necessary, additional rows may be added.

1.4 Financial Viability of the Applicant

In line with Article 95 of Regulation (EU) Nº 508/2014, a maximum intensity of public aid of 50% of the total eligible expenditure of the project/operation can be applied. The applicant is therefore required to finance the remaining 50% of the project/operation. The applicant should hence demonstrate that the necessary finances are in place to cash flow the operation in arrears and to repay the grant in the event of an irregularity.

However, as per Annex I of the same Regulation, operations related to small-scale coastal fisheries may benefit from an increase of 30 percentage points. In this case, the applicant will be required to finance 20% of the project/operation. Similarly, for operations implemented by enterprises that fall outside the definition of SMEs, the intensity of public aid shall be reduced by 20 percentage points. In this case, the applicant will be required to finance 70% of the project/operation.

*In case, the applicant is a **private individual/self-employed**, the applicant is to attach:*

- *A copy of the income tax return and annexed income statement submitted for year of assessment 2017 (basis 2016) and a signed copy of the income statement for basis 2017 [Attachments Required];*
- *A copy of VAT registration certificate [Attachment Required];*
- *Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations [Attachments Required];*
- *Declaration by the individual and his/her accountant/lawyer attesting that liquid funds are available to match the private financing [Attachment Required **ONLY** if applicable];*
- *A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan [Attachment Required **ONLY** if applicable].*

In case of multiple vessel owners, the above documentation is to be submitted for each co-owner.

In case, the applicant is a **private company**, the applicant is to attach:

- A copy of the audited financial statements for the years 2016 and 2015 [Attachments Required];
- Signed copy of Management accounts (full set) for year 2017 [Attachment Required];
- Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations [Attachments Required];
- Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable];
- A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable].

In case, the applicant is a **start-up business in its first year of operation**, the applicant is to attach:

- A copy of the existing management accounts at application date [Attachment Required];
- A copy of cashflow and revenue projections for 2018 and 2019 certified by a Certified Public Accountant [Attachment Required];
- Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable];
- A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable].

In case, the applicant is a **start-up business in its second year of operation**, the applicant is to attach:

- A copy of the audited financial statement for the year 2016 [Attachment Required];
- Signed copy of Management accounts (full set) for year 2017 [Attachments Required];
- Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable];
- A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan [Attachment Required ONLY if applicable].
- Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations [Attachments Required];

1.5 Serious Infringement/s Committed

In case, any serious infringements to the Common Fisheries Policy, have been committed since 1st January 2013, the applicant is to attach:

- A copy of all notification letters issued by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture whereby penalty points have been assigned to the fishing license [Attachments Required].

SECTION 2 – DETAILS OF OPERATION

2.1 Description of the Operation (*Maximum Marks: 20⁴*)

Describe, in detail, the proposed operation for which assistance is being requested specifying its main characteristics and objectives, taking into consideration energy efficiency and the mitigation of climate change⁵.

⁴ **Measure-Specific Selection Criteria:**

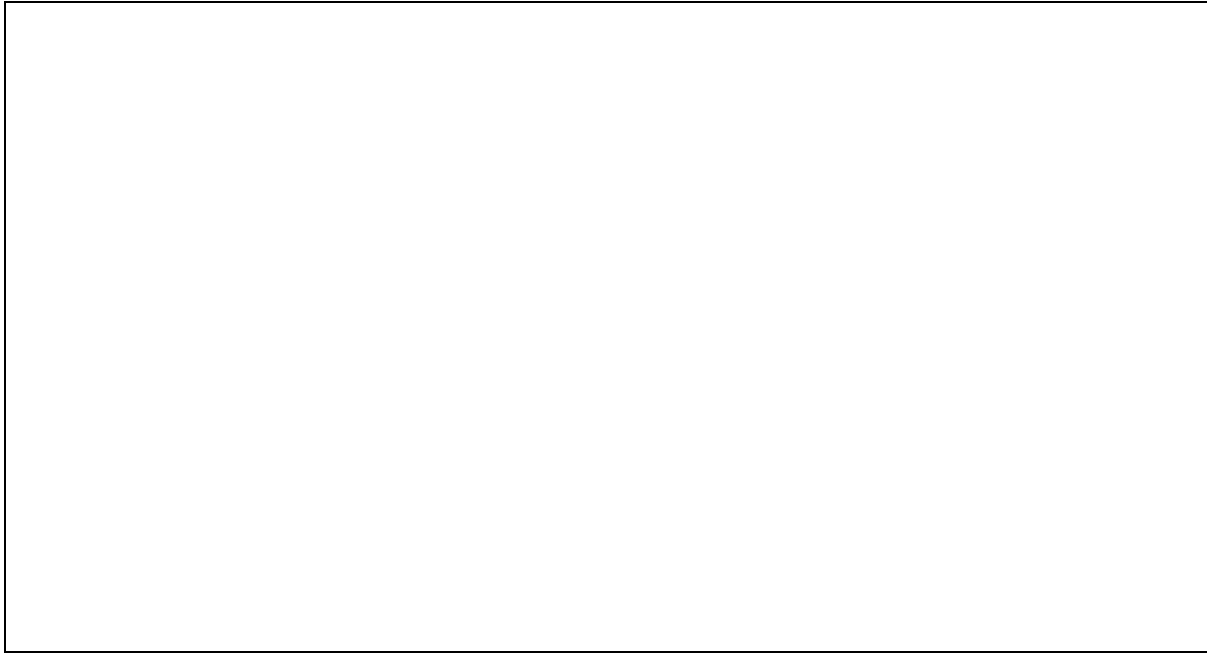
- Points given for investments aimed at improving the refrigeration, freezing or insulation systems for vessels under 18m in line with Article 41.1(a) of Regulation (EU) 508/2014 and Article 16(a) of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/531 – **5 Marks**
- Points given to operations aimed at improving the propulsion system of the vessel in line with Article 41.1(a) of Regulation (EU) 508/2014 and Article 14 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/531 – **5 Marks**
- Points given to investments targeting fishing gear and equipment in line with Article 41.1(a) of Regulation (EU) 508/2014 and Article 15 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/531 – **5 Marks**
- Points given to investments aimed at improving the hydrodynamics of the hull of the vessel in line with Article 41.1(a) of Regulation (EU) 508/2014 and Article 13 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2015/531 – **5 Marks**

⁵ **Measure- Specific Admissibility Criteria:**

- Project proposals on investments in equipment or on board must clearly identify how the operations to be implemented will contribute to the reduction in the emission of pollutants or greenhouse gases and to the increase in energy efficiency of fishing vessels;
- Project proposals on investments in fishing gear must clearly demonstrate that they will not compromise the selectivity of that fishing gear;
- Project proposals on energy efficiency audits must identify how they will contribute to the mitigation of climate change by reducing the emission of greenhouse gases and/or to the improvement of the energy efficiency of fishing vessels;
- Project proposals on studies to assess the contribution of alternative propulsion systems and hull designs to the energy efficiency of fishing vessels should clearly identify expected outcomes in relation to the increase in energy efficiency of the said fishing vessels.
- Proposals submitted must be in line with the rules stipulated in Articles 13, 14, 15 and 16 of COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2015/531 of 24 November 2014 (as applicable)

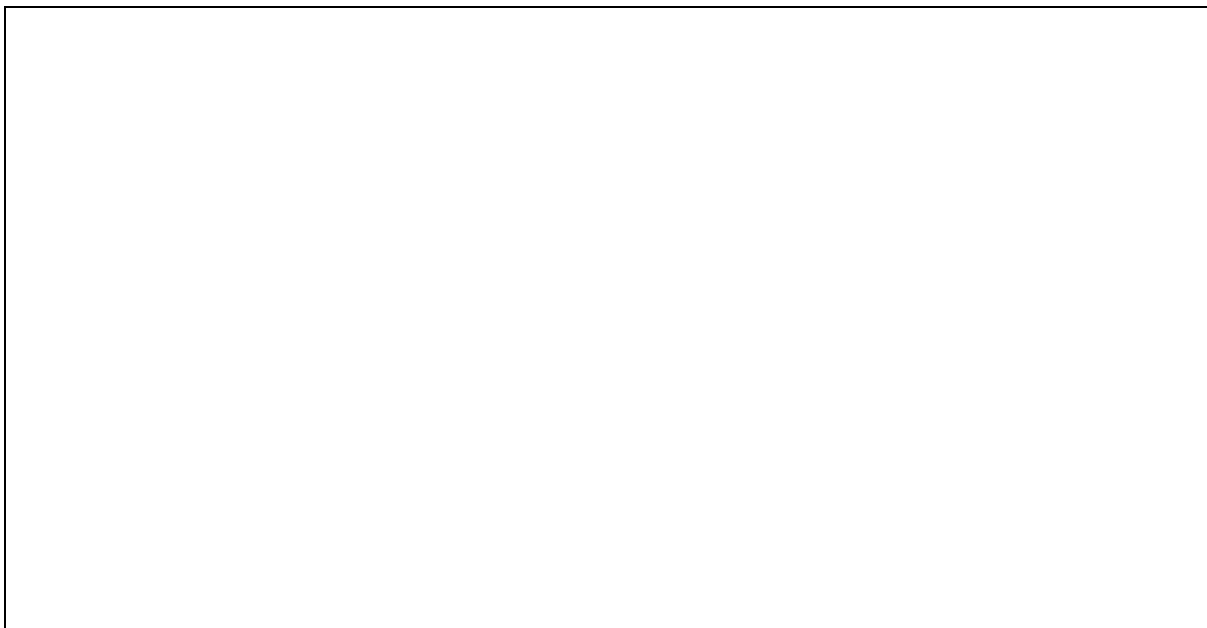
2.2 Sources of energy inefficiency

Fishing continues to be one of the most energy-intensive food production method in the world today. In addressing the problem of energy efficiency it is useful to understand just where the energy is used in a fishing vessel. The applicant is to, therefore, identify the sources of energy inefficiency within the vessel. The approximate distribution of the energy created is also to be identified.



2.3 Actions addressing energy inefficiency (*Maximum Marks: 5*)⁶

The applicant is to clearly identify measures which are to be undertaken, as part of the proposed operation, and which are meant to address the inefficiency highlighted in Section 2.2 above. Any increase in fuel efficiency as a result of the proposed actions, translated in savings – litres per volume of catches, is to be clearly quantified.



⁶ **Measure-Specific Selection Criteria:** Points given to operations targeting the increase in fuel efficiency (translated in savings – litres per volume of catches)

2.4 Type of Operation (*more than one type of operation can be selected*)

- Equipment on board
- Fishing Gear

- Energy Efficiency Audits and Schemes
- Studies

The operation relates to:

- Sea

2.5 Target Groups Supported by the Operation

State the number of fishermen benefiting from the operation.

2.6 Quotation⁷

Applicant is to attach:

- ONE quotation for costs to be incurred [*Attachment Required*].

Item / Activity	Description / Specifications	QUOTATION		
		Name of Supplier	Date of the request for quotation	Price excluding VAT
				€
				€
				€
				€

If necessary, additional rows may be added.

⁷ Kindly note that prior to procuring the equipment or services required, the applicant is to present the Managing Authority with three (3) new comparable quotations and a copy of the request for quotations. These quotations are to be submitted together with a formal letter addressed to the Managing Authority whereby the chosen quotation is indicated by inserting reference to the quotation number and the full name of the chosen supplier/service provider. If the cheapest quotation is not chosen by the applicant, a justification would need to be provided. The applicant is to note that in such cases, the amount of funding co-financed through the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014 – 2020) can only be based on the cheapest quotation obtained. Should for some reason three (3) quotations not be obtained by the applicant, a justification why, should also be provided by the applicant and it would be the Managing Authority's prerogative whether to accept such justification or not.

2.7 Operation Time Frame

In the box below, please indicate the expected start and end date of the operation.

Start Date:
End Date ⁸ :

2.8 Proposal in line with European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Operational Programme (EMFF OP):

2.8.1 Contribution towards EMFF OP Specific Objective⁹

Please tick if the operation is in line with the Union Priorities Strategy and contributes to the achievement of the objective and results as outlined in the EMFF OP for Malta.

Specific Objective	
5 – Provision of support to strengthen technological development and innovation, including increasing energy efficiency, and knowledge transfer	<input type="checkbox"/>

2.8.2 Contribution towards EMFF OP Result Indicator (*Maximum Marks: 5*)¹⁰

i. Please insert the necessary information accordingly:

Value of annual net profit before the operation	thousand Euro
Value of expected annual net profit after the operation	thousand Euro

ii. In the *target for completion of operation* column below, please insert the planned change in net profits expected to be achieved in view of the proposed operation and its impact on net profit taking into consideration any possible savings.

Result indicator	Target for Completion of Operation
1.3 – Change in net profits	thousand Euro

2.8.3 Please describe how the value in net profits¹¹ will be calculated:

⁸ The project end date cannot extend further than 31/12/2019 unless otherwise approved by the Managing Authority.

⁹ Specific Objectives are the results to which a Union Priority contributes in a specific national or regional context through actions or measures undertaken within such a priority. The Applicant must ensure that the proposal falls under the listed Specific Objective in order for the application to be eligible.

¹⁰ **General Selection Criteria:** Assessed in terms of contribution towards the O.P. indicators beyond the minimum required.

¹¹ Based on earnings before interest and taxes.

2.8.4 Please describe how the envisaged change in net profits¹² will be calculated:

2.9 Complementarity (Maximum Marks: 5)¹³

Specify whether the proposed operation is complementary to any operation already financed or to be financed by the European Union¹⁴

Yes No

If yes, give details (provide reference number/s, dates, amounts requested, amounts granted, etc.):

¹² Based on earnings before interest and taxes.

¹³ **General Selection Criteria:** Applications marked according to the project proposal's complementarity with other E.U. funded projects.

¹⁴ Article 125.3(f) of Regulation (EU) No. 508/2014 states that operations selected for support from EMFF cannot include activities which were part of an operation which has been or should have been subject to a procedure of recovery in accordance with Article 71 following the relocation of a productive activity outside the programme area.

SECTION 3 – OPERATION RISK ASSESSMENT (Maximum Marks: 5)¹⁵

Describe any risks that might impact the implementation of the operation and indicate the probability (low, medium or high probability) of these risks happening. Identify also any measures implemented/to be implemented to mitigate the occurrence and/or impacts of these risks (low, medium or high impact).

SECTION 4 – READINESS (Maximum Marks: 10)¹⁶

Applicant is to attach:

- *Written approval by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture in case of any modifications to the hull and in case of engines being converted to run on biofuels [Attachment Required **ONLY** if applicable].*

Indicate the state of readiness of the operation.

¹⁵ **General Selection Criteria:** Selection Committee will assess the results expected to be achieved via the implementation of approved operation in terms of solutions and risks that can hinder the achievement of identified results.

¹⁶ **General Selection Criteria:** Availability of environmental/planning permits, tender designs and other studies/resources or plans.

SECTION 5 – SUSTAINABILITY OF THE PROJECT (*Maximum Marks: 10*)¹⁷

Describe how the benefits of the project/operation will continue to be delivered after grant support comes to an end and how the operation will be financially supported following completion (minimum of 5 years following project closure¹⁸) taking into consideration also costs in relation to any maintenance work expected. Describe what maintenance work will be required.

SECTION 6 – ADDED VALUE AND COST-EFFECTIVENESS (*Maximum Marks: 20*)¹⁹

Describe the added value of the proposed operation and its cost-effectiveness.

¹⁷ **General Selection Criteria:** Assessed in terms of how the benefits will continue to be enjoyed after the project financing has actually ended.

¹⁸ In line with Article 71 of Regulation (EU) N° 1303/2013 a beneficiary shall repay the contribution from the ESI funds if within five years of the final payment to the beneficiary, any of the following has occurred:

- ⇒ A cessation or relocation of a productive activity outside the Maltese Islands;
- ⇒ A change in ownership;
- ⇒ A substantial change affecting its nature, objectives or implementation conditions which would result in undermining its original objectives.

In line with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, the owner of a fishing vessel, having received support, shall not transfer that vessel outside the Union during at least the five years following the date of actual payment of that support to the beneficiary. If a vessel is transferred within that time-frame, sums unduly paid in respect of the operation shall be recovered, in an amount proportionate to the period during which the condition has not been fulfilled.

¹⁹ **General Selection Criteria:** Extra marks given on the basis of added value, project effectiveness and also the justification of planned expenses. Co-financing necessitates the best monetary value possible in view of the fact that E.U. funds are truly tax payer's money from all Member-States.

SECTION 7 – HORIZONTAL PRIORITIES (*Maximum Marks: 5*)²⁰

Describe how this operation effectively integrates the Operational Programme's horizontal priorities: more specifically Environmental Sustainability²¹ and Equal Opportunities.

SECTION 8 – ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please use this section to supply any additional information relating to previous sections which you feel is relevant. Please head your information using the numbers and heading within this form.

SECTION 9 – DATA PROTECTION

Personal data transmitted to the Funds and Programmes Division within the scope of implementation of operations being co-financed by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund is processed, in accordance with the Data Protection Act (2018), by the Funds and Programmes Division and by other stakeholders and competent authorities mandated to implement, monitor, execute payments, control and audit the operation/contract. For any data protection queries e-mail on fpd.meae@gov.mt

I agree with the above

²⁰ **General Selection Criteria:** Adherence to the fundamental principles of accessibility, gender equality and non-discrimination together with sustainable development.

²¹ With reference to sustainable development, the Applicant should make reference to the expected % decrease in fuel consumption and the expected % decrease in CO₂ emission (if relevant).

SECTION 10 - DECLARATION

I declare that the entries in this Declaration form, the details in the whole **Application Form** and any other annexes enclosed are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, correct. I also confirm that the EU Funds applied for, is the minimum required for the operation to proceed as described.

I, declare to the best of my knowledge and belief, conformity with the criteria listed under Article 10.1(a-c) of Regulation (EU) 508/2014 and also declare that no fraud under the European Fisheries Fund (2007-2013) or the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014-2020) was committed by the undersigned.

I can confirm that the operation to which this application refers, is not physically completed or fully implemented at the date of its submission to the Managing Authority, as per article 65(6) of Regulation (EU) No 1303/2013.

I can confirm that the operation to which this application refers, shall not increase the fishing capacity of the vessel and that it does not involve the funding of equipment which may increase the ability of a vessel to find fish.

I can also confirm that I am not aware of any reason why the operation may not proceed or be delayed and the commitment can be made within the timescales indicated in the Operational Programme to which this operation relates. I acknowledge that the application will be subject to regular monitoring/auditing/evaluations and undertake to keep adequate records for this purpose in line with instructions received from the Managing Authority and as described in the Manual of Procedures and any other guidance provided by the Managing Authority/other stakeholders, as applicable.

I declare that this operation is not being supported through other Community Funding and that I will abide by the principle of good governance and the Public Contracts Regulation on matters related to procurement as applicable.

I also declare that by submitting this application, I am hereby giving my consent for the publication of information related to the beneficiary and the operation (including budget) as required by the relevant Commission Regulations on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (2014-2020).

I declare to abide to the durability clause enshrined in article 71 of Regulation (EU) 1303/2013 and article 25.1 of Regulation (EU) 508/2014²². I also understand that if the information included in the Application Form is found to be not factually correct, the project application may be rejected.

Applicant (Name in Block Letters)

Signature

Date _____

²² In line with Article 71 of Regulation (EU) N° 1303/2013 a beneficiary shall repay the contribution from the ESI funds if within five years of the final payment to the beneficiary, any of the following has occurred:

- ⇒ A cessation or relocation of a productive activity outside the Maltese Islands;
- ⇒ A change in ownership;
- ⇒ A substantial change affecting its nature, objectives or implementation conditions which would result in undermining its original objectives.

In line with Article 25 of Regulation (EU) N° 508/2014, the owner of a fishing vessel, having received support, shall not transfer that vessel outside the Union during at least the five years following the date of actual payment of that support to the beneficiary. If a vessel is transferred within that time-frame, sums unduly paid in respect of the operation shall be recovered, in an amount proportionate to the period during which the condition has not been fulfilled.

SECTION 11 – CHECKLIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Applications will not be considered eligible to go through the assessment stage if they are not submitted upon the relevant Application Form, and which do not include the following Annexes:

/	1 Bound, Original, Signed, and Dated Application Form – Obligatory	<input type="checkbox"/>
/	1 Soft copy of the Application Form (including a scanned copy of any supporting documentation and annexes) – Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.1	Applicant’s Employment History (Jobsplus) – Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.2	Certificate of Registry (Transport Malta) – Required ONLY for vessels with an overall length exceeding six (6) metres	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.2	License of Fishing Vessel – Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.2	Survey Report including Certificate of Seaworthiness issued by a recognised Surveyor ²³ – Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.3	Certified documentary evidence proving ownership of the vessel and the engines thereof – Required	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.4	In case, the applicant is a private individual/self-employed the following documentation should be submitted together with the application form – Required ONLY if applicable	
	1. A copy of the income tax return and annexed income statement submitted for year of assessment 2017 (basis 2016) and a signed copy of the income statement for basis 2017	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. A copy of VAT registration certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Declaration by the individual and his/her accountant/lawyer attesting that liquid funds are available to match the private financing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	In case of multiple vessel owners, the above documentation is to be submitted for each co-owner	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.4	In case, the applicant is a private company the following documentation should be submitted together with the application form – Required ONLY if applicable	
	1. A copy of the audited financial statements for the years 2016 and 2015	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Signed copy of Management accounts (full set) for year 2017	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.4	In case, the applicant is a start-up business in its first year of operation the following documentation should be submitted together with the application form – Required ONLY if applicable	

²³ For a full and updated list of appointed ship surveyors kindly access the link: <http://www.transport.gov.mt/ship-registration/technical/list-of-appointed-ship-surveyors>

	1. A copy of the existing management accounts at application date	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. A copy of cashflow and revenue projections for 2018 and 2019 certified by a Certified Public Accountant	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.4	In case, the applicant is a start-up business in its second year of operation the following documentation should be submitted together with the application form – <i>Required ONLY if applicable</i>	
	1. A copy of the audited financial statement for the year 2016	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2. Signed copy of Management accounts (full set) for year 2017	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3. Declaration by legal representative and accountant/lawyer attesting that funds are available to match the private financing	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4. A bank letter of intent or a bank sanction letter, if private part is to be financed by a loan	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5. Copies of VAT, IRD and SSC Declarations	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 1.5	Notification letters issued by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture whereby penalty points have been assigned to the fishing license – <i>Required ONLY in case any serious infringements to the Common Fisheries Policy have been committed since 1st January 2013.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 2.6	Quotation for costs to be incurred – Obligatory	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 4.0	Written approval by the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture in case of any modifications to the hull and in case of engines being converted to run on biofuels - <i>Required ONLY if applicable.</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Section 8.0	Add Supporting Documentation	<input type="checkbox"/>

For the application to be considered as complete, all attachments marked **obligatory** are to be submitted with the Application Form by the closing date of the application stage. The documents marked **required** are also needed but need not be made available by the closing date of the application stage. The Managing Authority will undertake a validity check following receipt of the application. Any required documentation not submitted with the application form shall have to be submitted by the applicant within **five working days from the Managing Authority's disclosure/request**. Only complete applications will be considered by the Project Selection Committee.