



# Management Summary

## Internal Evaluation – 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call of OP Fisheries 2014 – 2020

### Evaluation target

The Ministry of Agriculture – Managing Authority for the Fisheries Operational Programme (hereinafter “MA OP Fisheries”) is responsible for effective and efficient implementation of the OP Fisheries 2014 – 2020. After the deadline for applications for aid under the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> call, the MA OP Fisheries detected lower interest of fishing entities especially for the measure 2.1. Innovation and 5.3. Investments in the processing products.

The aim of the evaluation was to uncover the causes of the above mentioned lack of interest for aid, to identify any failures in the OP Fisheries implementation and to find out how aware of the program respondents are.

### Approach

The evaluation was performed internally by the Evaluation Unit of the MA OP Fisheries. It was an ad hoc evaluation conducted beyond the current Evaluation Plan of the OP Fisheries 2014 - 2020.

An on-line questionnaire was sent to 633 contact email addresses of fisheries bodies, and used for data collection. The survey was conducted from 10. 12. 2015 to 8. 1. 2016.

### Evaluation and assessment

Generally, respondents faced particular difficulties in the processing of aid applications – they saw major obstacles in the short submission period for applications, and in setting the calls that fall within the period of harvesting. In addition, respondents mentioned confusing application forms, lack of information in the text of call and rules, and setting of evaluation criteria favouring larger producers as problematic.

Based on the results of the assessment the Evaluation Unit processed a list of recommendations for corrective measures, which will then serve as a basis for improvements of OP Fisheries implementation for the MA.

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