

ANNEX C1bis: Twinning Light Fiche¹

Project title: Further Development of National Fisheries Legislation

Beneficiary administration: Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM)

Twinning Reference: SR 21 IPA AG 02 23 TWL

Publication notice reference: EuropeAid/180631/ID/ACT/RS

EU funded project

TWINNING TOOL

¹ For Twinning Light the project Fiche should be detailed as it will form an annex to the Twinning Light Grant Contract together with the selected Member State proposal. The Twinning Light project Fiche, besides all the data and information mentioned under section 2.1.1, provide also concrete indications on how the work plan should be established, on the suggested schedule of activities, on the profile of short-term experts and on indicators and targets that should be used to ensure the timely achievement of the mandatory results.

Acronyms and Abbreviations

CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Association				
CITIES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora				
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy				
EC	European Commission				
EMFAF	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund				
EU	European Union				
IPARD	International Pre-Accession Assistance for Rural Development				
GDP	Gross Domestic Product				
GVA	Gross Value Added				
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization				
MAFWM	Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management				
MS	Member State				
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development				
PL	Project Leader				
RSO	Republic Statistic Office				
SAA	Stabilization and Association Agreement				
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals				
STEs	Short Term Experts				
TAIEX	Technical Assistance and Information Exchange				

1. Basic Information

- **1.1 Programme**: Financing decision under IPA 2021, indirect management with ex ante control
- **1.2 Twinning Sector**: Agriculture and Fisheries
- **1.3 EU funded budget**: 250,000 EUR

1.4 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

This project will contribute to SDG No.12: sustainable consumption and production patterns.

2. Objectives

2.1 Overall Objective(s):

To support Serbian administration to effectively conduct accession negotiations and successfully manage overall EU integration and pre-accession assistance geared towards the EU membership.

2.2 Specific objective:

Alignment with the EU acquis and implementation of the legal framework in the area of fisheries.

2.3 The elements targeted in strategic documents i.e. National Development Plan/Cooperation agreement/Association Agreement/Sector reform strategy and related Action Plans

Stabilization and Association Agreement (SAA)

The Article 97 of the Stabilization and Association Agreement stipulates that cooperation between the parties shall be developed in all priority areas related to the Union acquis in the field of agriculture, as well as veterinary and phytosanitary domains. It is also stated that the special emphasis will be put on the support to gradual approximation of Serbian legislation and practices to the Community rules and standards.

Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy for 2014 - 2024

The Agriculture and Rural Development Strategy for 2014-2024, adopted in August 2014, in section 3.2.2 Strategic objectives, among other, foresees the production growth and stability of producer's incomes as one of the strategic development goals. Further the document recognizes the stabilization of farmer's incomes as one of the priority areas of intervention stemming directly from the abovementioned strategic objective. Under this priority a number of relevant operational objectives (Section 3.2.4. Operational objectives by priority areas) have been identified:

- Ensuring equal competitive conditions for domestic producers in accordance with certain solutions contained in the external trade agreements of the Republic of Serbia;
- Support for market regulation in times of market disturbance.

The common item relevant for both of the operational objectives is gradual adapting of Serbian fisheries sector with CFP principles and requirements.

In view of the above, the subject Strategy envisages, among other items, the harmonization of legal framework with the *Union acquis* in the field of Fisheries.

The project proposed under this fiche is aimed at supporting the Beneficiary Institutions in achieving the relevant objectives contained in this Strategy, through assistance in the process of legal and administrative harmonization with the *Union acquis* in the field of Fisheries.

EC Progress Report Serbia 2022 under CLUSTER 5: Resources, Agriculture and Cohesion / Chapter 13: Fisheries is stated:

Serbia is moderately prepared in the area of fisheries. Limited progress was made with the completion of an institutional capacity assessment report. An advanced draft action plan for the alignment with the *Union acquis*, which remains to be adopted, was presented. Last year's recommendations remain valid.

In the coming year, Serbia should:

- adopt an action plan for full compliance with the requirements of the *Union acquis* by the date of accession, in particular regarding organisation of the markets, aquaculture, data collection and control measures, also against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;
- address the severe understaffing of competent authorities responsible for policy formulation and anti-fraud controls for fisheries (including border controls);

The third version of the action plan was sent to the European Commission in August 2023, while deficiencies have been identified and will be improved related to understaffing of competent authorities responsible for policy formulation and anti-fraud controls for fisheries.

3. Description

3.1 Background and justification:

I) Overall

The agricultural and rural development sector encompasses agricultural production, forestry, fisheries, food safety, animal welfare, and sustainable rural development. The importance of agriculture for the Serbian national economy is high, which is confirmed by available data on the sector's share in GDP, employment and exports.

From the beginning of the 21st century, contribution of agriculture to GDP has decreased, primarily as a result of faster growth in activity in non-manufacturing sectors (primarily trade). However, the share of agriculture in GVA of the Serbian economy is still very high.

The high share of agriculture in the basic macroeconomic indicators of the Republic of Serbia, in relation to other countries, can be attributed, on one side, to the rich natural resources and favourable climatic conditions for agricultural production, and, on the other side, to the slower process of structural reform of the rest of the economy and delays occurring in this process.

Although absolute pronounced employment in agriculture recorded a high rate of decrease, the share of agriculture in total employment in Serbia is still very high, among

the highest in Europe, and is over 20%. This can be explained by the high proportion of employees in seasonal and temporary jobs in agriculture, which during the crisis is very sensitive to fluctuations in the labour market.

II) Fisheries

Republic of Serbia is a land-locked country and has neither any marine fisheries activities nor any fishing vessels operating at sea under Serbian flag. Aquaculture and fresh water fisheries provide employment for more than 2000 persons and contribute 0.1 % to the national gross value added. As regards aquaculture, the most important types of fish are carp and trout. The number of professional fishermen was 393 while 94568 permits were issued for recreational fishing. Very simply equipped boats with an average length of four meters are used.

Serbia has a continuous deficit in its trade in fish and fishery products. Of the total export the majority of goods go to Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) while the rest goes to the EU member states. Detailed export and Import data will be presented to MS Twinning Light Partners by the BC administration upon request.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management is responsible for fisheries. The work with fisheries is integrated into various departments of the Ministry. There is no department in the Ministry dedicated specifically to fisheries.

The main legal instrument regulating fisheries is the Law on Protection and Sustainable Use of the Fish Stocks. Important are also the Law on Animal Husbandry, the Law on Veterinary Matters, the Law on Food Safety and the Law on Subsidies in Agriculture and Rural Development. Organic production in aquaculture is covered by the Law on Organic Production and the Rulebook on the control and certification in organic production and organic production methods.

Strategy of agriculture and rural development, 2014 – 2024 lays out a strategic framework for aquaculture.

Structural actions in relation to aquaculture and fish processing are being addressed on the basis of the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development and the Law on Subsidies in Agriculture and Rural Development and IPARD III. In aquaculture subsidies are granted for investments in new equipment for fish farms, building of fish farms, as well as for fish processing. Preparations have started to set up the structures that will be necessary for participating in the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF).

Currently Serbia does not have a law regulating the market for fishery and aquaculture products. Within the Project Policy and Legal Advice Centre (PLAC III), one of the activity was preparation of the new Law on the Structural Support and Market Organization in Fisheries to ensure the correct application of the *acquis*. Marketing standards are laid down in the Rulebook on the quality and other requirements for fish, crustaceans, molluscs, sea urchins, sea cucumber, frogs, turtles, snails and their products. It defines the quality and other requirements for fish production and trade. Fish are marketed by origin and type. Serbia does not have producer organizations in the fisheries and aquaculture fields.

Serbia has no bilateral fisheries agreements with third countries, and is not a party to any international fisheries agreement regulating the number of vessels or the scope of fishing.

Serbia is member of the Regional Strategy for conservation and sustainable management of sturgeon population in the North West Black Sea and Lower Danube River in accordance with CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora).

Serbia is a party to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea since 2001. Serbia declared its intention, before its accession to the EU, to ratify and be a party of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement, the 1993 Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) compliance agreement and the 2009 FAO Port State Agreement.

As Serbia does not have access to the sea and does not have any maritime fisheries activities, substantial parts of the acquis within chapter 13 "Fisheries" will not require particular implementation efforts. Certain measures will however need to be implemented to ensure the correct application of the acquis.

As Serbia's fisheries are restricted to freshwater fisheries and aquaculture, no particular measures are required for the implementation of the acquis for resources and fleet management. Serbia will need to prepare an eel management plan or demonstrate that there are no significant eel habitats in its territory to be exempted from the relevant obligation of the Regulation 1100/2007 establishing measures for the recovery of European eel.

Before accession, Serbia will need to implement measures to prevent import or sale of fish or fish products from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

The existing structural measures will form a basis for Serbia's participation in the EMFAF. It is planned that management and control structures for this purpose will be set up within relevant departments of MAFWM. A prerequisite for participation will be the preparation of a strategic document and an operational programme as well as the appointment of authorities for managing, certifying and auditing. As regards aquaculture, participation in the EMFAF requires multiannual national strategic plans on the basis of Union strategic guidelines.

b) Justification

When it comes to the EU integrations the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management is involved in negotiations for the Chapters 11, 12, 13 and 27. Legislative (explanatory and bilateral) screening for all negotiating chapters concerning agriculture – Chapter 11, Chapter 12 and Chapter 13 are completed.

This Twinning Contract is relevant for Chapter 13. In line with the new negotiation methodology, fisheries are now part of Cluster 5 – Resources, agriculture and cohesion, together with Chapters 11, 12, 22, and 33.

Serbia being a land-locked country has neither marine fisheries activity nor fishing vessels operating at sea under the Serbian flag, therefore substantial parts of the acquis within Chapter 13 Fisheries will not require particular implementation efforts. Certain measures will however need to be implemented to ensure the correct application of the acquis. One of most important measure is to establish overall control of fish and fishery products imported to the Republic of Serbia, and the necessary administrative capacity needs to be in place upon accession, which will create functional system fully aligned with EU requirements.

The acquis in the Chapter 13 - Fisheries consists of regulations, which do not require transposition into national legislation, but it requires the introduction of measures to prepare the administration and the operators for the implementation of the Common

Fisheries Policy (CFP) rules. Certain measures will however need to be implemented and national legislation adapted to ensure the correct application of the acquis.

The Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management is responsible for the Chapter 13 - Fisheries in accordance with the Law on Ministries where fisheries is included among the ministry's responsibility areas. Department for Agricultural Policy / Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock products among other preforms task related to fisheries. The necessary administrative capacity needs to be strengthened and be in place upon accession and the training of the staff members needs to be ensured.

3.2 Ongoing reforms:

Structural actions in relation to aquaculture and fish processing are being addressed on the basis of the Law on Agriculture and Rural Development (Official Gazette RS No. 41/2009, 10/2013, 101/2016, 67/2021) and the Law on Subsidies in Agriculture and Rural Development (Official Gazette RS No. 10/2013, 142/2014, 103/2015, 101/2016,35/2023)

In aquaculture subsidies are granted for investments in new equipment for fish farms, building of new farms, as well as for fish processing. Preparations have started to set up the structures that will be necessary for participating in the European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF).

It is planned that in the next IPARD programming cycle to have possibilities for usage of the funds for the development of fisheries sector.

3.3 Linked activities:

This project will be the second IPA project related to the issues in the field of Fisheries. The following assistance was provided to the competent authorities in the previous period in the area of Fisheries:

- FAO Workshop on Market Access and CDS for capture fisheries products (presentation of Global trends and market access issues, including measures on catch documentation to combat IUU fishing as well as presentation of Rulebook on International Catch Certificate and the List of Fishery Products that do not require International Catch Certificates (Published in the "Official Gazette of RS", No. 10/17 of February 14 2017).
- IPA 2014 TWL Project: "Development of the Legislative and Institutional Framework for the Effective Alignment and Implementation of the Acquis in the Area of Fisheries in the Republic of Serbia" was implemented from 3 February 2019 to 25 October 2019. The main results are: Established base for national catch certification scheme in accordance with EU requirements, system for control and prevention of IUU introduced, introduced fishery products marketing standards and strengthened control of fishery products on the market. Final report and outputs will be available to the selected twinning partner.

3.4 List of applicable *Union acquis*/standards:

Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, defines areas included in Common Fisheries Policy

Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 May 2014 on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2328/2003, (EC) No 861/2006, (EC) No 1198/2006 and (EC) No 791/2007 and Regulation (EU) No 1255/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 771/2014 of 14 July 2014 laying down rules pursuant to Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund with regard to the model for operational programmes, the structure of the plans for the compensation of additional costs incurred by operators in the fishing, farming, processing and marketing of certain fishery and aquaculture products from the outermost regions, the model for the transmission of financial data, the content of the ex-ante evaluation reports and the minimum requirements for the evaluation plan to be submitted under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 772/2014 of 14 July 2014 laying down the rules on intensity of public aid to be applied to the total eligible expenditure of certain operations financed under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund

Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1362/2014 of 18 December 2014 laying down rules on a simplified procedure for the approval of certain amendments to operational programmes financed under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and rules concerning the format and presentation of the annual reports on the implementation of those programmes

Regulation (EU) 2017/1004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 May 2017 on the establishment of a Union framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 199/2008

Regulation (EU) 2021/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 7 July 2021 establishing the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/1004

3.5 Components and results per component

Component 1: Development of institutional capacities and strategic documents for Aquaculture

Result 1.1 Strategic documents for aquaculture prepared

Results 1.2 Capacities of relevant institutions further strengthened

Component 2: Preparation of Fisheries Programme

Result 2.1: A questionnaire as a basis for Programme with relevant stakeholders developed

Result 2.2: Programme prepared and approved by the Beneficiary

Result 2.3: Workshop on findings and presentation of Programme conducted

3.6 Expected activities: Component 1:

Activities related to Result 1.1.:

Activity 1.1.1: Preparation of the Study of the aquaculture sector

Activity 1.1.2: Conduction of SWOT analysis regarding the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture

Activity 1.1.3: Preparation of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture

Activities related to the Result 1.2:

Activity 1.2.1: Performing Training needs assessment (TNA) for competent authorities (MAFWM, MF), and other relevant stakeholders (producers, processors).

Activity 1.2,2.: Conduction of the Workshop summarizing and presenting activities related to the Strategic documents, Study of the aquaculture sector, and SWOT analysis, for at least 10 participants from different ministries and institutions (MAFWM, MF, RSO), producers, processors, and other relevant stakeholders

Activity 1.2.3: Conduction of the one day Workshop on the most important subject, based on the TNA, for at least 8 participants from different ministries and institutions (MAFWM, MF) and other relevant stakeholders (producers, processors).

Activity 1.2,4: Conduction of the 5-days study visit for at least 8 persons from MAFWM, RSO in MS authorities competent for preparation of the implementation of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture and Programme.

Component 2:

Activity 2.1: Development of a questionnaire related to the Programme with at least 40 relevant stakeholders (producers, processors, relevant faculties, competent authorities), as a basis for Programme

Activity 2.2: Preparation of the Programme

Activity 2.3: Conduction of the Workshop for at least 20 participants on findings and presentation of the Program

At least two major visibility events with not less than 15 participants will be organized in the course of the implementation of the project: Kick-off meeting at the start of the implementation process and the Final meeting at the end of project implementation activities. The MS may propose additional visibility activities as stand-alone events or associated with training, workshops or similar. The list of above mentioned activities is the minimum required necessary to complete the entire project.

3.7 Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration:

The MS twinning light partner shall make available a team of experts suitably qualified to carry out all activities envisaged under this contract and deliver the mandatory results herein described. The team will comprise non-resident project leader and a team of short term experts.

Profile and tasks of PL: Means/input from the EU Member State Partner Administration:

PL tasks:

- Overall management and coordination of the project with MS, MAFWM, Sector for Agricultural Policy, key institutions, other partners and stakeholders;
- Project reporting;
- Ensuring backstopping and financial management of the project in the MS;
- Ensuring timely, effective and efficient implementation of the project and achievement of results, through proposed activities;
- Coordination of deployment of short-term experts;
- Coordination, from the MS side, of the Project Steering Committee meetings;
- Participation at the Steering Committee meetings;
- Assuring compatibility with EU requirements.
- Organization of visibility events (kick-off and final event);

PL profile:

Requirements:

- University degree in law, agriculture or natural sciences or at least 8 years of equivalent professional experience;
- Experience in managing at least 2 development assistance projects;
- Proven contractual relation to a public administration or mandated body;
- At least 7 years of professional experience in the EU MS administration in the field of Fisheries.
- Working knowledge of the English language;

Assets:

• Specific experience in the EU MS administration in the field of Fisheries regarding twinning/twining light rules and procedures;

Professional experience in the field of Fisheries related to preparation of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture and Programme

3.7.1 Profile and tasks of Component Leaders:

- University Degree in law, agriculture or natural science or at least 8 years of equivalent professional experience in the field of Fisheries;
- Minimum 3 years of specific experience in Common fisheries policy (CFP).
- Proven participation in the development of legislation related to Common fisheries policy and development of Programme / Operational Programme
- Working knowledge of the English language;

• Computer literacy.

3.7.2. Profile and tasks of other short-term experts:

There should be a pool of STEs to ensure smooth implementation of the project during the overall implementation period. STEs should be identified by the Project Leader in agreement with the beneficiary administration. Team of short-term experts should be mobilized according to the agreed work plan. Detailed profiles and tasks of short-term experts will be provided by the MS candidates in their offers.

STEs tasks:

STEs will provide specialized know-how for the individual tasks in this project. Therefore, the pool of experts should have a relevant professional experience in MS administration and minimum qualifications required, as well as specific skills needed for individual task. As a general approach, the STEs will take the responsibility for the implementation of the project and the achievement of the results (each for his/her individual mission tasks) and prepare the required reports. They shall provide long-standing experience in all fields relevant for the project. Detailed profiles and tasks of short-term experts, including the duration of their assignments will be provided by the MS candidates in their offers.

Minimum indicative requirements for STEs are:

STE:

- University degree or minimum 8 years of equivalent experience in a field of Fisheries
- At least 3 years of professional working experience in Member State public administration or mandated body covering, at least one of the following areas of expertise: national catch certification scheme, marketing standards, legal harmonization, policy development, sector studies and strategy development, training of civil servants.
- Evidence that prove STEs are officials or assimilated agents of a Member State public administration, or mandated body, as defined in Twinning manual under section 4.1.7.

The aforementioned roles and tasks of the PL and STEs will be further detailed and refined by the agreed Twinning light Work Plan.

4. Budget

The total budget for Twinning light project is EUR 250.000

	IPA Community Contribution	National co - financing	TOTAL
Twinning light contract	EUR	EUR	EUR
	250.000	0	250.000

Interpretation and translation costs for development and printing of promotional materials, brochures, guidelines, leaflets, documentation, legal acts, reports, will be calculated in the twinning working plan budget.

<u>Translation and interpretation</u> services necessary for the implementation of activities will not be provided by the Beneficiary administration, it has to be covered by the project's budget in accordance with ANNEX A7 - 3.8 of the Twinning Manual.

MAFWM will provide the Twinning light partner with adequate office space for experts, meeting rooms and equipment necessary for relevant activities foreseen in the Twinning light fiche.

Provisions for visibility costs and expenditure verification costs must be included in the budget.

The absolute maximum for the communication and visibility activities is set at 3% of the overall Twinning budget Costs for implementation of the Communication and Visibility plan will be reimbursed based on real costs as evidenced by a paid invoice.

5. Implementation Arrangements

5.1 Implementing Agency responsible for tendering, contracting and accounting:

Ministry of Finance

Department for Contracting and Financing of EU Funded programs (IBFM) Balkanska 53 11000 Belgrade, Serbia

Mr. Marko Jovanović, Head of Contracting Authority E-mail: marko.jovanovic@mfin.gov.rs

Mr. Darko Vasić, Twinning National Contact Point

E-mail: twinnning@mfin.gov.rs.

5.2 Institutional framework

The project beneficiary institution is the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management (MAFWM).

The final beneficiaries is Department for Agricultural Policy/Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock product.

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management performs state administration tasks related to: agriculture and food industry strategy and development policy; analysis of production and agricultural product markets; balances for agri-food products and commodity reserve system of basic agri-food products; measures of market and price policies, structural policy and land policy in agriculture; investment measures for improving agricultural production; proposal of systematic solutions and protective measures in respect of imports of agricultural products and foodstuffs; protection and use of agricultural land; production of agricultural inputs for agriculture and food industry, production and trade of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, ethanol, tobacco and tobacco products as well as foodstuffs; quality control of agricultural products and foodstuffs, wine, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, fruit juices and concentrated

fruit juices, mineral water, ethanol, tobacco and tobacco products in domestic and international trade; rural development; agricultural cooperatives; extension services; market information system in agriculture; production, certification and quality and transport control of seed and planting material; acceptance and protection of plant varieties and domestic animal breeds; determination of eligibility, risk assessment and implementation of control measures related to bio-safety in respect of limited use; introduction into production, marketing and import of genetically modified organisms; conservation and sustainable use of plant and animal genetic resources for food and agriculture; creating conditions for access and implementation of projects within the competence of the Ministry funded by the EU IPA funds, donations and other forms of development assistance; inspection in the field of agriculture, as well as other tasks prescribed by law.

Department for Agricultural Policy

The Sector for Agricultural Policy within MAFWM performs tasks and duties related to: monitoring of domestic and global production, consumption, processing, prices and trade of primary agricultural products, fishery products and related processed products; preparation of expertise basis for drafting regulations in the area of agricultural policy and their harmonization with the EU rules, principles and agreements of WTO and other standards laid down by international organizations and international agreements; preparation of balance for basic agricultural products; participation in the process of preparation of strategic documents in the area of plant and animal production, processing, agricultural products quality, and agricultural statistics; analyses of the situation and preparing projections for development of food industry; development of program proposals for the use and the disbursement of funds from agricultural budget; proposing measures of agricultural policy and follow up and analyses of the achieved effects; monitoring and analyses of customs policy in the area of agri-food products and proposing measures for improving of foreign trade in Serbian agricultural and food products; participation in the preparation of information and platforms for negotiations and bilateral cooperation with the EU and international organizations; performs other activities in the relevant area.

Sector for Agricultural Policy encompasses the following internal units:

- Department of Plant Production and processing of plant products
- Department for analytics and statistics
- Group for the quality and food labeling
- Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock products
- Group of Viticulture and Enology

Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock products

Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock products performs tasks and duties related to: monitoring of domestic and global production, consumption, processing, prices and trade of primary agricultural products of animal origin; preparation of production and consumption balance for the most important products of livestock production and follow up and analyses of the effects achieved by measures in the area of livestock production; management of register of producers and food processors; analyses of the situation and preparing projections for development of animal husbandry; participation in preparation of expertise basis for drafting regulations in the area of animal husbandry, fisheries, beekeeping, food industry, feed production, primary livestock production and processing, and their harmonization with the EU *acquis*, and principles and requirements of relevant international organizations and international agreements; implementation of policy aimed at improving the quality of livestock products and animal feed; preparation of proposals for long-term, medium-term and yearly development policies in the field of livestock production and processing industry; participation in the preparation of international agreements in the area of livestock production and processing industry; and performs other tasks

5.3 Counterparts in the Beneficiary administration:

5.3.1 Contact person:

Mr. Mirko Novakovic, Independent advisor, Group of animal husbandry and processing of livestock products

E-mail: <u>mirko.novakovic@minpolj.gov.rs</u>

5.3.2 PL counterpart

BC Project Leader:

PhD Mr. Nenad Katanic, Assistant Minister for Agricultural Policy

Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management,

Nemanjina 22-26 (9th floor), 11000 Belgrade

The BC Project Leader will manage a project team at the Serbian side and will assure that the decision makers at the national level will be informed properly on the implementation of the project. He will ensure close co-operation and overall steering and coordination of the project. He will also be responsible for drafting reports and other documents, related to project management at the Serbian side and will chair PSC meetings.)

6. Duration of the project

8 + 3 months

7. Sustainability

The achievements of Twinning light project (mandatory results) shall be maintained as a permanent asset to the beneficiary even after the completion of the project implementation.

The results achieved by this project will form a basis of a firm fully operational and legally regulated system for national catch certification that will continue to be improved by the Beneficiary and updated with new elements based on the experience gathered in the process of its implementation. When it comes to marketing standards for fishery products, the relevant Rulebook, that will represent the key pillar of projects activities in that area, is envisaged as a permanent solution when it comes to regulating that field and will be strictly implemented with possible improvements based on the new needs and realities that might occur over time. Finally envisaged trainings and workshops will increase the knowledge of the beneficiary and relevant stakeholders and enable them to enforce/respect the rules applicable to the Fisheries sector. The knowledge acquired through these trainings will be further transferred to other employees throughout the respective organizational structure of the Beneficiary and relevant stakeholders.

By and large it could be concluded that all of the results of the project will be of permanent value to the beneficiary.

8. Crosscutting issues (equal opportunity, environment, climate etc...)

Equal Opportunity

Equal opportunity principles and practices in ensuring equitable gender participation in the project and information will be provided in the regular reports of the Twinning light Partner regarding gender participation rates in the different events, workshops and seminars.

Based on the fundamental principles of promoting equality and combating discrimination, participation in the project will be guaranteed on the basis of equal access, regardless of sex, racial or ethnic origin, religion or belief, disability, age or sexual orientation.

Minorities and vulnerable groups

There are no specific actions which are designed for minority and vulnerable groups. However, the implementation of project activities will bring about positive consequences for all citizens, while envisaged awareness rising component will be aimed at all relevant persons regardless of the group they belong to.

9. Conditionality and sequencing

AGR 67666 TAIEX Workshop on structural support in fisheries. The aim of this workshop was to get closer insight in the experiences of landlocked countries in establishing the framework for implementation of EU structural measures in fisheries, as Serbia has neither marine fishery activities nor fishing vessels, but only small scale inland fishery and aquaculture production

AGR 44486 TAIEX Workshop on Common Fisheries Policy - The objective of this workshop was to provide knowledge about structural assistance in the aquaculture sector and to develop structural policies that would guarantee sustainable aquaculture, provide economic and social peace in the region while protecting resources and environment.

10. Indicators for performance measurement

Indicators for Result 1.1. under Component 1:

Indicator 1.1.1: Study of the Aquaculture sector developed in English and Serbian language delivered.

Indicator 1.1.2: SWOT analysis regarding the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture delivered.

Indicator 1.1,3: Draft of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture prepared .

Indicators for Result 1.2 under Component 1:

Indicator 1.2.1.: Training needs assessment document for relevant stakeholders in English and Serbian language approved by Final Beneficiary.

Indicator 1.2.2: One-day Workshop on findings and presentation of the previous activities related to the Strategic documents, Study of the aquaculture sector, and SWOT analysis for at least 10 participants from the MAFWM and the other relevant stakeholders, conducted.

Indicator 1.2.3: One- day Workshop on the most important subject, based on the TNA, for at least 8 participants from different ministries and institutions (MAFWM, MF) and other relevant stakeholders (producers, processors), conducted.

Indicator 1.2.4: 5 days training for 8 participants and stakeholders in MS institutions/authorities competent for preparation of the implementation of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture and Programme, conducted.

Indicators for Result 2.1. under Component 2

Indicator 2.1.: A questionnaire as a basis for Programme finalized and filled by at least 40 relevant stakeholders (producers, processors, relevant faculties, competent authorities.

Indicator 2.2.: Program approved for further use.

Indicator 2.3.: One day Workshop on findings and presentation of Programme for at least 20 participants from the MAFWM and the other relevant stakeholders, conducted.

11. Facilities available

Office accommodation of a reasonable standard as well as meeting rooms, will be put at the disposal of the MS Partners by the Beneficiary.

In terms of equipment Beneficiary will provide the MS Partners with laptop computers, internet connection, printer, and office phone. Any other equipment eventually required for the work of the MS experts and support staff must be provided by the MS partners.

ANNEXES TO PROJECT FICHE

1. Logical framework matrix as per Annex C1b (compulsory)

	Description	Indicators (with relevant baseline and target data)	Sources of verification	Risks	Assumptions (external to project)
Overall Objective	To support Serbian administration to effectively conduct accession negotiations and successfully manage overall EU integration and pre-accession assistance geared towards EU membership	Progress made towards meeting accession criteria in Chapter 13 Baseline: In 2023 No progress (EU progress Report for 2023) Target: Fulfilment of recommendations from EU progress report in 2024-2025	EC Progress Reports	EU accession process stagnates	Proper progress in EU accession
Specific (Project) Objective(s)	Alignment with the EU acquis and implementation of the legal framework in the area of fisheries	Baseline: Partly aligned in 2023 Target: Higher level of alignment with the EU acquis in 2025	Project reports; MAFWM website; Draft documents itself.	Timeline of activities not respected. Adoption of legislation by the Government and the Assembly of the Republic of Serbia postponed;	Respected timeline of activities Adoption of legislation by the Government and the Assembly of the Republic of Serbia;
Mandatory results/outputs by components	1. Component 1. Development of institutional capacities and strategic documents for Aquaculture			BC institutions staff insufficient participation in project activities;	BC institutions staff actively participate in project activities; Dedication of high-ranking officials to
	Result 1.1. Strategic documents for aquaculture prepared	1.1.1 Study of the Aquaculture Sector developed in English and Serbian language delivered (TD:0-BD:1)	Project reports;	Insufficient dedication of high-ranking officials to	support the project implementation; Good cooperation between all

		1.1.2 SWOT analysis regarding the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture delivered (TD:0-BD:1)	Project reports;	support the project Insufficient cooperation between all participants in the project	Insufficient cooperation between all
		1.1.3 Draft of Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture, prepared (TD:0-BD:1)	Prepared documents		
		1.2.1 Training needs assessment document for relevant stakeholders in English and Serbian approved by Final Beneficiary (TD:0-BD:1)	TNA, Project Reports		
Mandatory results/outputs by components	Results 1.2 Capacities of relevant institutions further strengthened	1.2.2One-day Workshop on findings and presentation of the previous activities related to the Strategic documents, Study of the aquaculture sector, and SWOT analysis for at least 10 participants from the MAFWM and the other relevant stakeholders, conducted (TD:0-BD:1)	Project Reports, Attendance list	BC institutions staff insufficient participation in project activities; Insufficient dedication of high-ranking officials to	BC institutions staff actively participate in project activities; Dedication of high-ranking officials to support the project implementation; Good cooperation

	1.2.3: One- day Workshop on the most important subject, based on the TNA, for at least 8 participants from different ministries and institutions (MAFWM, MF) and other relevant stakeholders (producers, processors), conducted (TD:0-BD:1)	Project Reports, Attendance list	support the project Insufficient cooperation between all participants in the project	between all participants in the project.
	1.2.4: 5 days training for 8 participants and stakeholders in MS institutions/authorities competent for preparation of the implementation of the Multiannual National Strategic Plan for Aquaculture and Programme, conducted. (TD:0-BD:1)	Project Reports, Attendance list		
Component 2: Preparation of Fisheries Programme				
Result 2.1: A questionnaire as a basis for Programme with relevant stakeholders developed	2.1:A questionnaire as a basis for Programme finalized and filled by all relevant stakeholders (TD:0- BD:1)	Project Reports, questionnaire filled		
Result 2.2: Programme prepared and approved by the Beneficiary	2.2:Programme approved by the Beneficiary for further use	Project Reports		
Result 2.3: Workshop on findings and presentation of Programme, conducted	2.3: One day Workshop on findings and presentation of Programme for at least 20 participants from the MAFWM and the other relevant stakeholders, (TD:0-BD:1)	Project Reports, Attendance list		