Factsheet for new measures under Article 13 of Marine Strategy Framework Directive 2008/56/EO

This measure fact sheet is the result of coordination between the UBA project Implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria – Development of Programmes of Measures under Article 13', carried out by Fresh Thoughts/Intersus, and the EC project (DG Environment) 'Technical and administrative support for the joint implementation of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) in Bulgaria and Romania – Phase 2', carried out by ARCADIS-Belgium.

Measure characteristics	**Management area:** - ***Black Sea***	**Code:** ***BLKBG*** **№ of measure: 2**
Measure title	**Introduction of ecolabelling (based on of existing relevant ecolabels) related to aquaculture activities (e.g. Blue mussel)**	
Short, precise description of the measure	The measure is related to ecolabelling of fish and mussel products used as seafood. It is indirectly related to eutrophication and contaminants levels in marine environment The aim of the measure is to promote competitiveness in the fisheries sector as motivation of producers of aquaculture (fish and shelfish) to use eco - friendly technologies cultivation with aim for production and market offering of aquaculture used as seafood with proven good quality. The measure includes investigations of existing labelling requirements in relevant countries, especially for aquaculture products used as seafood. The measure implementation includes the following steps: 1. Analysis of the requirements and existing practices and development of proposal for eco-labeling introduction; 2. Holding of bilateral meetings between Bulgaria and Romania to discuss the proposals and adopt a uniform practice for ecolabelling. 3. If necessary revision and amendment of current legislation on the introduction of ecolabelling. 4. Consultations with stakeholders. 5. Phasing introduction of selected ecolabels in the fisheries sector. 6. Conducting of information campaigns.	
EU measure category	*Categorisation of the measure in accordance with the "PoM Recommendations":* **2a**	
Key Types of Measures	*KTMs as defined in the „PoM Recommendations". Measures can be categorised in one or multiple KTMs.*	

	KTM 39 Other measures.
Environmental targets	*Categorisation of the measures in accordance with the nationally defined operational environmental objectives.* **Target on Descriptor 9:** All measured contaminants in fish and shellfish for human consumption in concentrations below the maximum levels permitted under national and Community legislation (EC Regulation № 1881/2006, transposed into national law in Regulation № 31 / 29.07.2004 on maximum levels for contaminants in food); **9.1.1 Targets for fish species –** The levels of contaminants in the following fish species: European sprat (*Sprattus sprattus sulinus*), Anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicholus ponticus*), Turbot (*Psetta maxima maeotica*), Blue whiting (*Merlangius merlangus*), Spiny dogfish (*Squalus acanthias*), Goby (*Neogobius melanostomus*), Bonito (*Sarda sarda*) и Horse mackerel (*Trachurus mediterraneus ponticus*) are maintained below the following threshold values (Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, transposed in the national legislation in Order No 31/29.07.2004): • Pb < 0.20 mg/kg; (for Horse mackerel (*Trachurus mediterraneus ponticus*) Pb < 0.4 mg/kg); • Cd < 0.05 mg/kg; (for Bonito (*Sarda sarda*) and for Horse mackerel (*Trachurus mediterraneus ponticus*) Cd < 1 mg/kg) • Hg < 0.5 mg/kg; (for Bonito (Sarda sarda Hg <1 mg/kg) • Al < 30 mg/kg; • As < 5 mg/kg; • Cu < 10 mg/kg; • Ni < 0,5 mg/kg; • Cr < 0,3 mg/kg; • Zn < 50 mg/kg; • Dioxins < 4 pg WHO-PCDD (F-TEQ) g live weight; • Benzo(a) pyrene < 2 µg/kg. ***Explanation**: WHO - World Health Organization; PCDD -Polychlorinated dibenzodioxins (dioxins); F-TEQ - toxic equivalent concentration.* The levels of contaminants in the following seafood are maintained below the threshold values in with the following threshold values of contaminants in the fish (Directive 2013/39/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy): • Hg < 20 µg/kg; • HCB < 10 µg/kg; • HCBD < 55 µg/kg; • Heptachlor and heptachlor epoxide <6,7*10^{-3} µg/kg;

	• Dicofol < 33 µg/kg; • PFOS < 9,1 µg/kg; • BDEs < 0,0085 µg/kg; • HBCDD < 167 µg/kg; below the following threshold value in accordance with Directive 2013/39 / EC for fish and shellfish: Dioxins (PCDD+PCDF+PCB-DL) < 0.0065 µg/kg TEQ (toxic equivalent concentration). **9.1.1 Targets for shellfish species** – The levels of contaminants in the following shellfish species: Veined rapa whelk (*Rapana venosa*), Mediterranean mussel (*Mytilus galloprovincialis*) are maintained below the following threshold values (Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, transposed in the national legislation in Order No 31/29.07.2004 and Black Sea Monitoring and Assessment Programme): • Pb < 1.5 mg/kg; • Cd < 1 mg/kg; • Hg < 0.5 mg/kg; • As < 2 mg/kg; • Cu < 30 mg/kg; • Zn < 200 mg/kg; • Benzo(a)pyrene < 10 µg/kg. **below the threshold values set in Directive 2013/39/EC regarding the water policy on priority substances in shellfish species**: • Benzo(a) pyrene < 5 µg/kg; • Fluoranthene < 30 µg/kg. below the following threshold value in accordance with Directive 2013/39 / EC for fish and shellfish: • Dioxins (PCDD+PCDF+PCB-DL) < 0.0065 µg/kg TEQ (toxic equivalent concentration). **9.1.1 Target for radionuclides in fish and shellfish products used as seafood** – the concentration of radionuclides in the Black Sea fish and shellfish species like Mediterranean mussel (Mytilus galloprovincialis) and Veined rapa whelk (Rapana venosa) is below the threshold values (thresholds based on the values set in Council regulation (EURATOM) No 3954/87, transposed in the national legislation through Order No. 11 from 18.04.2002): • The levels of the isotopes of strontium, notably Sr-90, is below 750 Bq/kg; • All other radionuclides of half-life greater than 10 days, notable Cs-134 and Cs-137 is below 1250 Bq/kg;

	Target on indicator 9.1.1 for contaminants relevant to fish and shellfish products for which regulatory levels have not been set: • Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) - decreasing trend in the concentration of Non dioxin-like Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) in fish and shellfish; • Decreasing trends in the concentration of p,p'-DDE, p,p'-DDD, p,p'-DDT. **Target on indicator 9.1.1 on the number of contaminants which have exceeded maximum regulatory levels** – the number of contaminants, which have exceeded maximum regulatory levels, is decreasing. **Target on indicator 9.1.2 on the frequency of regulatory levels being exceeded** – Frequency of regulatory levels being exceeded is decreasing.
Descriptors	*Categorisation of the measures to the descriptors in lined with Annex 1 MSFD. The descriptors are identified by their short form:* **Descriptor 9 – Contaminants in food** **Link to other Descriptors** Descriptor 3 - State of commercial fish and shellfish stocks Descriptor 5 – Eutrophication Descriptor 8 – Contaminants in marine environment
Main pressures	*Using the analysis carried out in 2012 as a basis, categorisation of the measures in accordance with the pressures defined in Annex 3 MSFD, Table 2:* **Contamination by hazardous substances** - introduction of synthetic compounds (e.g. priority substances under Directive 2000/60/EC which are relevant for the marine environment such as pesticides, antifoulants, pharmaceuticals, resulting, for example, from losses from diffuse sources, pollution by ships, atmospheric deposition and biologically active substances), - introduction of non-synthetic substances and compounds (e.g. heavy metals, hydrocarbons, resulting, for example, from pollution by ships and oil, gas and mineral exploration and exploitation, atmospheric deposition, riverine inputs), - introduction of radionuclides **Systematic and/or intentional release of substances** - Introduction of other substances, whether solid, liquid or gas, in marine waters, resultingfrom their systematic and/or intentional release into the marine environment, as permitted in accordance with other Community legislation and/or international conventions. **Nutrient and organic matter enrichment** - Inputs of fertilisers and other nitrogen — and phosphorus-rich

	substances (e.g. from point and diffuse sources, including agriculture, aquaculture, atmospheric deposition), - Inputs of organic matter (e.g. sewers, mariculture, riverine inputs). **Biological disturbance** - Introduction of microbial pathogens
Main drivers	*The sectors/activities targeted by the measure* Recreational activities, tourism; - Industry, urbanization (coastal and riverine from land – municipal and industrial waste water discharge, dredging and dumping of dredging materials); - Agriculture; - Activities associated with the extraction of living resources (fisheries, including fishing); - Activities related to the production of seafood (aquaculture); - Sea-based mobile activities: transport / shipping, including with - small boats) - Maritime energy production activities (offshore oil and gas operations)
Characteristics	*Using the analysis carried out in 2012 as a basis, categorisation of the measures in accordance with the characteristics defined in the "PoM Recommendations":* - Benthic habitats - Pelagic habitats
Link to other directive/legislation/ policy	*Aligning objectives with other legal commitments* Convention for the Protection of the Black sea against pollution Strategic Action Plan for the Environmental Protection and Rehabilitation of the Black Sea (2009) Directive 2013/39/EC as regards priority substances in the field of water policy (in shellfish species) Commission Recommendation of 8 June 2000 on the application of Article 36 of the Euratom Treaty concerning the monitoring of the levels of radioactivity in the environment for the purpose of assessing the exposure of the population as a whole Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006, transposed in the Bulgarian national legislation in Order № 31/29.07.2004) Council regulation (EURATOM) No 3954/87, transposed in the Bulgarian national legislation through Order № 11 from 18.04.2002) Black Sea Monitoring and Assessment Programme (BSIMAP) to the Black sea Commission **National legislation**: Fisheries and Aquaculture Act

Necessity for transnational regulation	*Information as regarding the necessity for regulations at EU, regional and international level to achieve MSFD environmental objectives.* No
Mode of implementation	*Stating the implementation process in line with the „PoM Recommendations"; multiple options possible:* • Legislative • Policy driven
Implementation zones	*i.e. the spatial impact of the measure: MS land / FW, WFD TW, WFD CW, Territorial waters, EEZ* Coastal (WFD CW) and Territorial waters of Republic of Bulgaria
Contribution of the measure to achieving the target	*– using technical information* The measure aims to improve produced seafood offered to the market to be with proven good quality. The measure will have a **low contribution** for achieving the targets related to the D9.
Transboundary impact	*Information on the impact of the measures on transboundary neighbours* The implementation of the measure is not expected to have negative transboundary impact on the waters of other countries shared the Black sea marine region. The measure will have positive effect on stimulation of Fishery sector, especially the aquaculture producers to use ecofriendly technologies.
Costs	**First rough assessment: medium (50.000 – 200.000 euro)** Administrative costs for following actions: • Working group from state experts and experts from sector fishery (aquaculture producers) at national level with aim of checking the existing European and national legislation related to ecolabelling, development of proposals for such aquaculture labels; • Bilateral meetings between Bulgaria and Romania for coordination of proposals and approval. • Consultation with wider relevant authorities, sectors and stakeholders. • Legislative revision if necessary and adoption. • Stepwise implementation of chosen ecolabels by the fishery sector. • Public Information campaigns as various tools as brochures, media, internet links; • Public awareness campaigns costs • Costs for implementation • Public awareness campaigns costs (renting of premises, catering,

	promotion materials) **Total one off costs within MSFD cycle (6 years): 182.000 €**
Effectiveness	*Effectiveness of the measure in reaching targets (either qualitative description, or according to indicators: indicators for environmental targets and for GES, proposal for statistical indicators in support of Art. 18 interim reports* The measure will have a positive effect by stimulating the fisheries sector, particularly the farmers to use environmentally friendly technologies, respectively, the introduction of pollutants will be reduced in some extent (organic substances, chemicals (e.g. for treatment and prophylaxis)) in the marine environment. Substantially, these activities will not lead to significant reduction of pollution of the marine environment and given their relatively limited scope, it is expected that the measure would have **a low to medium effectiveness** on targets under Descriptor 9 (Contaminants in food) and related targets under Descriptor 8 (Contaminants in marine environment).
Indicator(s) to measure effectiveness	1. Number of cases per year with registered levels of contaminants in seafood above the established thresholds. 2. Number of legal persons per year, introduced ecolabelling. 3. General increase of seafood consumption in the short, medium and long term (kg / year, ton / year); 4. General increase of seafood consumption with ecolabels in short, medium and long term (kg / year, tons / year)
Socio-economic assessment	***Cost Effectiveness Assessment*: moderate** ***Cost Benefit Assessment*: medium** **Negative side effects:** This could have a negative effect on the rest of the business, which cannot provide the necessary quality of their seafood products and are not authorized to use the ecolabelling (increase of the "grey economy"). **Benefit:** 1. The fishing sector will themselves choose to introduce ecolabeling if there is such demand. It depends on the type of labels and what the benefits for the environment potentially could be. Introduction of ecolabelling is relevant for local fish markets and those for export. 2. Raising public awareness about the products offered on the market and the possibility of choice, general increase of consumption of marine products from the population (periodic statistics of sea food offered in markets and consumer preferences); 3. Increasing the profits of firms offering products with a sign of good quality (ecolabel).
Coordination level	*Selection of the governance level that will coordinate the implementation of the measures, i.e. Local, Sub-national, National, Bilateral, Sub-regional,*

	Regional, EU level, International at local level at national level at bilateral level with Romania
Technical feasibility	*Options:* • Frequently applied; extensive experience / evidence of good practice
Body responsible for the measure implementation	Ministry of Agriculture and Food, National Agency of Fisheries and Aquaculture (NAFA), Bulgarian Food Safety Agency (BFSA), Ministry of Health and Regional Health Inspections Dobrich, Varna and Burgas
Financing opportunities	*Including EU-cofinancing* Public funds; EU projects (i.e RO-BG CBC Program, Horizon 2020 Program, EMFF – National program for fisheries and aquaculture 2014-2020, European Fund for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries)
Planning of implementation	**Starting: 2018**
Difficulties in implementation	*Provide information on the potential challenges that could likely faced in implementation.* Possible reluctance of some producers/fishermen related to increasing of price, inadequate administrative support, and possible negative impact on Fishery sector.