

Mumbles Oyster & Seafood Festival 2014

Project Summary



The Festival's main objective is to promote the revival of the local inshore fishing industry in a sustainable manner and to pilot a programme of educational activities from junior through to tertiary levels. The overall aim is to bring together the local fishing community, fish traders, college and students, schools, local chefs, visitors and the community to celebrate the unique diversity and richness of the marine environment and the vital role it can play in regenerating the economy through tourism, inshore fisheries and farming the sea sustainably.

The festival developed a pilot programme of educational workshops with films and activities for children and young people. The festival also promoted the Swansea Bay Fisheries Local Action Group and its objectives and worked with local marine biologists, the University Aqua Culture department, the Gower College Food Sciences courses, Swansea Environment Centre and the 7 local primary schools.

The festival is designed to attract visitors from throughout the UK as a marketing event promoting the importance of the coastal fishing trade and the unique local heritage of the Mumbles oyster fisheries and the South Wales oyster beds as a sustainable industry for the future.

Two more years of subsidy will help begin to support the festival to become established as a 4 day event centred on a programme of seafood cooking demonstrations working with local and national chefs, a 38 stall local produce market with a seafood theme and marine related educational activities for children from 7 local schools.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£18,560.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£5,000.00*

* This project was later financed through Welsh Government instead of the Small Grant Scheme through the FLAG.



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
Investing in Sustainable Fisheries



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Welsh Government

Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Weighing, Bagging and Tagging Machine

Project Summary

Thomas Shellfish is Wales' only producer of rope grown mussels (*Mytilus Edulis*). Many customers have expressed that they want the mussels to be packaged in 1kg or 2kg net bags, which is extremely time consuming. The processing plant was set up to package in 5kg bags. This has led to the business having to limit the volume sold each day.

The aim of the project was to purchase and install a new weighing, bagging and tagging machine for their rope grown mussels. This will help to automate part of their processing system, which will allow the business to increase their weekly sales volume and meet the increasing demand for the product.

Additionally, the packaging will help the business brand their produce and increase awareness of the shellfish that is produced in Swansea and South Wales, which is one of the objectives of their wider marketing strategy.

The project will support further growth of the business by safeguarding the employment of staff already employed and bring in new staff in the depuration and packing of the product.



Project Information

Total project cost:	£12,000.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£7,200.00

Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Boat Shelter and Equipment

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

Golding Timber & Fibreglass currently carries out small scale repairs and improvements to boats, which is generally restricted to repairs with short turnaround times due to the impact of wet and cold conditions. This is primarily due to that many of the materials used are not tolerant to moisture and cold temperatures.



The aim of the project is to purchase a temporary movable facility to undertake both on-site specialised timber and fibreglass boat repairs and support the training of apprentices wishing to start in the trade. The temporary structure can be moved to undertake repairs and improvements on-site, so that long term repair turnaround times are reduced and local fishermen and recreational boat owners do not have to meet costs of transporting their boats to a facility elsewhere.

The facility will allow the operation to undertake repairs throughout the year and offer a 365 day service to local fishermen and boat owners, regardless of weather conditions. Many fishermen and boat owners need to use their boats when the weather is fine and will look to schedule repairs and maintenance for winter. By providing a facility that is able to undertake repair work year round, the work can be scheduled outside of peak fishing season, benefiting local fishermen.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£6,861.76
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£4,117.06



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
Investing in Sustainable Fisheries



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Welsh Government

Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Lobster Escape Gap Trial

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

The fishery for European Lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) is economically important for fishermen across the Swansea Bay FLAG district in South Wales.



The aim of this project was to inform the development of future statutory and voluntary management measures by enabling local fishermen to trial escape gaps to reduce their by-catch and discards from lobster pots. There was a particular emphasis on reducing capture of juvenile lobsters and other commercial shellfish species which are at risk of injury and mortality when trapped within pots. Finding methods of reducing the capture of individuals below the minimum landing size (including juveniles), will help improve the survivability of said individuals to maturity; and as such, will help enhance, and secure, the future sustainability of the fishery.

Delivery of the project involved a pilot study to trial two different-sized escape gaps in lobster pots used by a Swansea Bay fisherman. Catches of pots, with and without escape gaps, were recorded and compared; and baiting of specific pots with tagged lobsters (and other commercial shellfish species) was used to assess the efficacy of the installed escape gaps. Attempts to use underwater video to record species using the escape gaps in situ were also undertaken.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£4,964.16
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£4,964.16



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
Investing in Sustainable Fisheries



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Welsh Government

Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Lobster Tracking Trial

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

The fishery for European Lobster (*Homarus gammarus*) is economically important for fishermen across the Swansea Bay FLAG district. However, throughout Wales, there are knowledge gaps in the lobster's ecology, behaviour, population status and efficacy of pot fishing. Although the fishery has been relatively stable for the last 20 years, the fishermen engaged in the fishery would like to secure its long-term future, via a healthy and sustainable lobster population.



The aim of this project was to develop and trial an automated GPS lobster-tracking methodology for on board fishing vessels. New techniques in tagging and tracking lobsters will ultimately help inform effective fisheries management strategies.

Delivery of the project included the installation of an advanced-technology iVMS system (Succorfish iVMS SC2 system) to a Swansea Bay fishing vessel, and then fitting lobsters with a variety of RFID tags. The findings of the data collected resulted in a final report which will enable the local lobster fishermen to inform their own voluntary lobster management measures.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£4,953.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£4,953.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
Investing in Sustainable Fisheries



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Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Swansea Bay Voluntary Marine Wildlife Code of Conduct

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

The purpose of the project was to prepare and promote a marine wildlife awareness leaflet in the form of a Voluntary Marine Wildlife Code of Conduct for the wider Swansea Bay area.

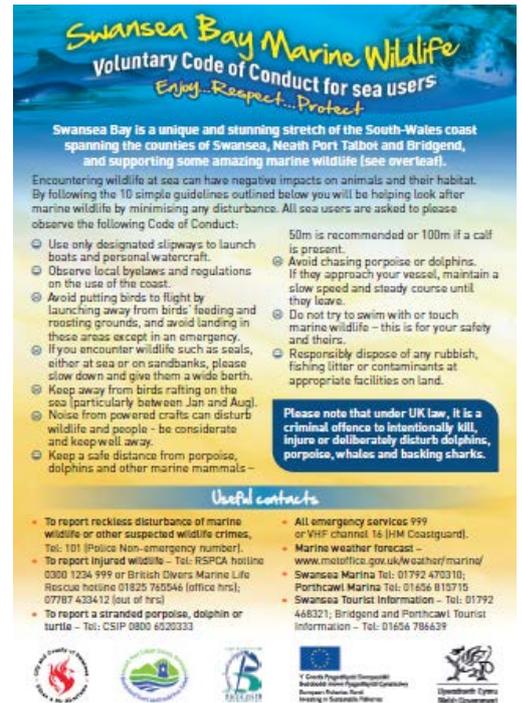
Swansea Bay has a long and varied coastline and a wealth of marine wildlife including harbour porpoise, common dolphin, basking shark, grey seal, leatherback turtle and sea birds. Land and sea-based marine mammal surveys have identified increasing boat traffic around the Swansea Bay and Gower coasts. In addition, harbour porpoise bearing propeller scars have been witnessed, together with many boats approaching dolphins, porpoise and grey seals too closely.

All activities which take place on or at sea have the potential to disturb marine wildlife. The Swansea Bay Marine Wildlife Voluntary Code of Conduct is designed for all sea users including the fishing community, sailing clubs, divers, sub aqua clubs and those who watch marine wildlife at Sea, to ensure that disturbance to marine wildlife is kept to a minimum.

Delivery of the project involved the preparation, design, printing and distribution of a code of conduct leaflet.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£4,490.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£4,490.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
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European Fisheries Fund:
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Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme

Market Development and Sales Strategy for

Thomas Shellfish Rope Mussel Fishery

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund
Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

The purpose was to develop a defined market development and sales strategy for Thomas Shellfish, specifically in relation to the development of the rope mussel fishery based at Queens Dock, Swansea, SA1.



Thomas Shellfish is Wales' only producer of rope grown mussels (*Mytilus Edulis*). The mussels are sustainably produced using the rope method of farming. With the clean, nutrient rich waters of the Atlantic flowing in and out of the sheltered dock it is an ideal environment for farming mussels. This sustainable method of farming produces mussels with a clean, dark, shell, which are free from grit, as the mussels never come into contact with the seabed.

The development of the business has now led to approval of the depuration of mussels from the fishery which will enable Thomas Shellfish to sell mussels direct from the fishery to the end consumer.

The aim of the strategy is to move the business forward, encompassing processed, depurated product destined for the wholesale, hospitality and retail markets.

The strategy will support further growth of the business by safeguarding the employment of staff already employed and bringing in new staff in the depuration and packing of product.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£5,000.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£3,000.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
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European Fisheries Fund:
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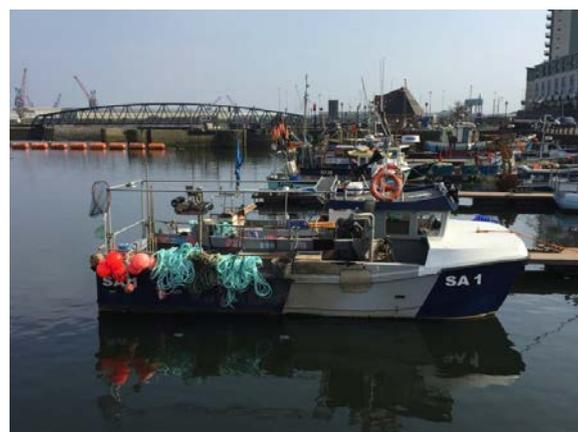


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Swansea Bay FLAG Small Grant Scheme Swansea Bay Responsible Fishing Scheme Scoping Study

Project Summary

The Seafish Responsible Fishing Scheme (RFS) is a third party accreditation scheme developed by Seafish to raise standards in the catching sector, and enable those within the seafood supply chain to demonstrate their commitment to the responsible sourcing of



seafood by buying from accredited vessels. This was identified by The South & West Wales Fishing Communities Ltd as an ideal tool for demonstrating best practice amongst local industry and helping them achieve better access to markets.

The aim of this project was to carry out a local scoping study to investigate the current status of vessel equipment and onshore facilities in the Swansea Bay FLAG area, to identify any necessary vessel or local infrastructure improvement required to enable local fishermen to comply with the new Seafish RFS criteria and investigate the feasibility and costs of these required improvements.

Delivery of the project involved a desktop study and scoping of review, planning of stakeholder engagement, visits and interviews and analysis of the findings. This was presented in a final report which can be used to inform future projects to carry out any required improvements.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£3,500.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£3,500.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
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European Fisheries Fund:
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Swansea Bay FLAG Studies/Collaborative Projects Fish is the Dish Education Programme

Project Summary

The South & West Wales Fishing Communities Ltd identified the Seafish Fish is the Dish education pack as a key resource for improving awareness of fish as food amongst primary school children, and encouraging children to eat more fish.



The fish is the dish education pack is a set of cross-curricular lessons and resources developed by Seafish and the British Nutrition Foundation, designed to engage children with fish as a food, different species of fish, fish dishes and the health benefits of eating fish.

The interactive local seafood lesson gave primary children the chance to learn more about and taste the seafood species commonly landed, harvested or sold in the Swansea Bay area. Wherever possible, the local seafood was sourced directly from local fisheries businesses (i.e. local fishermen, wholesalers and fishmongers).

Delivery of the project included visits to a number of primary schools in the Swansea Bay area by an independent, appropriately skilled consultant with the support of Seafish. Press releases about the project and the local fisheries involved were produced by Seafish and circulated amongst local and national press.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£27,570.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£27,570.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
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Swansea Bay FLAG Studies/Collaborative Projects Swansea 'Hydro Hub' Feasibility Study

Project Summary

The aim of this project was to conduct a study to determine the potential feasibility of a Hydro-Hub in Swansea Bay. It is proposed that the Hydro-Hub will comprise four complementary elements

- a world class public aquarium
- a state of the art aquatic sciences research hub
- accommodation for SMEs with the Hydro-Hub's supply chain or associated industries
- space to provide a range of uses in support of the wider development

The aim of the feasibility study was to include details about the proposed project, its strategic fit, its objectives and its intended impacts.

The study proposed that consultation with key stakeholders would take place, alongside assessment of potential demand for the different elements of the Hydro-Hub and primary research of comparable offerings. The study aimed to outline a vision for the management and ownership of the site and delivery mechanisms for the provision of services and elements of the site. A high level financial business case was to be developed including quantification of income, operating expenditure and potential capital costs. A sensitivity analysis and risk assessment was also to be undertaken.

This study served as stage one of a two stage process. This stage was to produce a report of the above findings and provide a recommendation on the economic viability of the proposed project.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£13,063.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£13,063.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
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European Fisheries Fund:
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Swansea Bay FLAG Studies/Collaborative Projects Oyster Hatchery Feasibility Study

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund
Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

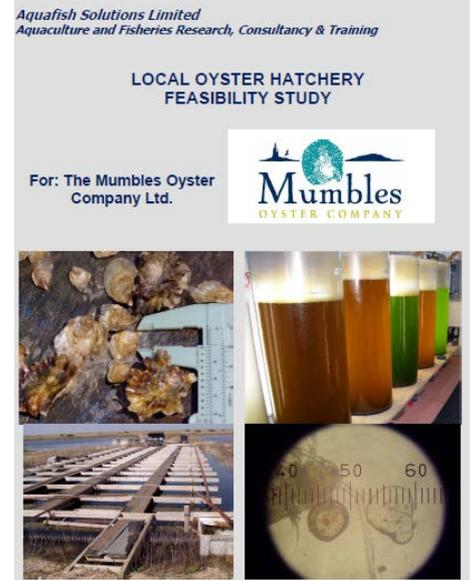
Project Summary

The native oyster *Ostrea edulis* was the basis of an important shellfish industry in South Wales; records date commercial fisheries at Mumbles and Oystermouth back to Roman times.

Mumbles Oyster Company Ltd have recently been successful in demonstrating the potential for commercial native oyster ranching and restoration on historic beds at Mumbles. Further development of this approach or the development of new oyster growing businesses in the Swansea FLAG district and in Wales is currently being prevented by the lack of a reliable supply of biosecure seed oysters.

Mumbles Oyster Company Ltd is currently unable to further develop its commercial ranching operation due to a lack of seed oyster supply from either the UK or Europe. Danish suppliers of seed oysters have recently been notified that *Bonamia*, a parasitic disease of oysters, has been detected in their waters resulting in imports being prohibited. Swansea Bay is one of the last *Bonamia* free oyster producing areas in the UK and so biosecurity is of paramount importance.

The aim of the project was to conduct a feasibility study to identify and economically evaluate differing options for the production of shellfish seed for use within South Wales, including novel approaches targeted at producing seed specifically for relaying at sea as part of ranching or restoration operations. The outputs of the stud will be shared with all interested parties and will enable the development of a fully costed EMFF application.



Project Information

Total project cost:	£10,000.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£10,000.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
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European Fisheries Fund:
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Project Fact Sheet

Swansea Bay FLAG Studies/Collaborative Projects Swansea Bay Fishing Industry Research Study

Swansea Bay European Fisheries Fund Sustainable development of Fisheries areas

Project Summary

The aim of this project was to carry out a research study to gain a better understanding of the local fishing industry and related sectors in Swansea Bay to support the delivery of the Local Development Strategy and development of future projects. Specifically, the research study gathered primary and secondary data to provide information on:

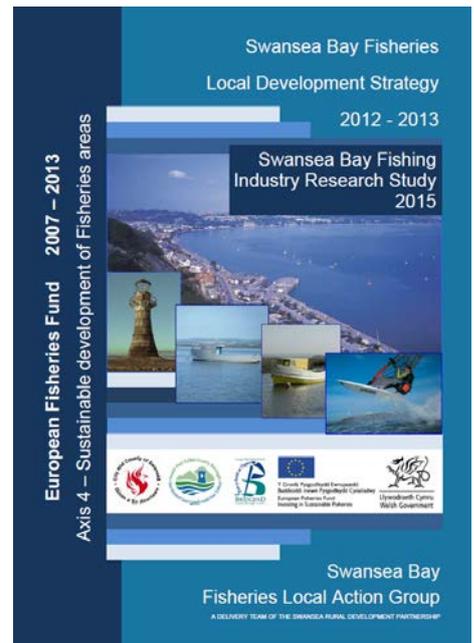
- fishing stocks and ecological sustainability
- constraints on growth of the sector locally
- volume of landings in Swansea Bay, and destination of fish products
- local demand for local fish products
- barriers/opportunities to expanding the market for local fish products

The evidence based study included survey work of local businesses in the fishing industry and related sectors, and consultations with potential end users of local fish products.

A comprehensive final report was produced to present the findings of the research.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£15,000.00
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£15,000.00



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
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Swansea Bay FLAG Studies/Collaborative Projects Swansea Marina Port Improvements

Project Summary

The Swansea inshore commercial fishing industry is an important provider of jobs for small coastal communities and a valuable product resource for local tourism, hospitality and catering businesses in South and West Wales. It seeks to



utilise a natural resource in a sustainable way which reflects the natural, green image of the area and has considerable, as yet, untapped potential for further development to the benefit of rural/coastal communities.

The aim of this project is to support and develop the Swansea inshore fishing sector by providing an 8x20ft cold storage container, which will house an ice flaking machine and provide storage for fish boxes and catch. A second 8x20ft storage container, with freezer capacity will provide storage for whelk bait. Insulated fish boxes provided by the fishermen will allow them to maintain the quality of their catch whilst at sea and ensure enhanced price at market. This need has been identified by the fishermen directly to SWWFC Ltd as currently no such facility exists in Swansea.

The impact of provision of this equipment will allow more diversity of species being targeted by the fishermen, improved food safety practice and securing recognition of best practice within the industry (Responsible Fishing Scheme). The long term objective is to demonstrate to the fishermen positive impact of care of the catch, which will develop a positive culture in this direction for the industry.

Project Information

Total project cost:	£104,721.09
Total EU/Welsh Government Funding:	£104,721.09



Y Gronfa Pysgodfeydd Ewropeaidd:
Buddsoddi mewn Pysgodfeydd Cynaliadwy
European Fisheries Fund:
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