



August 2022

### **Common Language Group e-alert**

**(news alerts issued to CLG circulation list by email in August 2022)**

<https://www.seafish.org/responsible-sourcing/seafood-issues-groups/the-common-language-group/>

### **Funding**

#### **Funding schemes for the UK seafood industry**

This page on the Seafish website has information on key national grant and funding opportunities that are available to UK seafood and marine businesses.

#### **UK Seafood Fund (UK SF) funds ground-breaking fishing research projects, with new funding rounds open (3 August 2022)**

17 projects have been awarded funds from the £100 million UK Seafood Fund (UK SF), which has been extended from 2024 to 31 March 2025.

- **UK SF: Round 3 of Fisheries Industry Science Partnerships (FISP) scheme now open for applications (3 August 2022. Closing date 5 September 2022).** FISP aims to improve and share knowledge of fisheries and aquaculture by funding data collection and research to support sustainable fisheries management. Up to £1 million is available for two-year projects.
- **UK SF: Round 1 of Skills and Training Scheme now open (3 August 2022 for 8 weeks).** There is up to £10 million in the UK SF Skills and Training Scheme to fund training projects for workers in the seafood and aquaculture industry, to develop and improve courses to upskill the industry in essential skills.
- **UK SF: Round 2 of Infrastructure Scheme due to open in early September.** At least £65 million in grant funding is available through the UK SF Infrastructure Scheme to build improved capability at ports, harbours, processing, and aquaculture facilities.
- **UK Seafood Innovation Fund awards £1.29 million to projects transforming the seafood sector (3 August 2022).** The **UK Seafood Innovation Fund** (SIF) has awarded a further £1.29 million to 28 new projects in its most recent round of funding (Call 3). To date the fund has supported 94 projects, each receiving between £13,600 and £50,000 to support cutting-edge ideas designed to improve the sustainability and resilience of the UK fishing, aquaculture, and seafood sectors.

#### **Marine Scotland survey to help develop their new online funding portal (July 2022)**

Marine Scotland is working on a new online funding portal. This includes creating new application guidelines and forms. They are also hoping to simplify the post-application claiming and monitoring process, and would like feedback from past and potential future applicants to their funding schemes.

#### **Seafood funding must prioritise UK fishing fleet, government committee urges (22 July 2022)**

The UK Environment Food and Rural Affairs (EFRA) Committee has called on UK Seafood Fund (UKSF) to prioritise the wild-catch sector when allocating money from the next round of its seafood fund. The Committee recommended the size of the fund should be increased by 50% £150 million because of the strong level of interest in the first round of infrastructure funding from ports, fish farms, and processors.

**[BBSRC Business and Academia Prosperity Partnership funding of £11 million](#) (Closing date for applications is 8 September 2022)**

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) is inviting applications for funding to support established research partnerships between business and academic institutions.

**Fisheries management**

**[ISSF study reports drop in purse seine vessels targeting tropical tuna worldwide](#) (5 August 2022)**

The International Seafood Sustainability Foundation (ISSF) study report a slight decrease in purse-seine vessels overall, and fewer large-scale purse-seine vessels fishing for tropical tuna species globally

**[Future of Our Inshore Fisheries \(FOIF\)](#)**

FOIF is an industry-led project, administered by Seafish, which brings together active fishermen with industry leaders, policy-makers, and researchers. It aims to lay the foundations for an effective inshore fisheries management system in the UK. As part of the FOIF project, the Shellfish and Finfish Management Groups are delivering a range of work including the drafting of Fisheries Management Plans.

**[Who's who in UK Fisheries](#) (July 2022)**

Fishing into the Future have created an online graphic to explain 'Who's who in UK Fisheries'. It is part of a new [Fishing Porthole](#) which provides bite-size learning, links and resources to give people working within the UK seafood sector the confidence, knowledge and connections to take an active role in fisheries management and data collection.

**Reports and initiatives**

**[SeaBOS initiatives demonstrate collaborative power of world's largest seafood companies](#) (4 August 2022)**

The Seafood Business for Ocean Stewardship (SeaBOS), a collaboration of 10 of the world's largest seafood companies across the wild capture, aquaculture, and aquafeed production sectors, has released its first progress report since its launch in 2016. Since its founding, SeaBOS has made commitments resulting in a reduction of illegal fishing, better protection of endangered species, progress toward eliminating modern slavery, a lowering of antibiotic use in global aquaculture activity, and a reduction of plastic inventory.

**[Review of fishing practices adapted in commercial fisheries](#) (28 July 2022)**

Marine Scotland has published a comprehensive literature review on the specific interventions taken in Scotland, the UK and EU to reduce the climate related impacts of the marine wild capture fisheries sector complemented with a series of stakeholder interviews on direct experiences and challenges. The literature review identified eight key areas where potential changes in fisheries practices could be implemented.

**[Seafish Watching Brief Report on Climate Change Adaptation in Fisheries](#) (29 July 2022)**

Seafish maintains a rolling 'annual watching brief' to track how climate change is affecting seafood and any progress on adaptation actions. The [Seafish/Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership \(MCCIP\) watching brief](#) report considers recent advances in scientific understanding and industry experience of climate change drivers and impacts in 2020 and 2021. It includes feedback from industry stakeholders on adaptation actions.

### **Consultations**

#### **[EFRA Committee Launches Inquiry into UK Food Security](#) (25 July 2022. Written evidence may be submitted until 30 September 2022)**

A new inquiry by the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee will examine key factors affecting UK food security, the impact of rising food prices on businesses and public health, and the potential impacts of the government's food strategy.

#### **[Defra seeks views on Highly Protected Marine Areas \(HPMAs\) in English waters](#) (6 July 2022. Open for 12 weeks)**

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has launched a consultation to gather views and evidence on five candidate sites for pilot HPMAs.

#### **[Consultation on the principles of Marine Net Gain](#) (10 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022)**

Defra has opened a consultation on "marine net gain", an approach to marine development that aims to help the UK reach net zero while protecting key marine species and habitats.

#### **[Government seeks views on sustainable approach to offshore developments](#) (7 June 2022. Closes 30 August 2022)**

The Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has launched a consultation to gather views on a sustainable approach to marine development that will help meet the UK's ambitious target to reach net zero. The consultation seeks views on the principles of marine net gain. This will inform policy and approaches to marine net gain implementation.

***This is an amalgamation of the news alerts issued in August 2022.***