

Bord Iascaigh Mhara

EMFF Grant Case Studies 2020



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine



EUROPEAN UNION

This measure is part-financed
by the European Maritime
and Fisheries Fund





Contents

Key Highlights of the Irish Seafood Industry 2020	2
European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Operational Programme 2014-2020	4
New Fishermen Scheme	6
Seafood Capital Investment Scheme	8
Seafood Processing Innovation Scheme	10
Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part B)	12
Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part C)	14
Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme	16

Key Highlights of the Irish Seafood Industry 2020

€1.09bn

Estimated GDP value of the Irish Seafood industry

€526m

Irish Seafood Value

€180m

Aquaculture Value



€590m

Export Value



€327m

worth of seafood was imported into Ireland in 2020

€188m

worth of seafood was imported from UK (58%)

Our Biggest Fishing Ports
(Value of Landings)

€346m

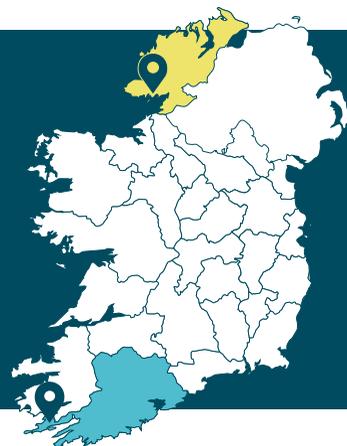
of seafood was landed by Irish and non-Irish vessels into our ports in 2020

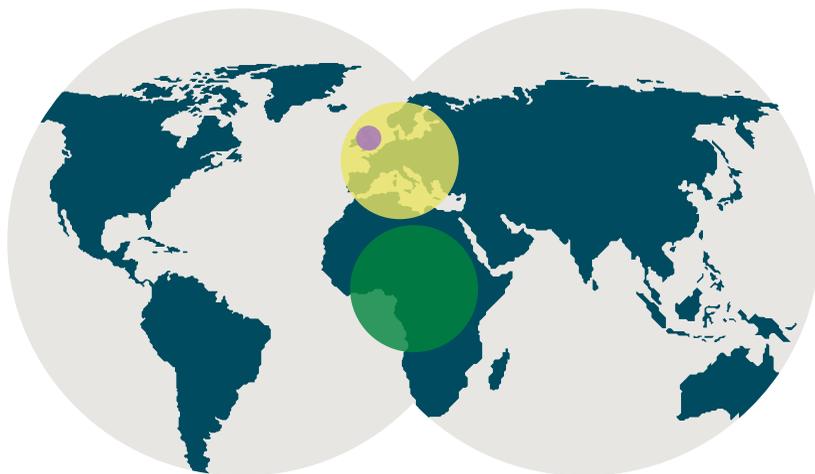
€112m

Killybegs

€104m

Castletownbere





Ireland's Main Export Markets

 EU (excl. UK) **€321m**

 UK **€93m**

 Africa **€75m**



2,030

Number of registered fishing vessels in 2020



309

Number of aquaculture production units



160

Number of Seafood Processors



16,430

people are employed around our coast (direct and indirect employment)

Domestic Sales Value

€406m



Retail Value

€316m



Food Service Value

€90m

Source: 2020 Business of Seafood Report

European Maritime Fisheries Fund (EMFF) Operational Programme 2014-2020

The Operational Programme (OP) supported by the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) in Ireland aims at achieving key national development priorities along with the EU's "Europe 2020" objectives.

The OP supports the general reform of the EU's Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and the development of its Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) in Ireland.

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (BIM) implements a number of grant aid schemes to support the objectives of the OP. These grant aid schemes are funded 50% by the European Union (EU) via the EMFF and 50% by the National Exchequer.





New Fishermen Scheme

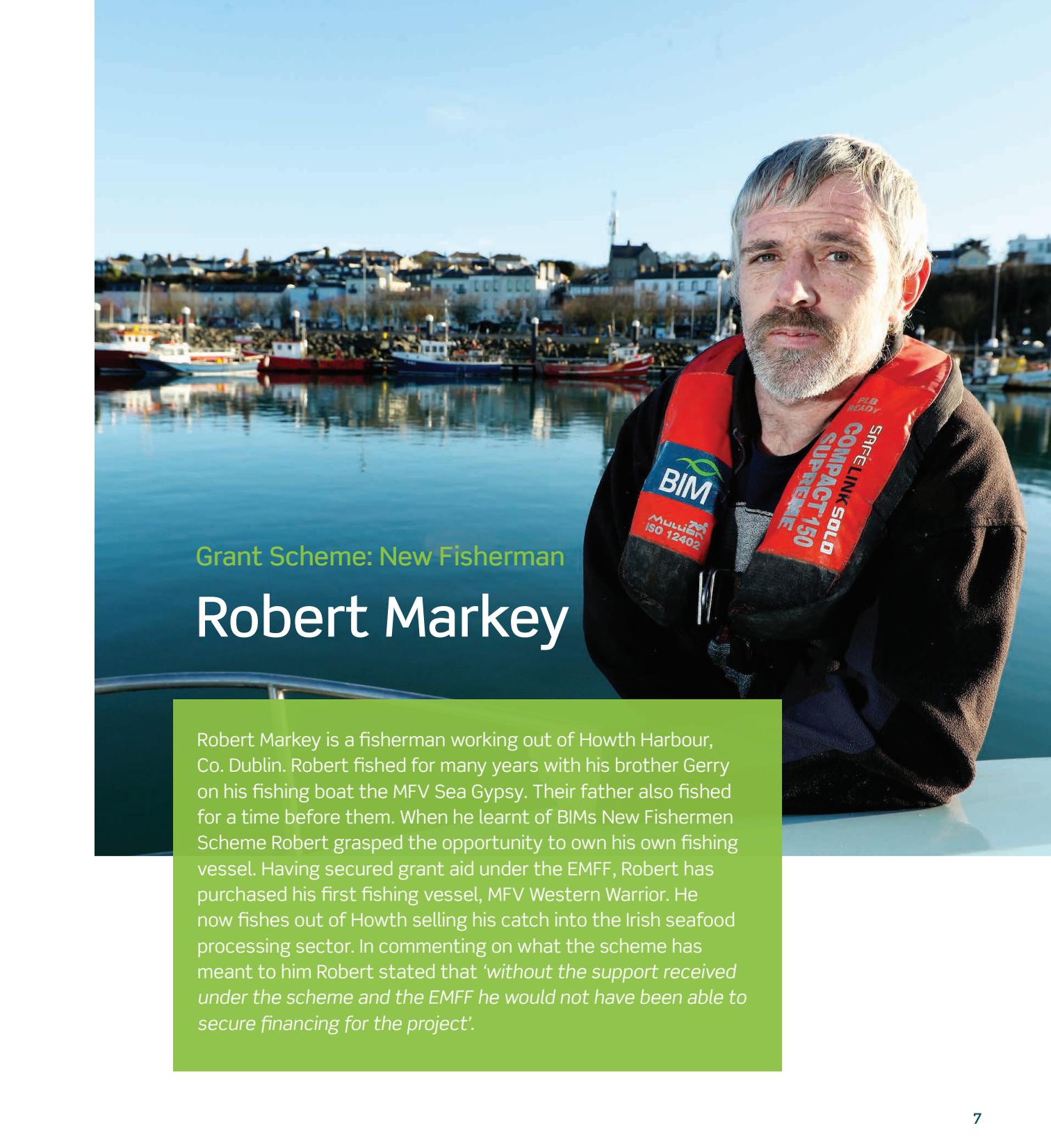
The New Fishermen Scheme is designed to support fishermen and women, under the age of 40, in the acquisition of their first fishing vessel. The applicant must have worked for at least five years on a fishing vessel.

The scheme may cover 25% of the eligible acquisition costs of the vessel directly incurred by the applicant up to an amount of €75,000.

The vessel in question must belong to the polyvalent sector be and be between 5 and 30 years old. It must have an overall length

of between 7 metres and 24 metres and use static gear (pots, gill nets, longlines etc). However vessels in that sector of 12m to 24m (LOA) using active fishing gear (trawlers, seine netters and dredgers etc) are not eligible.





Grant Scheme: New Fisherman

Robert Markey

Robert Markey is a fisherman working out of Howth Harbour, Co. Dublin. Robert fished for many years with his brother Gerry on his fishing boat the MFV Sea Gypsy. Their father also fished for a time before them. When he learnt of BIMs New Fishermen Scheme Robert grasped the opportunity to own his own fishing vessel. Having secured grant aid under the EMFF, Robert has purchased his first fishing vessel, MFV Western Warrior. He now fishes out of Howth selling his catch into the Irish seafood processing sector. In commenting on what the scheme has meant to him Robert stated that *'without the support received under the scheme and the EMFF he would not have been able to secure financing for the project'*.

Seafood Capital Investment Scheme

The Seafood Capital Investment Scheme may provide grant aid to seafood processors for capital equipment and facilities with one or more of the following objectives:

- Contributing to energy saving or reducing the impact on the environment, including waste treatment
- Improving safety, hygiene, health and working conditions
- Supporting the processing of catches of commercial fish that cannot be destined for human consumption
- Relating to the processing of by-products resulting from main processing activities
- Relating to the processing of organic aquaculture products
- That lead to new or improved products or new or improved processes, or new or improved management and organisation systems

The scheme may support approved projects with a maximum eligible cost of €3 million. Grant rates of up to 15% for primary processing projects and up to 30% for secondary (value added) processing projects.



Grant Scheme: Seafood Capital Investment Scheme

Morgan's Fine Fish

Since it was founded in 1860 and based in Omeath, Co. Louth, Morgan's Fine Fish have sourced and provided the finest seafood that this island has to offer. Over a century later this family-run, award winning company continues to provide the very best in product with a strong emphasis on sustainability, traceability and environmental responsibility. The company has grown over the years to be one of Ireland's leading seafood processors, supplying the retail and catering sectors with quality seafood products. Since 2017 the company has been approved for grant aid on a number of projects, invested in equipment aimed at improving environmental performance, quality, and production of value added seafood products.



Seafood Processing Innovation Scheme

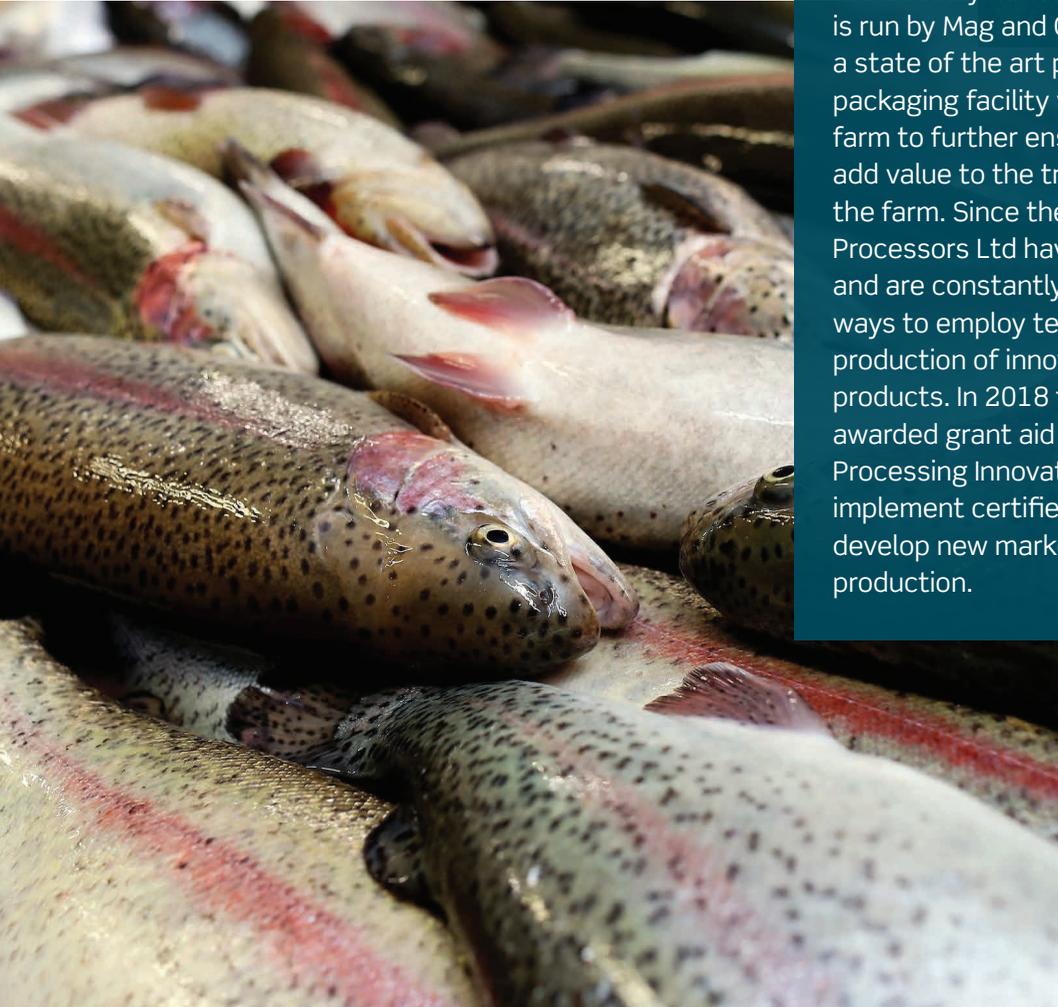
The Seafood Processing Innovation Scheme may support seafood processing enterprises in projects that seek to promote business innovation, processing innovation and new product development. Grant aid support rates range from 30% to 50%.



Grant Scheme: Seafood Processing
Innovation Scheme

Goatsbridge Fish Processors Ltd

Since 1961 trout have been produced at Goatsbridge near Thomastown in Co. Kilkenny. As a family business, it is run by Mag and Ger Kirwan. In 2010 a state of the art processing and packaging facility was added to the farm to further ensure the quality and add value to the trout produced on the farm. Since then Goatsbridge Fish Processors Ltd have invested heavily and are constantly looking for new ways to employ technology in the production of innovative, value added products. In 2018 the company were awarded grant aid under the Seafood Processing Innovation Scheme to implement certified quality standards, develop new markets and streamline production.



Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part B)

The Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part B) may provide grant aid to the owners of commercial fishing vessels for the purchase of on-board equipment under the following headings:

- Improve hygiene, health or working conditions, and/or,
- Improve the quality of fishery products or adds value to fishery products, and/or,
- Eliminate discards or deal with unwanted catches, and/or,
- Improve size or species selectivity,
- Reduce the impact of fishing gear on the ecosystem including the sea bed or on non-target species, and/or,
- Protect gear and catches from certain mammals and birds,
- Engine replacement for Marine Fishing Vessels under 12.00m overall length (LOA),
- Purchase and installation of hardware and software necessary to insure the traceability of fishery and aquaculture products as referred to in article 58 of Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (article 76(2)).

Equipment that increases the vessels ability to catch fish is ineligible.

Grant Scheme: Sustainable Fisheries (Part B)

Donal O'Neill

Donal O'Neill, owner of MFV Sparkling Star operates out of Castletownbere, Co. Cork. He has secured EMFF funding to purchase equipment for his vessel, including a lifting crane, trawl monitoring equipment and a fuel management system. He is also investing in upgrading and improving the crew quarters and other facilities onboard.



Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part C)

The Sustainable Fisheries Scheme (Part C) may provide grant aid to groups of fishermen, producer organisations, co-operatives and in certain cases processors to undertake projects at fishing ports, landing sites and other appropriate locations ashore. Projects will include one or more of the following key objectives:

- Improve the infrastructure of first-point-of-sale entities,
- Foster the gradual elimination of discards,
- Reduce the impact of fishing on the marine environment,
- Promote quality and value added,
- Find new markets, or improve the conditions for the placing on the market, unwanted catches landed from commercial stocks and products obtained using methods with low impact on the environment,
- Support the processing of catches of commercial fish caught in fisheries subject to the landing obligation that cannot be used for direct human consumption,
- Promote certification and traceability of fishery products.

Grant Scheme: Sustainable Fisheries (Part C)

Foyle Fishermen's Co-Op

The Foyle Fishermen's Co-Op was established in 1985 in Greencastle, Co Donegal. As Greencastle harbour expanded the Co-Op built premises comprising of an auction hall, cold stores and office accommodation. Fishing vessels land a full range of white fish that is auctioned at the Co-Op premises, in Greencastle. Fish is sold to clients in Ireland, United Kingdom, France and Spain. Clients range from individual restaurants to wet fish shops, to supermarkets and fish processors. Over the years the Co-Op has earned a reputation for good quality fresh whitefish.

In 2017, under the Sustainable Fisheries (Part C), Foyle Fishermens Co-op secured funding to undertake a multi-annual construction project that will enhance their capacity to handle additional product, resulting from previously discarded fish species. The project will enhance capacity and help to secure the future of the co-op.

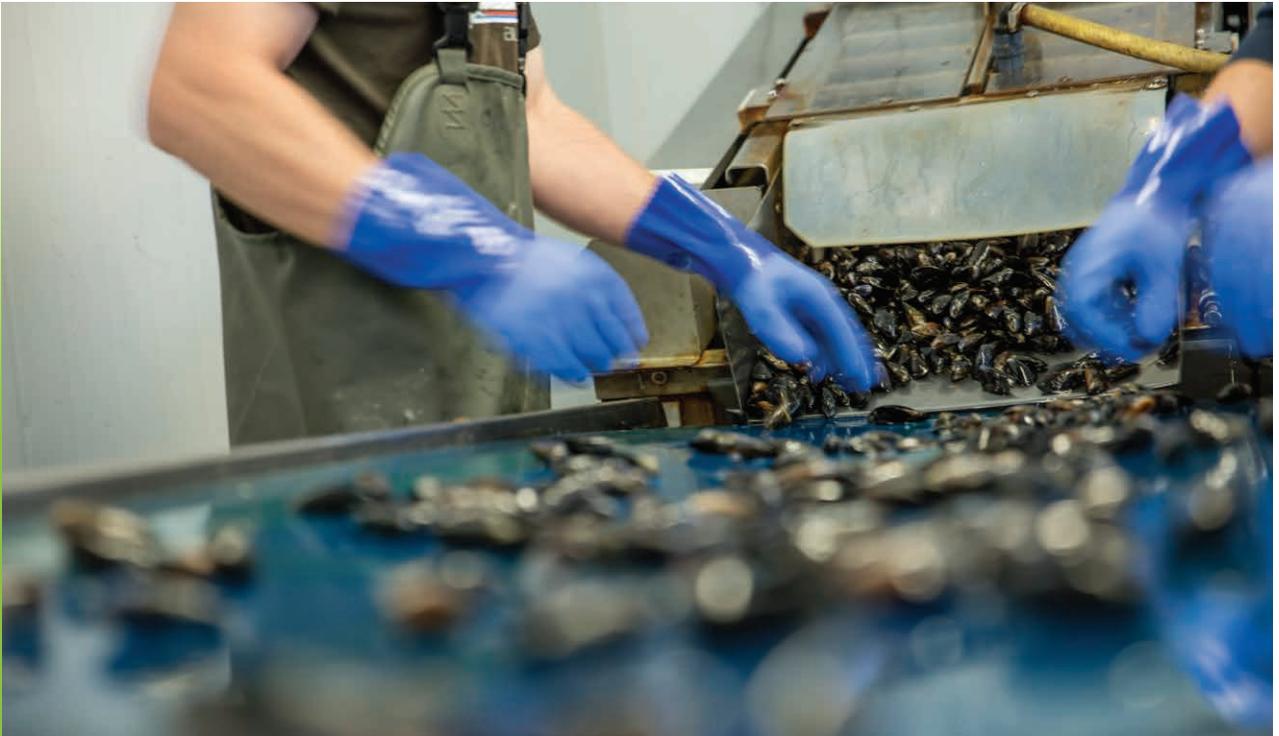


Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme

This scheme provides grant aid to sustainably increase the productive output of aquaculture enterprises, supports new aquaculture enterprises entering the sector, scaling up of aquaculture enterprises to improve their competitiveness and efficiency, diversification into new species, more farming of underutilised species and promotion of organic aquaculture.

Particular attention is also given to the diversification of aquaculture towards methods with significant commercial output.

The scheme funds capital investments in farms to meet these objectives.



Grant Scheme: Sustainable Aquaculture Scheme

Purchase of Flat Bottom Boat and Oyster Growing Equipment

Patrick Costello is a self-employed oyster farmer in Cromane, Co. Kerry who is looking to increase capacity on his farm. To support this, he has purchased a flat bottom boat, which creates significant efficiencies in terms of harvesting oysters and supports health and safety. He also invested in oyster growing equipment and a new tractor/trailer to support this increase in capacity.



For more information about
any of these projects or for
funding under the EMFF
please contact the
EMFF Managing Authority
at emff@agriculture.gov.ie

For specific schemes please
contact BIM at info@bim.ie



Printed on paper
sourced from
sustainably
managed forests