



MINISTERO DELL'AGRICOLTURA  
DELLA SOVRANITÀ ALIMENTARE  
E DELLE FORESTE



# Italian National Network

10-11 September 2026, Olbia, Sardinia, Italy

# 0. Italian FLAGS at a Glance



For the 2021–2027 programming period, **30 FLAGs** have been selected in Italy to implement Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) strategies.

The **overall CLLD allocation** amounts to **€107,299,714.80**, of which **€102,299,714.80 is allocated to the FLAGs** for the implementation of their local development strategies, while **€5 million** is managed by the **Managing Authority**, ensuring overall coordination and governance of CLLD at national level.

# 1. Mandate and Role of the Italian National Network



## Who we are



The Italian National Network is a **five-person coordination** and **support structure** that facilitates the implementation of Community-Led Local Development (CLLD) in Italy's fisheries and aquaculture sector. It serves as a **link between** the **different governance levels** involved in the implementation of EMFAF 2021–2027, connecting the European Commission (DG MARE), FAMENET, the national Managing Authority, regional Intermediate Bodies, and the 30 FLAGs operating along Italy's coastline.

## Our mission



Our mission is to foster cohesion and cooperation among stakeholders in fisheries and aquaculture communities by providing a **stable platform for dialogue**, **knowledge exchange**, and the **sharing** and **promotion** of **local experiences**. In this role, the National Network brings together public institutions, fisheries operators, local authorities, civil society organisations, and other sector stakeholders, **fostering connections** and collaboration across the sector.

## 2. Functions and Areas of Intervention (1/3)

The Italian National Network performs a range of complementary functions aimed at **supporting the effective implementation of CLLD across Italy's fisheries and aquaculture sector**. Its activities bring together technical and institutional support, capacity building, cooperation, monitoring, and knowledge sharing, contributing to the sustainable development of coastal communities.



**Technical Support and Strategic Guidance**



**Support to Managing Authorities and Capacity Building**



**Monitoring, Knowledge and Good Practices**



**Cooperation and Partnerships**

## 2. Functions and Areas of Intervention (2/3)



### Technical Support and Strategic Guidance

The National Network provides **technical support**, **coordination**, **capacity building**, and **networking** to strengthen CLLD implementation in fisheries and aquaculture. It develops guidelines, methodological tools, procedures, and support materials for FLAGs and EMFAF administrations.



### Support to Managing Authorities and Capacity Building

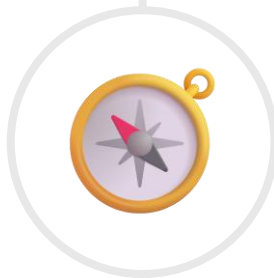
The National Network supports the **Managing Authority** and **Intermediate Bodies** in CLLD management and facilitates stakeholder dialogue. It also organises **seminars**, **workshops**, **coordination meetings**, and peer-exchange activities to strengthen technical and administrative capacity.

## 2. Functions and Areas of Intervention (3/3)



### Monitoring, Knowledge and Good Practices

The National Network **collects** and **monitors data on FLAG activities**, working with FAMENET to analyse progress and assess results. It also promotes the **dissemination and capitalisation of relevant information**, good practices, and projects at both national and international level, supporting the exchange of knowledge and experiences across territories.



### Cooperation and Partnerships

The National Network promotes **inter-territorial, transnational, and international cooperation**, supporting the exchange of knowledge and experiences, the dissemination of innovative practices, and the development of partnerships across fisheries, aquaculture, and rural development territories.

# 3. The Added Value of the National Network: Common Guidelines for CLLD Cooperation Projects

## Context – What we did

Building on the experience of the 2014–2020 programming period, the National Network developed **common Guidelines for CLLD cooperation projects** through a structured and participatory process involving FLAGs, Intermediate Bodies and the Managing Authority. The work specifically addressed implementation challenges identified by FLAGs in the previous programming period.

## Objective – A common and simpler framework

The Guidelines provide FLAGs with a **clear and harmonised framework** for the entire cooperation project cycle, from project design and partnership building to implementation, monitoring and reporting. They also introduce **simplified procedures** for project approval and a lump-sum financing approach, while ensuring consistency with EU and national rules.

## Added value for FLAGs

The Guidelines help **reduce administrative complexity**, **harmonise procedures** and **facilitate cooperation** across territories, enabling FLAGs to focus more on the quality and results of their projects. Above all, they support cooperation as a tool for sharing knowledge and good practices, building stronger partnerships and developing common solutions to shared territorial challenges.



# 3. The Added Value of the National Network: Building a Common FLAG Position for the 2028–2034 MFF (1/2)



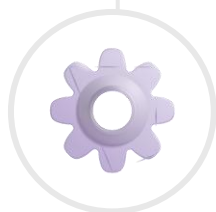
## Launch of the process

The Italian National Network has launched a coordination process to develop a joint **Position Paper on the 2028–2034 MFF**, representing the priorities of Italy's coastal territories in the European debate on **the future of CLLD** and ensuring that the needs of fisheries and aquaculture communities are reflected in the next programming period.



## A joint process in support of coastal territories

Building on discussions from the 3rd National CLLD Seminar, the process aims to develop a **common position among Italian FLAGs**, drawing on territorial experience and translating it into shared recommendations and policy proposals for national and European institutions.



## From the Spanish Network to a European technical contribution

Building on the initiative of the Spanish National Network and the Manifesto in Defence of CLLD in Fisheries Areas, the Position Paper represents the next step, **translating shared positions into concrete technical and operational proposals**.



# 3. The Added Value of the National Network: Building a Common FLAG Position for the 2028–2034 MFF (2/2)



## A FLAG-led document

Through workshops, working groups and thematic exchanges, FLAGs will contribute to the development of a shared document reflecting **key priorities, challenges** and **opportunities** for the future of community-led local development.



## The objective: strengthening CLLD in 2028–2034

The Position Paper will provide a **common reference for Italian FLAGs in the MFF negotiations**, supporting the continuation and strengthening of **shared proposals** and **recommendations**, supporting dialogue with national and European institutions.



## Timeline and expected outcomes

The Position Paper will be finalised by **November 2026**, in line with the key phase of the MFF negotiations. The expected outcome is a **common and authoritative position** representing the priorities of Italian FLAGs.



MINISTERO DELL'AGRICOLTURA  
DELLA SOVRANITÀ ALIMENTARE  
E DELLE FORESTE



Thank you for your  
attention