



DG MARE current policy developments

Paulina Bartoszezwska

Latvian EMFAF MC meeting
2 October 2025

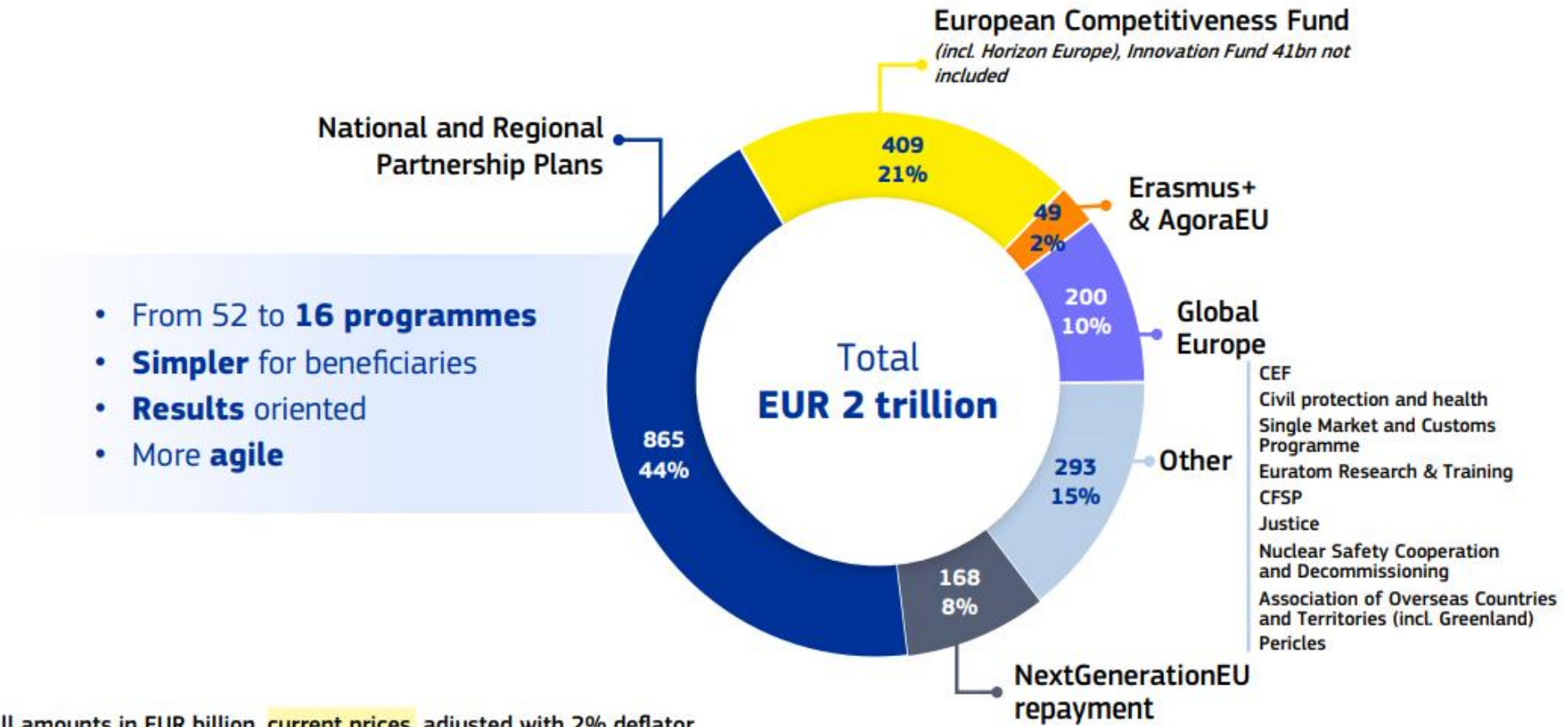
Context

- **COM proposal for the next Multiannual Financial Framework 2028-2034**
- **Ongoing evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy**
- **Ongoing policy initiatives**

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

- **Commission proposal for 2028-2034 MFF adopted on 16 July.**
- **A fundamental redesign** of the EU budget for a more **integrated, flexible and impactful** approach.
- Recognises the **vital role of fishery and aquaculture** producers in Europe's **coastal communities** and economies.
- Supports key EU priorities, including the **CFP, the European Ocean Pact, maritime and aquaculture policy.**

Financial Framework



- From 52 to **16 programmes**
- **Simpler** for beneficiaries
- **Results** oriented
- More **agile**

All amounts in EUR billion, current prices, adjusted with 2% deflator

Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF)

1. European Fund for economic, social and territorial cohesion, agriculture and rural, fisheries and maritime, prosperity and security for period 2028-2034
 - ❖ National and Regional Partnership Plans (NRPP) for investments and reforms => *shared management* (like under the current EMFAF National programmes)
 - ❖ EU Facility: *direct, shared and indirect management*

➡ Auxiliary legal proposals Sectorial proposals for different policy areas supported under the NRP Fund, including **the proposal establishing the conditions for the implementation of the Union support to Common Fisheries Policy, to the European Ocean Pact and maritime and aquaculture**
2. European Competitiveness Fund and Horizon Europe – *direct management*
 - ❖ Support for investments in fisheries, aquaculture and maritime sectors.
3. Global Europe Fund – *direct and indirect management*
 - ❖ Support ocean diplomacy and international ocean governance and partnerships with non-EU countries.

Legal architecture

REGULATION ESTABLISHING THE EUROPEAN FUND FOR ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND TERRITORIAL COHESION, AGRICULTURE AND RURAL, FISHERIES AND MARITIME, PROSPERITY AND SECURITY

Laying down rules on:

tasks, priority objectives, organisation and grouping under the Fund

The Structural Funds and Cohesion Fund

Instruments for the CAP

Instruments for the CFP

SCF

support to security and defence capabilities

financial rules for Union support

NRPP

Interreg

EU Facility

financial resources for the period from 1 January 2028 to 31 December 2034.

Prevailing over the sectoral regulations



Sectoral regulations

setting out specific conditions to complement the Fund Regulation
'Union support will be provided under the NRPP'

Regulation on ERDF/CF incl. Interreg

Regulation on ESF

Regulations on CAP and CMO

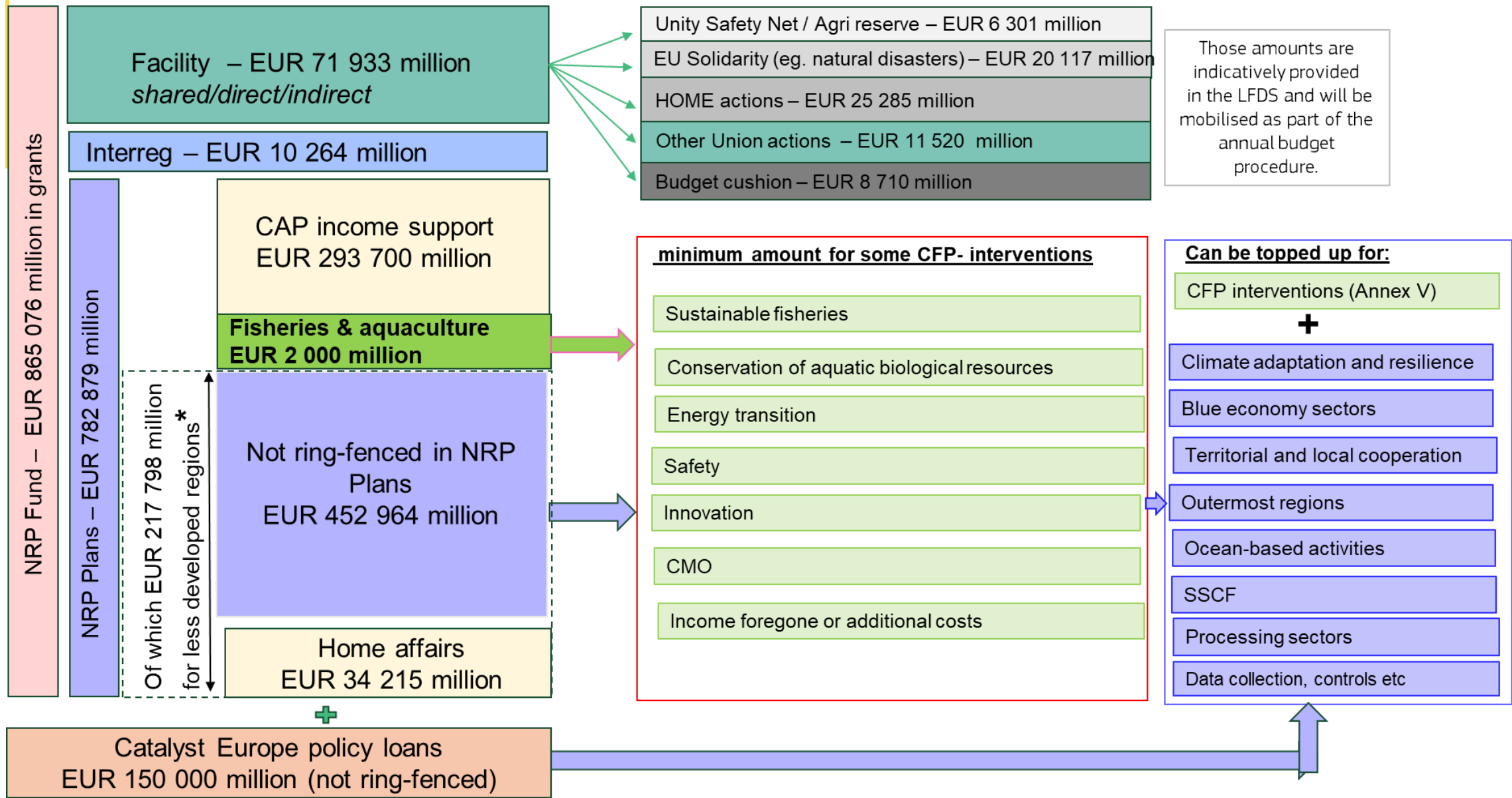
Regulation on CFP, Aquaculture and Maritime Policies, Ocean Act

Regulations for migration, asylum, border management and internal security policy

Fisheries, aquaculture and ocean-related activities under the NRPP

- **Minimum amount:**
 - ❖ Earmarked amount of **EUR 2 billion euro** for purely maritime and fisheries needs to implement the core areas of the CFP and for compensation for crises and exceptional circumstances.
 - ❖ MS can use the ring-fenced amount to support the restoration and conservation of aquatic biological resources, energy transition, innovation, producer organizations.
- **Beyond the required minimum:**
 - ❖ MSs can allocate additional resources under the non-ringfenced amount of **453 billion euro** to address their priorities and needs to support the fisheries, aquaculture and maritime sectors, to implement the CFP and to support the implementation of the European Ocean Pact.

Future framework provides further access to spend more on fisheries and ocean-based activities

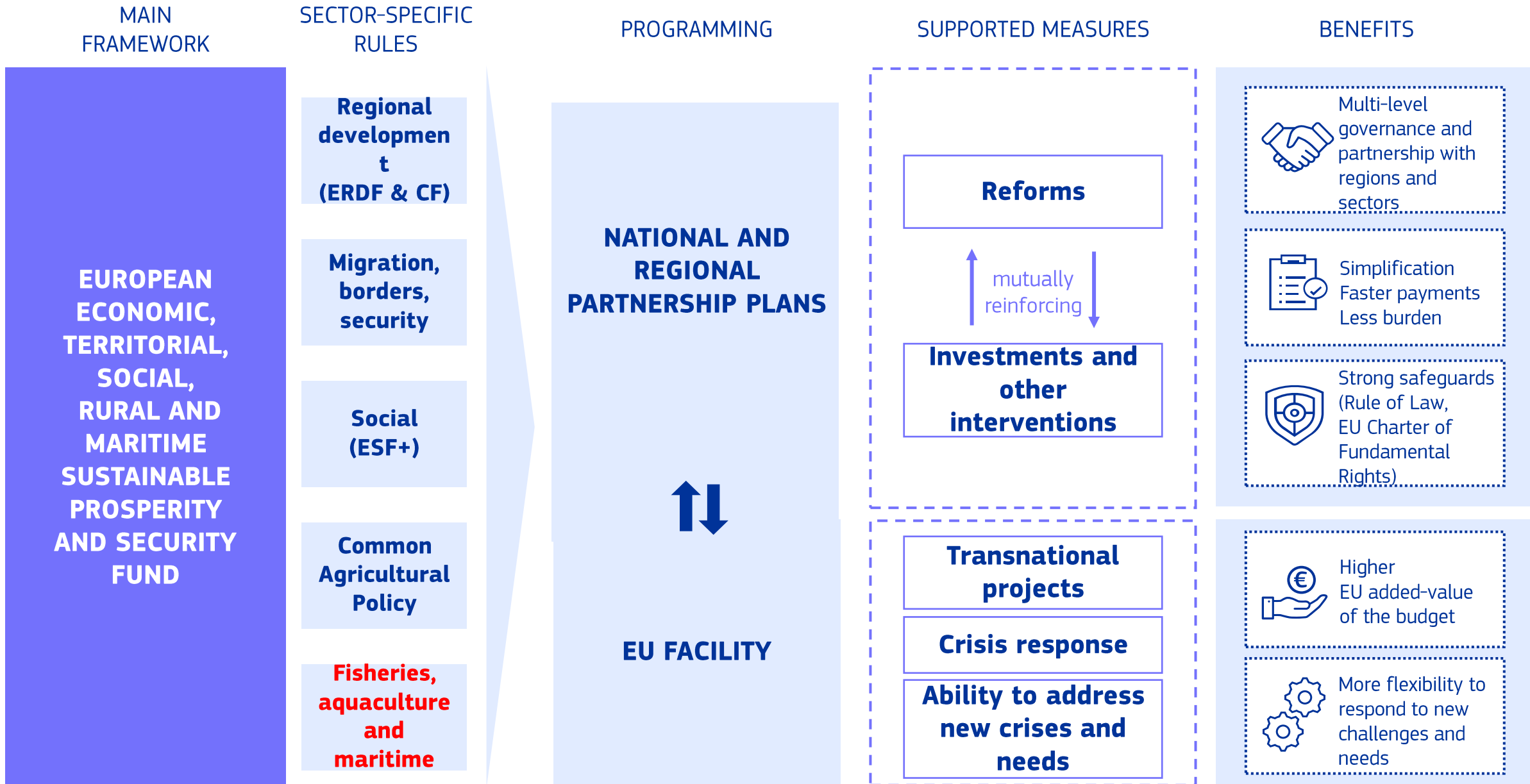


* LDR earmarking can be used for any amount not ring-fenced for CAP and CFP amounts. CAP interventions above CAP ring-fenced amount can contribute to earmarking for LDR.

In current prices



ONE COHERENT STRATEGY



Conditions for implementation of the NRP Fund related to the CFP, the European Ocean Pact and to the maritime and aquaculture policies - 1

- **Single rulebook:** Programming and implementation rules are laid down in the NRP, whereas the policy maintains an independent legal basis with additional rules and conditions.
- **Articles 1&2:** Proposal makes it clear that the NRP Fund will contribute to the European Ocean Pact and the implementation of the environmental, economic, social and employment objectives of the CFP. See also recitals 1-4.
- **Article 3 - complements Art. 22 on the requirements of the NRP Plan:**
 - Requirement for MS to account for the needs of fisheries, aquaculture, coastal communities and SSCF;
 - Aid intensities are set by the MS; for SSCF it can go up to 100%;
 - Requirement for MS to take into account the fishing capacity and fishing opportunities;
 - Requirement for MS to assess and ensure admissibility of operations (current Art.11 of EMFAF Reg.). Empowerment for a DA.

Conditions for implementation of the NRP Fund related to the CFP, the European Ocean Pact and to the maritime and aquaculture policies - 2

From a cost-based to a performance based system: Proposal keeps only basic eligibility rules that have to be fulfilled. MS can design and implement their measures according to their needs and priorities.

- **Article 4 – Eligibility conditions for support:**
 - Requirement for MS to ensure that support complies with the WTO, the objectives and Art. 2 of the CFP.
 - Requirement for beneficiaries to comply with the CFP and not to commit infringements and offences within 5 years.
 - Exclusion from support for the transfer or reflagging of fishing vessels to third countries. Exclusion from support for the transfer of ownership of a business and of deep sea mining.
- **Principle of the “do-no-significant-harm” laid down in the proposal for a Performance Regulation applies to the entire EU budget.** Sector-specific guidelines will be prepared in order to ensure that no activities that could cause considerable harm and hinder environmental objectives will be supported.

The European Ocean Pact

- **Sustaining the ocean that sustains us! #EUOceanPact**
- The [Ocean Pact Communication](#) was adopted on 5 June 2025 and was presented at the **UN Ocean Conference in Nice on 9 June 2025**.
- It is the EU's **long-term vision for the ocean**.
- It brings together EU ocean policies into a unified framework to better **protect the ocean, promote a thriving blue economy and support the well-being of people living in coastal areas**, islands and outermost regions.

Evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Regulation

- **Evaluation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) Regulation** – announced in March 2024 following discussions on the Communication on the functioning of the common fisheries policy. Key deliverable of Commissioner Kadis' mission letter.
- **Objective:** to provide an evidence-based assessment of whether the CFP Regulation is still fit for purpose or where lessons can be learned for improving.
- **In line with Commission's Better Regulation Standards; assessment of the five key evaluation criteria:** efficiency, effectiveness, relevance, coherence, EU added value.
- **Public feedback** was collected through a call for evidence in 2024 (87 responses - [link](#)), an open public consultation with detailed questions in 2025 (362 replies & summary report - [link](#))
- **Final product is the evaluation report** – a staff working document drafted by the Commission to be published in 2026.

Vision 2040 for fisheries and aquaculture

- Commissioner Kadis' mission letter requires the preparation of a “*vision for the fisheries sector with a 2040 perspective*” that should “*tackle the issues that affect the fishing community, supports job creation in the sector and ensures its long-term competitiveness and sustainability*”.
- It will make **strategic links with key Commission wide initiatives**: Competitiveness Compass, Nature Restoration Law, Communication on implementation and simplification, Communication on a Union of Skills; and complement the Vision for agriculture and food.
- It will provide a coherent **framework and direction to key MARE initiatives**, including the energy transition roadmap, communication of on fisheries external action and conclusions from the CFP Regulation evaluation.
- Some **key axes of reflection** will include:
 - Consumer demand for sustainably caught/farmed fish.
 - Supply of sustainably caught/farmed fish.
 - Labour force with adapted knowledge to catch (fishers), farm and process the fish.
 - Tools to catch/farm fish that optimise costs, infrastructure to land/farm, sell, process and transport fish.

Updates on Aquaculture Policy (1)

- Continued implementation of the “Strategic Guidelines for EU aquaculture” and EU Algae Initiative
- Key documents published on the EU aquaculture website:
 - ✓ Regulatory and administrative framework (incl. e-learning module)
 - ✓ Planning of space and access to water for marine aquaculture (incl. e-learning module)
 - ✓ Access to space and water for freshwater and land-based aquaculture
 - ✓ Adaptation to climate change
 - ✓ Energy transition
 - ✓ Good husbandry practices in aquaculture

Updates on Aquaculture Policy (2)

- **Documents in progress:**
 - ✓ Environmental performance
 - ✓ Code of good practices on fish welfare and fish welfare indicators
 - ✓ Good husbandry practices for aquaculture: factsheets on sole, turbot and meagre
 - ✓ Mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Strategic Guidelines
 - ✓ Study on environmental benefits of aquaculture
- **Recent publications on the EU webpage [Media | EU Aquaculture Assistance Mechanism \(europa.eu\)](#):**
 - ✓ Infographics on shellfish, algae and finfish farming, EMODNet and aquaculture
 - ✓ Video on the “Open Method of Coordination and EU aquaculture policy”

EU campaign on aquaculture: working with passion

- EU-wide campaign on aquaculture:
 - **To raise awareness, understanding and acceptance of aquaculture** among citizens and those who have a say at local level on the development of the sector
 - Commission prepared **tools that can be used by Member States** to disseminate and amplify the campaign
 - Commission launched the campaign on 25 March – now Member States have to implement it by using the tools.

Video: EU Aquaculture: we work for you with passion

Thank you!

© European Union 2024

Unless otherwise noted the reuse of this presentation is authorised under the [CC BY 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) license. For any use or reproduction of elements that are not owned by the EU, permission may need to be sought directly from the respective right holders.