# Aquaculture Funding Guidance Sheets

## FUND

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Atlantic Area Transnational Programme</th>
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<tr>
<td>Acronym: AA</td>
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## Fund synopsis

| Type | European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) **INTERREG IVB** |
| Scale | Atlantic seaboard of Europe. |
| Fund amount | Total fund 2014 - 2020 €185.3 million (£138.5 million). |

## Fund purpose

### Overview

The overall strategy of the [Atlantic Area](#) (AA) Programme aims to achieve significant and tangible progress in transnational cooperation geared towards cohesive, sustainable and balanced territorial development of the Atlantic Area and its maritime heritage; with the Blue Growth and creating sustainable jobs being at the heart of the AA Plan. The Cooperation Programme is currently with the European Commission for approval.

### Aims and objectives

The main goal of the Programme is there to contribute to the territorial cohesion of this area through transnational cooperation projects on all four programme priorities between the European Union Member States of the Atlantic seaboard.

### Priorities

Based on the main identified needs, and challenges, the strategy of the Programme is structured around four different priority axes:

- **Priority Axis 1**: Stimulating Innovation and Competitiveness. To address the challenge of accelerating intelligent growth in the Atlantic region by promoting interventions aimed at stimulating innovation in those common sectors identified in the Regional Smart Specialisation Strategies (RIS3) in which the area shows comparative competitive advantages. Funding: €62.8 million (£47 million)

- **Priority Axis 2**: Fostering Resource Efficiency. To promote renewable energies and energy efficiency models and support transnational cooperation initiatives devoted to the introduction of eco-innovations and the green growth economy. Funding €39.7 million (£30 million)

- **Priority Axis 3**: Strengthening the Territory’s Resilience to Risks of Natural, Climate and Human Origin. To identify the development need to support better management of the environment such that regional authorities and relevant stakeholders be better prepared to adapt to climate change, focusing on potential risks occurring in the Atlantic territory. Funding €20.4 million (£15 million)

- **Priority Axis 4**: Enhancing biodiversity and the natural and cultural assets will serve the identified need of protecting the environment and promoting cultural identity in order to make the Atlantic region a more attractive place for local communities and visitors. Funding €52.6 million (£39 million)
### Proposed supportable activities

Each priority axis, above, has its own set of objectives that will determine what types of activities are going to be accepted:

- **Objective 1.1** – Enhancing innovation capacity through cooperation to foster competitiveness.
- **Objective 1.2** – Strengthening the transfer of innovation results to facilitate the emergence of new products, services and processes.
- **Objective 2.1** – Fostering renewable energies and energy efficiency.
- **Objective 2.2** – Fostering green growth, eco-innovation and environmental efficiency.
- **Objective 3.1** – Strengthening risks management systems.
- **Objective 4.1** – Improving the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems’ services.
- **Objective 4.2** – Enhancing natural and cultural assets to stimulate economic development.

### How it works

Visit the [Atlantic Area website](#) for more information on how to apply for this funding programme.

### Grant (the full UK grant will be confirmed in 2015)

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<th>Size of grant</th>
<th>Each project proposal is likely to be in multiples of millions of Euros due to the scale and intention of this territorial cooperation programme.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Restrictions</td>
<td>Restrictions will be available through each ‘call’. Keep an eye on the <a href="#">AA website</a> for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Match funding</td>
<td>AA will fund 75% of most projects, with technical assistance being eligible for 85% funding.</td>
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### Guide to eligibility

**Overview**
The western seaboard of the UK will be eligible for this funding programme. Please [view the map](#) for more information.

**Exceptions and restrictions**
You will need to operate as a partner within a larger project. The Atlantic Area website will give more details about exceptions and restrictions to the fund. You can also view the full [Cooperation Programme](#) here.

**Industry involvement**
The programme is still being fleshed out at present, but it is likely that aquaculture will be involved through Axes 1 and 2. There is a heavy emphasis on marine and maritime issues and resources within this programme.

**Stakeholder involvement**
All Atlantic Area projects are partnerships and you will need to be part of a consortium project developed across regions specified within the [Programme](#).

### Contact details for applicants

**Managing authority**
Contact points for this funding programme have yet to be finalised in the UK. For now the Welsh European Funding Office has information about how the fund is progressing.

**Contact details**
UK contact: [Welsh European Funding Office, Welsh Assembly Government](#).

### Useful websites and where to go for other information

**European Commission**
[Beginners Guide to EU Funding](#)

**Atlantic Area Transnational Programme**
- [About AA 2014 - 2020](#)
- [AA 2014 - 2020 Document Version 1 September 2014](#)

**Welsh European Funding Office**
The [Welsh European Funding Office](#) (WEFO) is a good source of information about this fund in the UK at the moment.