



European
Commission



Do you want to **export** to the EU?

Export Helpdesk is the right tool to use.

**Generalised Scheme of Preferences
Fisheries**

Trade

The “Generalised Scheme of Preferences” (GSP) is a set of rules allowing exporters from developing countries to **pay lower duties on some or all of what they sell to the EU.**

To check if your case can benefit from the GSP, visit the Export Helpdesk website: www.exporthelp.europa.eu under “My Export”.

To benefit from the GSP, you will have to prove that your product “originates” in your country.

What is ‘origin’ and what are the rules of origin for?

Origin is the ‘economic’ nationality of goods traded in commerce.

It is the origin that determines which duties apply to your product when it enters the EU market.

The **rules of origin** are used to determine whether a product may be considered as sufficiently linked to the country from which

it is exported to say that it ‘originates’ from there.

To benefit from a GSP preferential tariff when exporting to the EU, refer to the GSP’s rules of origin applying to your type of fish.

Be aware that the rules of origin applied to each country are not identical in all cases.

Basic concepts of rules of origin

Goods wholly obtained in your country

Production does not involve any country other than your own.

Aquaculture products originate in your country when the fish, crustaceans or molluscs are **born and raised there.**

Sea fish captured within your country’s territorial seas will always be seen as originating in your country. Sea fish caught elsewhere only originate in your country if they are caught by a vessel flying your country’s flag, registered in your country and owned by either a national of your country or a company that has its base in your country and is owned at least 50% by nationals of your country.

Goods sufficiently transformed in your country

Production involves more than your country.

Fish processed products may not originate in your country when fish materials used to produce them come from another country.

The EU rules of origin define — for each product — the degree of processing that must be carried out in your country for the product to claim originating status.



Three basic criteria determine if a product was sufficiently transformed in your country.

- Value added rule: compare the customs value of the materials not originating in your country with the price of your final product when it leaves the factory.
- Change of tariff classification: compare the product code (four-digit tariff classification) of the materials not originating in your country with the product code of your goods.
- Specific operations: you should carry out the quoted processing.

In some cases, the applicable rule may involve a combination of the above criteria.

Cumulation

Cumulation allows you to claim originating status for ingredients that don't originate in your country, but are used in the production process in your country. It applies when the ingredients come from either the EU or your regional GSP group and undergo more than minimal processing in your country.

Under the GSP, the following types of cumulation are possible:

- **Cumulation among your region:** materials originating in your regional group can be used in your product and then considered as originating in your country. The GSP regional groups are:
 - Group I: Brunei-Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam.
 - Group II: Bolivia, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama, Peru, Venezuela.
 - Group III: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka.
 - Group IV: Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay.

Cumulation can also be applied between individual countries in groups I and III, upon request, and in certain circumstances. A list of eligible countries and excluded products is available in the Export Helpdesk.

- **Cumulation with the EU:** materials originating in the EU can be used in your product and then considered as originating in your country as long as the processing done locally goes beyond minimal.
- **Cumulation with Norway, Switzerland and Turkey:** non-agricultural materials originating in Norway, Switzerland and Turkey can be used in your product and then considered as originating in your country as long as the processing done locally goes beyond minimal.



Direct transport or non-manipulation

Upon request, your importer must be able to prove to EU customs authorities that the fish bought to you and originating in your country hasn't been altered elsewhere before arriving in the EU.

You need to verify that your product has been sent from your country to the EU without being altered or transformed in another country. If your product "transit" in another country, it must not be altered or separated and it has to be under the vigilance of customs authorities.

Minimal operations

To claim originating status the production steps carried out in your country must go beyond the minimal operations listed in the agreement, such as packaging, cutting or simple mixing. If only the steps listed were carried out in your country and nothing else was produced or transformed there, the fish cannot be considered as originating in your country.

Specific rules for fish and preparations made from fish

All products have specific rules of origin. For details, do a search in the 'My Export' section of the Export Helpdesk.

For fish to benefit from preferential treatment, they must be wholly obtained in your country. For processed fish, the final product only originates in your country if the fish used for the processing itself originated in your country.

Tolerance

For preparations made with fish, ingredients whose import is limited or forbidden may still be used providing they do not exceed 15% of the ex-work price of the final product.

Submitting proof of origin

To claim the tariff preference, you need to prove that your fish originate in your country and fulfil all conditions. For this, you need one of the following documents:

- **Certificate of Origin Form A:** this is needed for consignments valued more than 6000€ and it is issued by your country's authorities. You can download the template at the Export Helpdesk. Be prepared to submit documents proving the originating status of your fish.
- **Invoice declaration:** for consignments valued 6000€ or less, you can fill out a declaration. To make an invoice declaration, you should **type, stamp or print the following declaration** on the invoice, delivery note or other commercial document:

'The exporter of the products covered by this document (customs authorisation No ...) declares that, except where otherwise clearly indicated, these products are of the Generalised Scheme of Preferences preferential origin.'

Important: You must date and sign your declaration by hand.

Proofs of origin remain valid for 10 months after issue.



How to export to the EU?
Check it at www.exporthelp.europa.eu

The European Union (EU) is the world's largest single market. Therefore, many exporters around the world want to export their products to the EU to meet the large consumer demand.

Sometimes, however, exporters feel that they lack information on how to export to the EU and how to meet EU norms. Yet the information is there!

Indeed, with the Export Helpdesk, you can find all the facts and figures you need: information, forms and contacts.

The challenge is there.
Interested in accessing the European market?
Check the Export Helpdesk at www.exporthelp.europa.eu

