COMMUNITY SUPPORT FRAMEWORK 1991-93

Processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products (Objective 5a)

ITALY





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5. Community policy and additionality

5.1. Coordination and compliance with Community policies

5.1.1. Rules on competition

For the Community to part-finance national aids, the Commission must have approved such aid in accordance with Articles 92 and 93 of the EEC Treaty.

When Member States send their applications for assistance (operational programmes, aid schemes or global grants or projects, as the case may be) in connection with Objective 5a to the Commission, the must identify in those applications the measures which constitute aid (aid schemes or *ad hoc* aid measures). At the same time, they must notify the Commission (Secretariat-General), in accordance with Article 93(3) of the EEC Treaty, of any aid measure not yet notified and not yet approved by the Commission, whether it involves a new aid measure or modification of an existing aid measure.

As these aids are to be examined simultaneously with the grant applications, the Commission intends to adopt a position on them, and on any amendments made to them by the Member State, when it decides on the grant application.

As regards in particular aids in regions which are currently not eligible for national regional aid, a double examination will be undertaken by the Commission, in order to ensure coherence between regional policy and competition policy.

5.1.2. Award of public contracts

Invitations to tender for the award of public contracts must be issued in accordance with the directives governing public supply and works contracts and, in future, when similar directives are required to be implemented for a certain number of those services and sectors currently excluded.

The criteria governing the monitoring of compliance with public procurement rules in the case of projects and programmes financed by the structural Funds and financial instruments are set out in Commission Notice C(88) 2510 of 4 May 1988 to the Member States (OJ C 22 of 28 January 1989).

5.1.3. Protection of the environment

The measures taken in the course of implementing the Community support framework (CSF) must satisfy the conditions laid down by European Community legislation on the environment. Where gaps are found to exist in its implementation, priority must be given to the attainment of the objectives of the legislation in question during the period covered by the CSF in so far as such legislation relates to the development measure envisaged.

Where operations or measures are likely to have a significant impact on the environment, the Member States will, in accordance with Article 14 of Regulation (EEC) No 4253/88, provide the Commission with appropriate information to enable it to assess the environmental impact of the operations or measures concerned.

The CSF includes assistance directly relating to the protection and development of the environmental resources of the regions concerned and so contributing to Community policy in that field.

5.1.4. Completion of the single market

The activities of the Funds, the EIB and the other Community financial instruments should, in accordance with their priority objectives, help to strengthen the local economic base by ensuring that firms, in particular small and medium-sized firms, have at their disposal a range of financial and other services to enable them to prepare for the challenge of the single market (e.g. awareness of the opening up of the public procurement markets, product testing and certification infrastructures) and, in that context, for the abolition of intra-Community frontiers in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty.

5.1.5. Agriculture

Measures under this CSF must be compatible with the objectives of the common agricultural policy. Consistency between the measures under this CSF and the objectives referred to above will be ensured at the examination and implementation stages.

5.1.6. Social policy: equality of opportunities for men and women

The actions under this Community support framework must conform with, and where appropriate contribute to, the implementation of Community policy and legislation relating to equality of opportunity for women and men. In particular, consideration must be given to infrastructure requirements which facilitate participation in the labour force by people with children.

The new Community programme Thermie enables actions concerning demonstration projects to continue.

5.1.7. Research and technological development, information and telecommunications technologies, transfer of technologies

Local development depends in large part on the transfer of technological innovation. From this point of view, stronger links between those active in development at local level and those engaged in research are very important, particularly with regard to the biotechnologies, the environment and the new information technologies. The telecommunications networks now being installed will assist the dissemination of information, and measures to support demand are likely.

5.1.8. Energy

To the extent that the CSF concerns the energy sector, the related actions shall be in conformity with Community policy in that sector.

5.2. Additionality

As laid down in Article 9 of Regulation (EEC) No 4253/88, the Commission and the Member State, in establishing and implementing the Community support frameworks, must ensure that the increase in the appropriations for the Funds provided for in Article 12(2) of Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 has a genuine additional economic impact (...) and results in at least an equivalent increase in the total volume of official or similar (Community and national) structural aid in the Member State concerned, taking into account the macroeconomic circumstances in which the funding takes place.

By agreeing to this Community support framework, the Member State also confirms its commitment to this legal obligation. The Commission will check implementation of this commitment on a regular basis by undertaking a periodic assessment of additionality throughout the period of implementation of the Community support frameworks.

6. Implementing provisions

6.1. Monitoring and control

6.1.1. Implementation

In the framework of the partnership, the Member State, the implementing authorities designated by the Member State and the Commission (hereinafter 'the partners') shall strive to obtain the desired economic impact by a full and proper use of the financial resources provided for in this CSF.

To this end, the partners:

- (i) shall define precisely responsibilities at Community, national, regional and local level;
- (ii) shall, with the aid of a jointly agreed monitoring and evaluation system, ensure:
 - the transparency of management, and its strengthening where necessary;
 - good management information, facilitating decisions required to implement the CSF as approved, or to amend it where necessary;
 - an effective use of technical assistance, if required.

The definition of responsibilities

Within 60 days of the adoption of this CSF, the Member State shall designate or confirm the designation of the authority which is to have overall responsibility for the effective management of the implementation of this CSF. The designated authority shall ensure that specific responsibilities for each implementing, coordinating and control activity are clearly defined, and that instructions are given to discharge these responsibilities correctly.

The responsibility of this designated authority concerns in particular:

- the proposal of methods of ex-ante evaluation used by the Member State in drawing up proposals for Community intervention;
- (ii) the proposal of methods and procedures for defining, selecting and implementing individual actions or projects to be financed in the framework of operational programmes, aid schemes or global grants or loans after approval by the European Community;
- (iii) ensuring the compliance with Community policies;
- (iv) the follow-up of financial flows to implementing agencies to ensure the timely availability of Community and national resources;

- (v) the designation of mechanisms to prevent and detect any irregularities in the use of public finance;
- (vi) ensuring that the final beneficiaries of development programmes are fully aware of the opportunities available to them and of the contribution of the European Community to the development effort.

The Commission shall include a commentary on these matters in the reports foreseen under Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88.

Within 60 days of the adoption of this CSF, the Member State shall designate or confirm the designation of the authority responsible for meeting its obligations as regards financial control under Article 23 of Regulation (EEC) No 4253/88.

The Member State shall submit to the Commission with the application for an operational programme a description of the management and control system of the programme as well as the necessary information on the administrative and judicial arrangements set in place to ensure the respect of its obligation regarding financial control.

6.1.2. Monitoring, indicators and evaluation

6.1.2.1. Monitoring Committee

A Monitoring Committee, organized in the context of the partnership, shall monitor the Community support framework as well as the forms of assistance outlined in this CSF.

The tasks of this Monitoring Committee shall be among others:

- to coordinate all structural operations implemented within this CSF by the regional and central authorities of the Member State as well as the grant and loan instruments of the Communities, and to harmonize them with other Community policies, with a view to achieving the strategic objectives of the Community support framework;
- (ii) to evaluate regularly the progress made with the implementation of the CSF;
- (iii) to analyse proposals for possible modifications of the CSF.

The Monitoring Committee shall also adopt, on proposal of the authority responsible for the overall implementation of the CSF:

- (a) the methods of *ex-ante* evaluation of proposals for Community intervention;
- (b) the methods and procedures for defining, selecting and implementing individual actions or projects to be financed under the different forms of assistance.

In the framework of partnership, the Monitoring Committee will be composed of the Commission, the EIB and Member State representatives, including, where appropriate, representatives of the competent authorities designated by the Member State at local, regional, national or any other level. The Monitoring Committee shall establish its own rules of procedure, including any appropriate organizational arrangements.

The Committee may meet at the initiative of either the Commission or the Member State concerned. The frequency of the meetings of the Monitoring Committee shall, as a general rule, be once or twice every year or more often if necessary.

The Member State, the Commission and the EIB shall designate their representatives in the Monitoring Committee, 60 days (at the latest) after notification to the Member State of the Commission decision approving the Community support framework.

The chairman of the Monitoring Committee will be designated by the Member State. The implementing authority shall provide the secretariat to the Monitoring Committee.

6.1.2.2. Indicators

In order to make possible the monitoring and evaluation of operations, the Monitoring Committee is responsible for the compilation of data on financial, physical implementation and performance indicators. The partners will jointly agree the detailed specification of the reporting system.

(a) Financial indicators

The financial indicators for each year of execution shall relate to commitments, payments, indicatively planned expenditure for multiannual operations (budget) as well as changes in the financial execution of operations, all broken down by:

- Fund or loan instrument for the Community sources and for each form of assistance within each priority;
- public contributions (from central, regional or local authorities), as well as private expenditure for each form of intervention within each priority.

(b) Physical implementation and performance indicators

The following will be established:

- (i) physical implementation indicators (where relevant) to allow assessment of the degree of implementation of planned operations;
- (ii) performance indicators, which aim to measure the degree of achievement of the objectives of structural operations as well as their indirect socioeconomic effects.

The definition and the collection of all types of indicators shall be the object of a joint effort by the partnership. The same indicators will also be used, in so far as is possible, for monitoring the progress made with the different forms of assistance planned under the CSF.

6.1.2.3. Evaluation

(a) Ex-ante assessment

The presentation of the various forms of intervention shall be accompanied by an *ex-ante* assessment, which shall be undertaken by the Member States with a view to:

- (i) assessing the compatibility of interventions with the Community support framework;
- (ii) assessing the existence of adequate implementation and management structures;
- (iii) assessing the coordination of structural operations with other Community policies, the combination of grants and loans, as well as their economic soundness and the viability of the operations.

For its part the Commission reserves the right to make its own assessment of these issues.

(b) Ex-post evaluation

Ex-post evaluation shall be undertaken in respect of the CSF as well as the individual operations. A method for carrying out this task will be established by the partnership and will take account of the results of the constant monitoring of operations by the Monitoring Committee.

6.1.3 Progress reports for the implementation of operations

The reports which the authority designated by the Member State shall send to the Commission shall be established in a standardized form to be jointly defined (for multiannual operations lasting less than two years).

The final reports shall include a first provisional evaluation of the operation concerned, according to the guidelines which will have been agreed upon by the Commission and the Member State concerned.

Objectives of the structural Funds

Community action through the structural Funds, the EIB and other existing financial instruments shall support the achievement of the general objectives set out in Articles 130a and 130c of the Treaty by contributing to the attainment of the following five priority objectives:

- 1. promoting the development and structural adjustment of the regions whose development is lagging behind (Objective 1);
- 2. converting the regions, frontier regions or parts of regions (including employment areas and urban communities) seriously affected by industrial decline (Objective 2);
- 3. combating long-term unemployment (Objective 3);
- 4. facilitating the occupational integration of young people (Objective 4);
- 5. with a view to reform of the common agricultural policy:
 - (a) speeding up the adjustment of agricultural structures (Objective 5a),
 - (b) promoting the development of rural areas (Objective 5b).

1. General economic background

1.1. General

Italy, the bulk of whose territory lies on the outskirts of the European Community, has a total coastline of approximately 8 000 kilometres.

Although the fishing sector is a marginal activity compared with the agricultural sector, it is of considerable social importance because of the numbers it employs (approximately 45 000), its value-added (LIT 1 549 billion in 1989; ECU 1 billion) and turnover (LIT 2 131 billion in 1989; ECU 1.38 billion).

Italy supplies 51.1% of its fish consumption and had a global payments deficit for fishery products of LIT 2 647 billion (ECU 1.7 billion) of which LIT 1 952 billion (ECU 1.26 billion) was solely for the importation of fresh and frozen fish, crustaceans and molluscs.

1.2. Fishing fleet

Most fishing activity in Italy, in terms of the breakdown made by the government on the basis of distance from the coast, is located along the Adriatic and Tyrrhenian shores and around Sicily (local and coastal fishing), the Sicilian Channel (near-water fishing), North-West Africa and the Gulf of Guinea (fishing outside the Straits), the Indian Ocean and the Southern Atlantic Ocean (deep-sea fishing in the strict sense of the term).

The total capacity of the Italian fleet is 282 567 GRT and 1 746 921 kW (figures as at 31 December 1989).

In line with Council Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86, the Italian multiannual guidance programme for the evolution of the fishing fleet has established objectives in terms of engine power and vessel tonnage for the reduction of the capacity of the fishing fleet. The average age of the fleet gives a clear indication of the need for the modernization and replacement of production facilities, which will also have an impact on the social fabric of coastal areas.

Because fishing activities in Italy centre around the Mediterranean, it is difficult to adapt the production and organizational structure. As part of the conversion policy, the Italian Government is currently reducing the fishing effort in coastal waters and in the Mediterranean by restricting the number of vessels and permits for certain

types of fishing (bottom trawling, drift-net fishing, and turboblowing dredgers). The conversion of the structure of the deep-sea fleet has just started and aims to increase access to resources and improve the industrial processing sector.

The secondary effects of the sector are significant, given the social and economic implications in a country which has traditionally been involved in seafaring activities in general.

1.3. Aquaculture

This sector, which is expanding slowly but steadily, is handicapped mainly by the costs of what is one of the most highly-developed welfare and social security systems in the world and also by the rigidity of fixed operating costs for plants. The development of aquaculture in Italy on an industrial scale, therefore, depends on the competitiveness of production systems based on family businesses, which are typical of less-developed economic systems. However, the aquaculture sector can play a significant alternative role, once production has achieved a certain scale, in supplying the consumer market and, in the longer term, in providing raw materials for the processing industry. This will encourage the gradual reduction in the fishing effort which is by now an irreversible trend.

The most common fish-farming activities are trout farms, eel farms, and the breeding of sea bass and sea bream.

A reliable estimate suggests that only a very small part of aquaculture production is sent for processing. This largely comprises smoked trout and (marinated) eels in bringe. The bulk of production is sold fresh for direct consumption, and sea bass and sea bream provide a substantial economic boost for commercial development.

The quality of the water used for aquaculture to some extent influences the activity itself. Because of the development of controlled production and the shape of the Italian coastline, marine culture ventures are being developed with a view to developing open-sea and saltwater fish farms.

Aquaculture in inland waters primarily comprises trout farms. There is no further scope for expanding production and sales of freshwater fish-farm products.

The production of shellfish warrants special consideration because of the economic importance of the sector (annual output is approximately 65 000 tonnes), which indicates a very considerable consumer market. Production and sales structures are also being improved as a result of the introduction of legislation (Law 192/77) to improve the hygiene of shellfish production.

1.4. Processing

Italy has a wide range of fish-processing industries which can be broken down by type of product:

- (a) Tuna canning: 19 firms according to official records, annual output 85 000 tonnes, raw material used 126 000 tonnes, 42% of which is imported from non-member countries.
- (b) Sardine canning: eight firms according to official records, annual output 8 400 tonnes, raw material used 18 000 tonnes, all comprising domestic production.
- (c) Anchovy canning: 125 firms according to official records, annual total of 16 100 tonnes in 1989 of which 12 000 tonnes west fillets in oil and 4 100 tonnes were in salted form for final consumption. The anchovy fillets in oil are produced using semi-processed salted products which are not of internal origin. In 1989, 10 882 tonnes of salted products were imported, of which 72% were of Community origin.
- (d) Clam processing: 14 firms according to official records, annual output 3 900 tonnes, raw material used 39 000 tonnes, all comprising domestic production.
- (e) Frozen products: 65 firms according to official records, annual output 16 000 tonnes, raw material used 40 000 tonnes, the bulk of which is imported from non-member countries.
- (f) Other forms of preserved fish (salted, in brine, smoked, etc.): 19 firms according to official records, annual output difficult to quantify, raw material used 20 000 to 25 000 tonnes.

The maturity of the various processing subsectors differs in terms of their position in the respective consumer markets, the degree of plant obsolescence and the competition from imports from non-member countries.

The tuna canning industry is unquestionably the leading subsector, in that it is by far the largest in Europe in terms of production volumes. Domestic demand is expanding constantly, although the industry's ability to penetrate neighbouring markets, particularly in the Community, is hampered by price competition from canned products from the Far East. The main problem of this industry is its high degree of dependence on non-member countries for supplies of the raw material used although, as part of the structural measures provided for in Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86, it is proposed to convert the ocean-going trawler fleet to national tuna fishing vessels.

By contrast, the sardine canning industry is having to contend with a constant decline in domestic consumption, while exports have plummeted. Today, average plant utilization is 50%.

Over the past 10 years, there has been a gradual but marked increase in the output of the anchovy canning industry, the only constraint having been the disappearance of the species from traditional Italian fishing grounds and the need to use imported raw material and semi-processed products imported from Community countries and third countries.

The clam canning subsector is having to contend with difficulties in obtaining supplies of the raw material, because of the production crisis caused by the adoption of measures to protect the species and the sea-bed. Many firms have accordingly converted their plants to other products.

The frozen fish industry supplies a limited number of brands which have a large share of the Italian market. The industry, which is constantly introducing more complex and elaborate products, does not have to contend with any particular problems with regard to supplies of raw material which it either obtains on the national market or imports depending on market prices. Production facilities in southern Italy are less well-equipped to cater for demand for more complex and technologically sophisticated finished products.

The processing of non-frozen products and non-traditional products is expanding to cater for a constant increase in demand, although its total output in terms of volume is still limited.

1.5. Marketing

The structure of the wholesale fish trade in Italy is adversely affected by the inadequate systems for first sale and for the retail distribution of fresh fish, which comprises a large part of the market.

There are 70 fish markets in Italy, some 80% of which are production markets (i. e. they are held when catches are landed), the remainder being consumer markets. Not more than 30% of Italy's fish production is sold through the markets, since the bulk goes to wholesalers. This inevitably affects price formation and the scope for carrying out efficient health checks on fish sold to the public.

There are approximately 1 300 officially registered wholesalers, the smaller firms having inadequate and obsolete plants for the preservation and sale of fishery products. They obtain their supplies from both domestic production, largely through arrangements outside the market

system, and from abroad, through importers or direct contact with foreign producers/exporters.

The distribution of frozen fishery products is a separate issue, usually being undertaken by the owners of the trade mark through a system of door-to-door deliveries to sales outlets. Some distributors own their cold-storage facilities but most rent them.

1.6. Fishing ports

There are fishing ports all around the Italian coast and particularly along the Adriatic. For the most part these are illequipped with facilities for fishing activities and in fact ports where fishing is the only activity are usually those which have the poorest infrastructures.

2. Priority axes for common action

2.1. Priority axes

Based upon the strengths and weaknesses of the sector, the Commission and the Italian authorities have agreed within the framework of partnership the following priority axes for granting Community aid.

The two axes are:

Axis 1: Processing; Axis 2: Marketing.

2.1.1. Axis 1: Processing

Measure 1

To foster technological innovation and modernization in the tuna canning industry to make the sector more competitive. This may include the preparation of compound products (tuna fish, vegetables, etc.).

Measure 2

To foster technological innovation and encourage the processing of new species and/or under-utilized species, and to bring processed products into line with market requirements by installing and modernizing anchovy processing and producing new and alternative products (smoked fish in brine, partly-cooked meals containing fish), and also by the partial conversion of sardine canning facilities to other products.

Measure 3

To bring processed products more closely into line with consumer requirements at reasonable prices and to improve the quality and the conditions of hygiene of fishery products by installing and modernizing equipment for the processing of frozen products, to include the manufacture of ready meals.

Measure 4

To help improve the product quality and the conditions of hygiene and water filtration by installing plant and infrastructures which meet the current Community requirements.

Measure 5

Investments, which may include studies, will be made to support the processing sector.

2.1.2. Axis 2: Marketing

Measure 1

To help support the income of fishermen and stabilize the market for fishery products, and to improve the quality and the conditions of hygiene at the marketing stage by developing supply facilities (building new fish markets equipped for auction and modernizing existing ones).

Measure 2

To help improve the quality and the conditions of hygiene in the marketing of shellfish by installing and modernizing purifying plants.

Measure 3

To help improve the conditions of distribution of fishery and aquaculture products by constructing and modernizing cold-storage plants in cases where these plants are used for storing catches immediately after they are landed from fishing vessels and which, or the majority of which, are of Community origin.

Measure 4

Investments, which may include studies, will be made to support the distribution sector.

2.2. Coordination with other Community aid

2.2.1. Common fisheries policy (CFP)

The actions foreseen in this Community support framework must conform with the objectives of the common fisheries policy. The implementation of this policy consists of measures with a view to speeding up the adjustment of fisheries and aquaculture structures which include:

- (a) Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86 on Community measures to improve and adapt structures in the fisheries and aquaculture sector;
- (b) Regulation (EEC) No 3252/87 concerning the coordination and promotion of research in the fisheries and aquaculture sector.

The coherence between the actions foreseen in this Community support framework and the above measures will be ensured during their examination and implementation.

In the implementation of Regulation (EEC) No 2321/88, setting out application procedures for Community aid under Regulation (EEC) No 4028/86 concerning fishing port facilities, Italy has presented a specific programme.

2.2.2. Other objectives of the reform of the structural Funds

As part of the reform of the structural Funds other Community support frameworks under Objectives 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5b have been adopted. In order to ensure economic and social cohesion priority will be given, where appropriate, to actions within this Community support framework

which complement and integrate with other Community support frameworks.

2.3. Integrated Mediterranean programme (IMP)

During the period of implementation of this Community support framework part-financing will be available on the IMP budgetary line for some projects, namely:

- (a) three marketing ventures in Apulia;
- (b) facilities for the preservation canning of fishery products in Sicily;
- (c) three processing and marketing schemes for fishery products in the Veneto.

The total eligible cost of these projects is in the region of ECU 8.1 million, and the anticipated total Community financial contribution is in the region of ECU 2.56 million. These measures are deemed to have been already decided upon (see Table 1b, p. 22) for the purpose of the budget provided for in this Community support framework in accordance with Regulation (EEC) No 4042/89.

3. Forms of intervention

3.1. Forms of assistance

According to Regulation (EEC) No 4042/89 the Community intervention will take one or several of the following forms:

- (a) operational programmes,
- (b) global grants,
- (c) suitable projects,
- (d) pilot/demonstration projects: technical assistance and studies.

Operational programmes will be the main form of assistance.

3.2. Rates of finance

The grant rate for financing all forms of assistance will be up to 30% of eligible costs, except for regions covered by Objective 1 of the reform of the structural Funds, where the grant rate will be up to 50% of eligible costs.

4. Indicative financing plan

The amounts shown in the Community support framework financing tables are those agreed between the Commission and the Italian Government. The figures relate to the period 1991-93. The tables contain commitments made under the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) Guidance Section part of the structural Funds and are in line with Objective 5a of the reform of the structural Funds and also Regulation (EEC) No 4042/89 for the improvement of conditions under which fishery and aquaculture products are processed and marketed.

The indicative financing plan expressed in ecus at 1991 prices is presented in the form of two tables:

Table 1 shows funding by priority axis;

Table 2 shows funding by year.

European Investment Bank

Concerning the possible participation of the EIB, the loan packages are not estimated at this stage, the actual amounts of loans being dependent on the projects to be submitted by the promoters with the consent of the national authorities concerned and the approval of the EIB organs.

Whenever appropriate, the EIB is prepared to approve, on the basis of its customary criteria, applications for loans for eligible investments not provided for in the Community support framework.

Table 1a

Indicative financing plan by priority axis and existing commitments (1991-93)

At 1991 prices

Regions covered by Objective 1

		Public expenditure										
Priority	Total cost ¹	Total	Community grants				National contribution ²				Private sector	Community loans
axes		public expenditure	Total EEC	EAGGF 5a	ERDF	ESF	Total national	Central government	Local authority	Other		EIB ³
	1	2=3 + 7	3=4 to 6	4	5	6	7=8 to 10	8	9	10	11	12
New actions								•		·	! !	
 Processing Marketing 	13 749 9 136	10 312 6 852	6 875 4 568	6 875 4 568	_		3 437 2 284	3 437 2 284	<u>-</u>		3 437 5 721	
New actions Subtotal	22 885	17 164	11 443	11 443		_	5 721	5 721		_	5 721	token entry
Existing commitments IMPs	2 116	1 587	1 058	1 058	_	_	529	529	- ,	_	529	
Existing commitments Subtotal	2 116	1 587	1 058	1 058	_	_	529	529	_	_	529	
Total	25 001	18 751	12 501	12 501	_		6 250	6 250		_	6 250	token entry

Only including investments which are planned for co-financing under this Community support framework.
 Breakdown between State/region/other will be decided later.

³ Participation of the EIB will be decided later.

Table 2a Indicative financing plan by year (1991-93)

At 1991 prices

Regions covered by Objective 1

						F	Public expenditu	re					
		Total cost ¹	Total		Commun	ity grants			National co	ontribution ²		Private sector	Community loans
	ļ		public expenditure	Total EEC	EAGGF 5a	ERDF	ESF	Total national	Central government	Local authority	Other	3.200	EIB ³
		1	2=3 + 7	3=4 to 6	4	5	6	7=8 to 10	8	9	10	11	12
1991 1992 1993		7 268 8 845 8 888	5 451 6 634 6 666	3 634 4 423 4 444	3 634 4 423 4 444		_ _ _	1 817 2 211 2 222	1 817 2 211 2 222	_ _ _		1 817 2 211 2 222	
	Total	25 001	18 751	12 501	12 501	_		6 250	6 250	_	_	6 250	token entry

Only including investments which are planned for co-financing under this Community support framework. Breakdown between State/region/other will be decided later.

³ Participation of the EIB will be decided later.

Table 1b Indicative financing plan by priority axis and existing commitments (1991-93)

At 1991 prices

Other regions

		Public expenditure										
Priority	Total cost ¹	Total	,	Commun	ity grants		National contribution				Private sector	Community loans
axes	Cost	public expenditure	Total EEC	EAGGF 5a	ERDF	ESF	Total national	Central government	Local authority	Other	ЗССКИ	EIB ³
	l	2=3 + 7	3=4 to 6	4	5	6	7=8 to 10	8	9	10	11	12
New actions						•				1		
 Processing Marketing 	12 600 8 400	6 930 4 620	3 780 2 520	3 780 2 520	_ _	_	3 150 2 100	3 150 2 100		_ _	5 670 3 780	
New actions Subtotal	21 000	11 550	6 300	6 300	_	_	5 250	5 250	_	_	9 450	token entry
Existing commitments IMPs	6 000	3 000	1 500	1 500	_		1 500	1 500	_	_	3 000	
Existing commitments Subtotal	6 000	3 000	1 500	1 500	_	_	1 500	1 500	_	_	3 000	
Total	27 000	14 550	7 800	7 800	_	_	6 750	6 750	_	_	12 450	token entry

Only including investments which are planned for co-financing under this Community support framework.
 Breakdown between State/region/other will be decided later.

³ Participation of the EIB will be decided later.

Table 2b Indicative financing plan by year (1991-93)

At 1991 prices

Other regions

		Public expenditure										
	Total cost [†]	Total		Commun	ity grants			National co	ontribution ²		Private sector	Community loans
		public expenditure	Total EEC	EAGGF 5a	ERDF	ESF	Total national	Central government	Local authority	Other		EIB ³
	l	2=3+7	3=4 to 6	4	5	6	7=8 to 10	8	9	10	11	12
1991 1992 1993	7 809 9 634 9 557	4 208 5 192 5 150	2 256 2 783 2 761	2 256 2 783 2 761	_ _ _	_ _ _ _	1 952 2 409 2 389	1 952 2 409 2 389			3 601 4 442 4 407	
Total	27 000	14 550	7 800	7 800	_	_	6 750	6 750		_	12 450	token entry

Only including investments which are planned for co-financing under this Community support framework. Breakdown between State/region/other will be decided later.

³ Participation of the EIB will be decided later.



Preliminary note

Under Article 8 of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88 of 24 June 1988 (Official Journal L 185, 15.7.1988, p. 9), some regions of Italy are covered by Objective 1 of the reform of the structural Funds.

This document is:

- (a) an addendum to the Community support framework approved by the Commission on 31 October 1989 for the regions covered by Objective 1;
- (b) an autonomous Community support framework for the other regions.

The indicative financing plan at Chapter 4 of this document includes two distinct series of tables:

- (i) first series: the regions covered by Objective 1;
- (ii) second series: the other regions.



Introduction by Mr Marín,

Vice-President of the Commission and Member responsible for fisheries

The Community support frameworks (CSFs) provide the context within which the Member States can apply to the Commission for finance.

The CSFs in the processing and marketing sectors for fish and aquaculture products are linked to the achievement of Objective 5a of the reform of the structural Funds.

This part of the fishing industry is among those economic activities to benefit from the Single European Act. The underlying principles governing the reform of the Funds — concentration, partnership, mutually consistent policies, programming, additionality — also apply to these sectors.

The priority schemes for regions whose development is lagging behind come under the CSFs for Objective 1 of the reform. All assistance to the territory of the former German Democratic Republic is covered by a CSF especially for the new *Länder*, to be published separately.

The 11 Community support frameworks (Luxembourg has not submitted a sectoral plan) represent a nominal financial commitment on the Community's part of some ECU 180 million in the years 1991 to 1993, which is one and a half times the amount of aid granted during the years before the reform.

The processing and marketing of fish and aquaculture products represent important sectors in the economic activity of certain regions and developing them contributes to economic and social cohesion.

The regions concerned are having to meet the challenges of an increasingly fierce competitive climate and major problems involving restructuring and adjustments in the fields of technology and hygiene.

The Community's assistance is therefore geared toward:

(i) improving the competitiveness of the sector within the context of completing the internal market and of increased competition from non-member countries;

- (ii) guaranteeing a constant flow of inputs of raw materials;
- (iii) contributing to the application of Community hygiene and public health standards and greater attention to the quality of the environment.

The Member States, in concert with the Commission, are required to implement the various forms of assistance on the basis of the Community support frameworks, particularly through operational programmes.

The first priority for Community assistance is building, modernizing and rationalizing auctions and markets and facilities for preparing and processing fish, developing new products, improving quality and hygiene in production and marketing processes and increasing the value-added of products.

Since individual investment schemes are allowed for in the overall programming, economic agents in the fishing sector will also be able to profit from certain advantages in connection with the processing and marketing of fish and aquaculture products:

- (i) more precise knowledge of the objectives pursued by the Community;
- (ii) greater transparency of Community support;
- (iii) less risk of dissipation of funds;
- (iv) better monitoring and evaluation of the actual impact of the assistance.

It is to be hoped that all the structural measures relating to the fishing and aquaculture sector — including those concerning fishing fleets — will be incorporated in the Community's structural instruments in the near future.

Manuel Marin

6.1.4. Procedures for the modification of a Community support framework

According to the provisions of Council Regulation (EEC) No 2052/88, the Community support frameworks may, if necessary, be revised and adjusted, on the initiative of the Member State or of the Commission in agreement with the Member State, in the light of relevant information and of the results obtained during implementation of the operations concerned.

The principles concerning the modification of Community support frameworks, established through agreement between the Member State and the Commission with a view to allowing their flexible implementation are as follows:

- (a) The following modifications can be decided by the Monitoring Committee(s):
 - variations between priorities compared to the initial estimates included in the indicative financing plan of not more than 15% for each separate priority for the whole of the period, or 20% for one financial year. The variations must remain compatible with the Commission's budgetary rules and procedures and must not affect the total amount of assistance of the Fund:
 - other minor modifications concerning the implementation of actions, with the exception of the provisions concerning aid schemes.

The Commission and the Member State shall be informed of the decisions to adopt these modifications. They shall be valid unless within a period of 20 working days following the date of receipt by the Commission or by the Member State of the information, the Commission or the Member State has requested the suspension of that modification.

If necessary, the Commission and the Member State shall adapt their decisions approving the operations concerned.

- (b) The following modifications can be adopted by the Commission, in agreement with the Member State:
 - modifications going beyond the thresholds of 15% and 20% defined in (a) but not beyond 25%;
 - transfers of Community resources between forms of assistance within a CSF up to 25% of the total Community allocation anticipated.
- (c) Other modifications require a revision of the Community support framework following the same procedures applied for its adoption.

Provisions relating to the modification of individual operations during implementation are included in decisions approving such operations.

6.2. Information and publicity

The Member State, the entities responsible for the implementation of the Community support framework and the Commission will decide on the information and publicity measures to be undertaken for actions benefiting from Community financial support on the basis of the principles set out in Article 32 of Regulation (EEC) No 4253/88.

These information and publicity measures shall be determined in the context of the individual decisions for the forms of intervention.

6.3. Technical assistance

If required, the partnership shall agree as soon as possible a programme for technical assistance for supporting management, coordination and control, as well as monitoring and evaluation systems of this CSF.



European Communities — Commission

Community support framework — 1991-93

Processing and marketing of fishery and aquaculture products (Objective 5a)

Italy

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