

EU Newsletter

Date:	30/12/2009
Subject:	Measure 2.6. Investments in Processing and Marketing of Fisheries Products Operational Programme for the Bulgarian Fisheries Sector
Deadline	Open

From the beginning of 2010, the National Agency for Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFA) will announce a call for project proposals under measure 2.6. of the Operational Programme for the Bulgarian Fisheries Sector.

Measure 2.6.
Investments in Processing and Marketing of Fisheries Products

I. Scope – the support will be granted for investments in processing and marketing of fisheries products under the following sectors:

- ❑ sector 01 – increase of processing capacity through construction of new processing units and/or through extension of existing units;
- ❑ sector 02 – construction, extension, equipment and modernization of processing units aimed at improving hygiene and working conditions, environmental protection and introduction of production systems for quality control and technological innovations;
- ❑ sector 03 – construction of new market facilities;
- ❑ sector 04 – modernization of existing market facilities.

II. Grant Aid¹:

1. Micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises – **60% of the approved investment costs².**

The maximum amount of grant aid for a single project cannot exceed:

- ❑ EUR 1 000 000 for sector 01 and sector 02;
- ❑ EUR 3 000 000 for sector 03;
- ❑ EUR 300 000 for sector 04.

2. Intermediate enterprises – **30% of the approved investment costs, but not more than EUR 1 000 000.**

Minimum amount of grant aid for a single project – not less than EUR 10 000.

Grant aid payment – the beneficiary can receive:

- ❑ advance payment – up to 20% of the approved grant aid (min EUR 2 000) against a bank guarantee at 110% of the requested advance payment;
- ❑ interim payment – not more than once (min. EUR 3 000); and
- ❑ final payment.

¹ The maximum amount of grant aid for the whole programming period of OPBFS for one applicant cannot exceed:

- ❑ EUR 2 000 000 for sector 01 and sector 02;
- ❑ EUR 6 000 000 for sector 03;
- ❑ EUR 600 000 for sector 04.

² At least 50% of the budget of the measure shall be granted to micro- and small enterprises.

III. Eligible applicants – legal entities or sole proprietors registered under the Commercial Act or the Law on Cooperatives, which:

- ❶ are micro-, small and medium-sized enterprises as per the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Act;
- ❷ are intermediate enterprises – with personnel less than 750 employees and turnover below EUR 200 mio;
- ❸ jointly or separately one or more state authorities must not own more than 25% of the share capital or to control directly or indirectly more than 25% of the votes in the general assembly of the legal entity applying for grant aid;
- ❹ for grant aid under sector 04 are eligible only legal entities registered pursuant to art. 14 of the Commodity Exchanges and Markets Act;
- ❺ for existing facilities under sectors 01, 02 and 04 the applicants must be registered pursuant to art. 12 of the Foods Act or art. 229, art. 262 of the Law on Veterinary and Medical Work.

IV. Eligible expenses:

- 1) construction works;
- 2) purchase and installation of new machinery and equipment (incl. computers), instruments and etc.;
- 3) specialized warehouse equipment and warehouse transport vehicles, directly related to the production activity of the applicant;
- 4) purchase of know-how, patent rights and licenses needed for elaboration or realization of the project;
- 5) purchase of software;
- 6) overheads expenditure – feasibility studies, engineering studies, evaluations, analyses and elaboration of technical and/or technological project design – *up to 5% of the approved expenditure, but not more than EUR 25 000*;
- 7) purchase of land directly related to the projected investment – *up to 10% of the approved expenditure*;
- 8) investments in renewable energy sources (RES) for generation of heat power and/or electricity needed solely for the production activity of the applicant;
- 9) introduction of quality assurance systems, safety working conditions, protection of the environment and waters and achieving compliance with internationally recognized standards;
- 10) training of the personnel employed in the production activity with regard to the projected investment;
- 11) delivery, installation testing and putting into operation of facilities and/or equipment for waste treatment; equipment for improving quality, safety, storage capacity and traceability of products; facilities and/or equipment for the improvement of working conditions and safety.

Eligible shall be expenses made after signing the grant aid agreement, except for the expenses under p. 4), 6) and 7).

The period for realization of the project activities **must not exceed 24 months**.

V. Where to apply

The project applications shall be submitted at the Regional Offices of NAFA according to the place of investment.

The full set of application documents are published [here](#).

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