Explanatory note
on the Infosys information for projects funded under Union Priority 4 (CLLD) under the EMFF

Union Priority 4 (UP4) of the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) covers sustainable development of fisheries and aquaculture areas and is implemented through Community-Led Local Development (CLLD).

*Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) No 1242/2014, No 1243/2014 and No 2017/788 require that each operation under UP 4 must indicate in Annex III the **type of operation** and **type of beneficiary.** Where applicable also gender and size of enterprise must be reported in Annex I (fields 7 and 8).*

It should be noted operations under UP 4 do not need to be directly and exclusively related to the fisheries or maritime sectors but may also be in other sectors relevant to the FLAG area and the respective Local Development Strategy (LDS).

*This explanatory note aims to help MS **attribute the relevant Infosys codes to operations funded from UP 4**. The information has been prepared by the FARNET Support Unit and the FAME Support Unit, and it is **not an official interpretation of the EU legislation**.*

1. TYPE OF OPERATION

Operations under Article 62 of EMFF Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 report only on the type of beneficiary. Operations under Article 63 are attributed codes for "type of operation", which can be selected from the following categories:

- **106 Adding value**
- **107 Diversification**
- **108 Environment**
- **109 Socio-cultural**
- **110 Governance**
- **111 Running costs and animation**

The first five categories (106-110) are based on the five CLLD objectives defined in Art. 63 of the EMFF. It should be kept in mind that these five objectives are **not mutually exclusive** and some projects can contribute to more than one objective. However Infosys allows only for one code per operation. The MA (or another entity responsible for providing information on CLLD operations) should take into account the **primary objective** of the operation and choose the most appropriate code (e.g. whether supporting environmental certification aims primarily to add value to fish products or to improve the environmental sustainability of a local fishery). The **project examples** provided for the different categories are based on good practices available at the FARNET website.

Adding value (code 106)

Operations with this code correspond to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 Article 63(a):

"adding value, creating jobs, attracting young people and promoting innovation at all stages of the supply chain of fishery and aquaculture products".

This category covers all operations related to the fisheries and aquaculture supply chain, such as investments in fishing and aquaculture activities; producer or product certification; building the capacity of current or potential fishermen (or aquaculture producers) to carry out their activities; and developing the marketing, processing and distribution of fisheries and aquaculture products.

Some examples:

- **direct sales and short circuits** (developing seafood basket distribution scheme in France, selling fish online or via Twitter, supporting fishermen to sell their catch in the cities, e.g. the Jammerbugt boat shop in Copenhagen or the Stockholm fish market);
- **helping fishermen to obtain sustainability certification** (e.g. the Swedish FiskOnline project);
- **attracting young people to professional fishing** (e.g. the Master-Apprentice project in Finland, or training young unemployed persons for jobs in fisheries in the UK);
- **raising skills of fisheries businesses** (e.g. business and accounting training for fishing families in Belgium)
- **developing new methods of production** (e.g. the Spanish project to develop a new method of production of queen scallops);
- **business support to processing and marketing** (e.g. tailor-made support to develop seafood businesses in the UK, mentoring and coaching new businesses in the fisheries sector in Spain);
- **creating a common identity for local fish products** (e.g. organic carp in Germany);
- **promoting responsible fish consumption and awareness-raising** (e.g. training future chefs in preparing fish dishes in Poland).

Further information: see FARNET Guide no. 3 "Adding Value to Local Fishery and Aquaculture Products", Guide no. 8 "Marketing the Local Catch" and Guide no. 12 "Boosting business along the fisheries value chain" .

Diversification (code 107)

Operations with this code correspond to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 Article 63(b):

"supporting diversification inside or outside commercial fisheries, lifelong learning and job creation in fisheries and aquaculture areas"

This category covers all activities that provide additional sources of income to the fisheries area and community. Some operations can be related to fisheries and aquaculture (e.g. diversification into new production), others may focus on activities going beyond fisheries, such as tourism, recreation, gastronomy etc.

Some examples:

- **diversifying into new fisheries and aquaculture products** (e.g. microalgae for omega-3 oil in Spain, sea truffle farming in Italy);
- **developing new products from fish waste or by-products** (e.g. tanning of fish skin in Finland or in France; producing fish meal from discards and waste from a fish auction in Spain);
- **developing pesca-tourism and fishing tourism** (e.g. support to the process of changing legislation in France to allow pesca-tourism activities);
- **capacity building for members of the fisheries community** to develop tourism activities (e.g. tourism training for fishermen in Finland);
- **joint promotion of (fisheries-related) tourism activities and attractions** (e.g. the Northern Fisheries Trail in Poland, Mar Galaica in Spain);
- **investments in hotels and restaurants linked with fisheries** (e.g. a fish restaurant and delicatessen or a fish-themed hotel in Spain);
- **investments in new business activities by fishermen or aquaculture producers** (e.g. a sweet factory and café managed by a fishing family in Poland, or a fisherman starting a company producing fishing gear and nets to gain additional income in Estonia);

- ***supporting the development of existing businesses*** (e.g. a [boat repair shop](#) in Poland, [developing sustainable local businesses](#) through cooperation between Estonia, Finland and Latvia).

Further information: see FARNET Guide no. 5 "[Diversification of Fisheries Areas](#)" and Guide no. 9 "[Fisheries and Tourism: Creating benefits for the community](#)".

Environment (code 108)

Operations with this code correspond to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 Article 63(c):

"enhancing and capitalising on the environmental assets of the fisheries and aquaculture areas, including operations to mitigate climate change"

This category covers operations linked to the protection and valorisation of local environmental assets, raising environmental awareness among fishermen and the local community, as well as minimising the negative impact of fisheries and aquaculture activities on the environment and climate. It can include both profit-generating and non-profit generating operations.

Some examples:

- ***involving fishermen in the protection or conservation of fish species*** (e.g. helping researchers to [restore sustainability of the eel](#) in Portugal, [monitoring activities to reduce illegal fishing](#) in Latvia);
- ***more sustainable production methods*** (e.g. [new technology for reproducing native wild oysters](#) in Ireland);
- ***investing in renewable energies*** (e.g. enabling a fishing organisation to become [self-sufficient in renewable energy](#) in Spain);
- ***improving water quality and tackling pollution*** (e.g. helping [oyster producers to detect toxic micro-algae](#) in France, supporting [investment in new methods of water purification](#) in Poland);
- ***facilitating second-hand use of products*** (e.g. an "[inverted supermarket](#)" in France);
- ***addressing marine litter*** (e.g. supporting fishermen to participate in the "[fishing for litter](#)" scheme in Germany).

Further information: see FARNET Guide no. 6 "[Green Growth in Europe's Fisheries Areas](#)" and [Guide no. 17 "Circular economy in fisheries and aquaculture areas](#)".

Socio-cultural (code 109)

Operations with this code correspond to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 Article 63(d):

"promoting social well-being and cultural heritage in fisheries and aquaculture areas, including fisheries, aquaculture and maritime cultural heritage"

This category covers a wide range of operations targeting the fisheries community, such as raising skills, providing services, preserving and promoting fisheries heritage. Operations addressing social exclusion of vulnerable groups (long-term unemployed, minorities, migrants etc.) as well as targeting women and young people in fisheries communities are also included here.

Some examples:

- ***improving skills of the fisheries community*** (e.g. [business mentoring and coaching](#) for local unemployed people in Spain);
- ***improving access to services*** (e.g. facilitating [financial services for small-scale fishermen](#) in Italy);
- ***investing in essential infrastructure*** (e.g. [regenerating a fishing port](#) in Estonia);
- ***creating jobs for vulnerable groups*** (e.g. a social enterprise to employ [injured or disabled fishermen](#) in France; setting up a [social enterprise for people with disabilities to repair fish crates](#) in Spain);

- *supporting women in fisheries communities* (e.g. helping women entrepreneurs set up their own businesses in Spain,
- *strengthening linkages between fishermen and the younger generation* (e.g. raising the awareness of young people about the fisheries profession in Romania, mobilising the Baltic youth through cooperation between Estonia and Finland);
- *integrating minorities and migrants in the community* (e.g. through targeted training in Bulgaria, integrating migrant workers and their families through a Language Café in the UK);
- *promoting the image of fisheries* (e.g. fish festivals and educational campaigns in Estonia and Cyprus, a dedicated radio channel "MediterRadio" in Italy, short films with personal stories of fishermen in the UK, or equipping the local auction house for guided tours in Spain)
- *promoting and valorising fisheries heritage* (e.g. a fisheries museum in Poland).

Further information: See FARNET Guide no. 13 "Social inclusion for vibrant fisheries communities".

Governance (code 110)

Operations with this code correspond to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 Article 63(e):

"strengthening the role of fisheries communities in local development and the governance of local fisheries resources and maritime activities"

This category covers operations which help fisheries and aquaculture sectors participate and have a stronger voice in local decision-making and resource management. It includes operations supporting co-management of fisheries and other natural resources as well as activities which raise the profile of fishermen and aquaculture producers in the community.

Some examples:

- *getting fishermen involved in the setting up and management of protected areas* (e.g. helping fishermen to have a voice in setting up an Marine Natural Park in France, organising local stakeholders to set up an MPA in Spain);
- *involving fishermen in the co-management of fish resources* (e.g. sustainable management of fish resources in Lake Vättern in Sweden and setting up Inshore Fisheries Forums in Ireland);
- supporting collaborative action involving fishermen in finding solutions to local issues (e.g. bringing together farmers and fishermen to address water quality in France);
- raising the profile of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors (e.g. empowering fishermen to be drivers of local change in Italy, animation activities to strengthen links between aquaculture and the local community in Poland);

Further information: see FARNET Guide no 7 "A tool in the hands of fisheries communities" and Guide no. 16 "Strengthening Local Resource Management".

Running costs and animation (code 111)

This code should be attributed to the following types of operations, described in Art. 35(1) of the Common Provisions Regulation (1303/2013):

(a) **running costs** linked to the implementation of the local development strategy (LDS), such as:
- operating costs of the FLAG,
- personnel costs,
- training costs,
- costs linked to public relations,
- financial costs,
- costs linked to monitoring and evaluation of the LDS;

(b) **animation costs**, i.e. costs incurred for the following purposes:
- to facilitate exchange between stakeholders,
- to provide information,
- to promote the strategy,
- to support potential beneficiaries with a view to developing operations and preparing applications.

Codes related to cooperation projects

When a CLLD operations involves cooperation between two or more FLAGs, it should be reported in the Infosys as a **cooperation project**. In this case, the following codes apply:

- **112 Preparatory support**
- **113 Projects within the same MS**
- **114 Projects with other MS**
- **115 Projects with partners outside the EU**

It should be remembered that operations with code 112 refer to costs incurred by FLAGs when **preparing a cooperation project** (e.g. travel, meetings, studies) and should not be confused with the preparatory support for the development of the local strategy (EMFF Art. 62).

As far as possible, the **name** of the cooperation project should be the name agreed between all partners, in order to ensure consistency and make it possible to identify the same cooperation projects, even when reported as several operations. In case of transnational projects, ideally the agreed name in English should be used.

Examples:

(1) a cooperation project involving five FLAGs from one MS:
- can be listed as a single operation (with the lead FLAG as beneficiary, number of partners should be 5); or
- can be listed as five operations, if this is required by national rules, but **the same project name** should be used five times (and ideally under the same date), number of partners in each case should be 5.

(2) a cooperation project involving FLAGs from three MS:
- should be listed by each relevant MA, with **the same name** (ideally in English) and the same number of partners.

2. TYPE OF BENEFICIARY

The following codes can be attributed to CLLD operations depending on the entity responsible for their implementation (see Regulation 1242/2014, Table 4):

- **1 Public authority**
- **2 Legal person**
- **3 Natural person**
- **4 Organisation of fishermen**
- **5 Producers' organisation**
- **6 NGO**
- **7 Research centre/University**
- **8 Mixed**

The following principles should be followed:

- when a beneficiary fits into two categories (e.g. "NGO" and "legal person"), the **more specific** category should be selected (so in this case, NGO); the same principle should apply when an organisation of fishermen has the status of PO (in which case the latter should be selected);

- when the beneficiary is an **individual** not possessing a legal entity (e.g. a fisherman), the category "natural person" should be used;

- the category "NGO" covers a wide range of civil society, non-profit entities, such as charities, associations, foundations etc.;

- the category "mixed" should be used when the beneficiary consists of several actors belonging to different sectors, e.g. public-private partnerships.

3. SPECIFIC CATEGORIES (GENDER, SIZE OF ENTERPRISE)

Categories such as "gender" and "size of enterprise" (Infosys, Annex I, field 7 and field 8, see also **Error! Reference source not found.** in page **Error! Bookmark not defined.**) should be attributed only to specific types of beneficiaries:

- the category of **gender** (1 – male, 2 – female, 3 – other) should only be attributed to natural persons, in other cases it should be left blank;
- the category of **size of enterprise** (1 – micro, 2 – small, 3 – medium, 4 – large) should only be attributed if the beneficiary is an **enterprise** (usually reported as a "legal person"), in other cases it should be left blank. This will make it possible to identify which beneficiaries among legal persons are enterprises (i.e. businesses).