

EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY

ANNUAL REPORT 2022

(Consolidated Annual Activity Report 2022)



Legal basis:

Articles 15 and 32(2)(b) of Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament (EP) and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)¹, Article 48 of the Financial Regulation (FR) of the European Fisheries Control Agency².

¹ Official Journal (OJ) L 83, 25.3.2019, p. 18.

² Administrative Board (AB) Decision No 19-W-05 of 29 August 2019.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD.....	5
ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD'S ANALYSIS AND ASSESMENT	6
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	8
PART I. ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR.....	12
1.1 MULTIANNUAL PROGRAMME 2022-2026	12
1.2 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2022.....	17
1.2.1. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES.....	18
1.2.1.1 Operational Coordination (Objective 1).....	31
1.2.1.2 Assistance to Cooperation (Objectives 2-4).....	53
1.2.1.3 International Dimension (Objectives 5-6).....	65
1.2.1.4 EU cooperation in Coast Guard (Objectives 7 and 8).....	78
1.2.2. HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES.....	93
1.2.2.1. Communication and representation (Objective 9).....	93
1.2.2.2. ICT and information security (Objective 10).....	97
1.2.2.3. Administrative and governance processes (Objective 11).....	99
PART II (A) MANAGEMENT	103
2.1 Administrative Board	103
2.2 Major Developments	103
2.3 Budgetary and financial management.....	103
2.3.1. Budgetary and financial management (Art 103 FFR).....	103
2.3.2. Information on grant, contribution and service level agreements provided in Annex VI (when applicable).....	106
2.3.3. Control results	107
2.3.4. Cost and benefits of FINANCIAL controls	107
2.4 Delegation and sub-delegation of the powers of budget implementation to agency's Staff..	108
2.5 Human Resources (HR) management	108
2.6 Strategy for efficiency gains	111
2.7 Assessment of audit and ex-post evaluation results during the reporting year.....	112
2.7.1. Internal Audit Service	112
2.7.2. European Court of Auditors.....	112
2.8 (a) Follow up of recommendations and action plans for audits and evaluations.....	112
2.8 (b) Follow up of recommendations issued following investigations by the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF).....	113
2.9 Follow up of observations from the Discharge authority.....	113
2.10 Environment management	113
2.11 Assessment by management.....	114
PART II. (B) EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS	115
PART III ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS	117

3.1 Effectiveness of internal control systems	117
3.2 Conclusions of assessment of internal control systems	118
3.3 Statement of Internal control coordinator in charge of risk management and internal control.....	119
PART IV. MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE	120
4.1 Review of the elements supporting assurance	120
4.2 Reservations	120
PART V. DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE	121
ANNEXES.....	122
ANNEX I: CORE BUSINESS STATISTICS	122
Baltic Sea JDP	122
North Sea JDP	129
Western Waters JDP	142
NAFO JDP	160
NEAFC JDP	165
Mediterranean JDP	167
Black Sea JDP	178
Training Activities in 2022	183
COAST GUARD COMMON REPORT OF THE ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN.....	185
Activity report EFCA chartered vessels and light RPAS - 2022	191
ANNEX II: STATISTICS ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT	200
ANNEX III: ORGANISATION CHART	206
ANNEX IV: ESTABLISHMENT PLAN AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT.....	207
ANNEX V: HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY ACTIVITY	210
ANNEX VI: CONTRIBUTION, GRANT AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT. FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS	211
ANNEX VII: ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT	212
ANNEX VIII: ANNUAL ACCOUNTS.....	214
ANNEX IX: MATERIALITY CRITERIA	215
ANNEX X: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KPI's	216
ANNEX XI: LIST OF THE MOST RELEVANT ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS	217
ANNEX XII: LIST OF ISO COUNTRY CODES	221

FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

The Annual Report 2022 presents a comprehensive review of the European Fisheries Control Agency's (EFCA) achievements and activities throughout the year, as it continues to support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and contributes to the European Coast Guard Cooperation.

In 2022, EFCA reinforced its vital role in the operational coordination and control of fisheries across the EU Member States. Through the facilitation of six Joint Deployment Plans (JDPs), the Agency fostered cooperation and coordination among national control and inspection activities. By ensuring a level playing field and promoting a culture of compliance, EFCA has made significant strides in the effective and uniform application of the CFP. EFCA's operational efforts are only possible with the critical commitment of Member States and their pooling of national inspectors through JDPs.

Under the Tripartite Working Arrangement, EFCA collaborated closely with Frontex (European Border and Coast Guard Agency) and EMSA (European Maritime Safety Agency) to support national authorities in Coast Guard functions. This cooperative effort focused on areas such as capacity building and risk assessment, with EFCA taking a lead role in the development and implementation of the Practical Handbook on the European Coast Guard Cooperation.

In ensuring compliance with the CFP, EFCA received an increase in resources in 2022. This additional support enabled EFCA to further strengthen its efforts in coordinating control and inspection activities across the EU, further enhancing the Agency's capacity to support Member States in ensuring compliance with the CFP, ultimately contributing to the sustainable management of fisheries resources.

In 2022, EFCA played an essential role in ensuring compliance with the provisions of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement on fisheries, promoting sustainable management of shared resources. In the international dimension, EFCA assisted the EU in combating illegal fishing and fostered cooperation with third countries and international organisations, including Regional Fisheries Management Organisations. The Agency also provided technical assistance to ongoing projects like PESCAO in West Africa, contributing to the fight against illegal fishing in the region.

As the Chair of the Administrative Board, I would like to express my deepest gratitude to all the institutions and partners who have contributed to the success of the European Fisheries Control Agency. This support has enabled the Agency to achieve its objectives and deliver on its work programme for 2022. Our collective efforts have contributed to a more uniform and effective application of the CFP, promoting a level playing field, safeguarding biodiversity, and providing a future to the sector. As we move forward, we remain committed to achieving a sustainable future for our oceans and the communities that depend on them.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD'S ANALYSIS AND ASSESMENT

The Administrative Board,

Having regard to the EU Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the European Fisheries Control Agency³,

Having regard to the Financial Regulation of the European Fisheries Control Agency of 29 August 2019 and in particular Article 48 thereof,

Having regard to the Multiannual work programme (MWP) 2022-2026 and Annual work programme 2022 adopted by the Administrative Board on 14 October 2021⁴,

Noting that the template provided by the communication from the Commission on the strengthening of the governance of Union Bodies under Article 70 of the Financial Regulation 2018/1046, and the guidelines for the Single Programming Document (SPD) and the Consolidated Annual Activity Report have been followed, and the activities have been grouped following the structure presented by the Single Programming document containing the Multiannual work programme 2022-2026 and the Annual work programme 2022,

Has analysed and assessed the Authorising Officer's (Executive Director's) Annual Report for the financial year 2022, acknowledges the results achieved by EFCA, and notes in particular the following:

1. The Annual Report 2022 provides a faithful and comprehensive account of the work undertaken by EFCA in 2022. It reflects the achievements of EFCA as set out in the Multiannual work programme 2022-2026 and in the Annual work programme 2022 adopted by the Administrative Board on 14 October 2021.
2. The absence of any open observations from the European Court of Auditors (ECA), the suitable follow-up of the observations from the European Parliament and the absence of *critical or very important* recommendations from the Internal Audit Service (IAS).
3. The final implementation of EFCA's budget is 99.4% for commitments and 57.8% for payments.

EFCA received a total budget of €29.34 million as a contribution from the General EU Budget for 2022, representing an increase of 40% in respect of 2021.

In addition, EFCA received resources from other sources during 2022 in relation to three contribution agreements (€4.27 million), additional funds for the existing PESCAO project (€1.12 million) and signed a new grant for the cooperation with Algeria for €0.24 million. In total, EFCA received €5.6 million in assigned revenue.

EFCA promotes a policy of equality, aiming to have an optimal gender balance among its staff. On 31 December 2022, the overall percentage of female staff members was 55%. This figure is reduced to 52%, if SNEs are included. 38% of female staff were grade AD8 (administrator's function group, grade 8) and higher, while in the range AD 5 to AD 7 64% of staff were female. Moreover, 45% of the Heads of Sector, and 67% of the Deputy Heads of Unit were female.

4. With reference to the operational activities, the following facts and figures were specifically relevant:
 - six JDPs were successfully implemented;
 - strategic risk assessments were carried out in preparation of the JDPs for 2023 for all JDP areas except NEAFC, for which a preparatory meeting took place aiming to conduct the assessment in 2023 ;
 - 27 'specific actions' were implemented in the framework of the North Sea, Baltic Sea and Western Waters JDPs;

³ Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the European Fisheries Control Agency, OJ L 83, 25.3.2019

⁴ [Multiannual work programme 2022-2026 and Annual work programme 2022 | EFCA \(europa.eu\)](#)

- eight specific campaigns were implemented in the framework of the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea JDPs;
 - the number of inspections (at sea and ashore) reported within the JDPs framework⁵ was 47 592;
 - the number of inspections with at least one suspected infringement⁶ reported was 5 167;
 - the deployment of EFCA's chartered vessels, Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel, provided robust platforms for fisheries inspections, leading to 148 inspections and 58 suspected infringements detected, fostering transparency, exchange of knowledge and expertise, and first-hand understanding of fisheries compliance;
 - the progress made and the work carried out within the framework of cooperation on coast guard functions with EMSA and Frontex, and the implementation of the Annual Strategic Plan, was significant;
 - at the request of the European Commission, the EFCA assisted the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, in order to strengthen operational coordination and compliance;
 - in the framework of PESCAO, EFCA contributed to the achievement of the overall objective of the PESCAO project, to enhance the contribution of fisheries resources to sustainable development, food security and poverty alleviation in West Africa. EFCA provided technical support to the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, the Fisheries Committee for the Western Central Gulf of Guinea and their member countries, in a coordinated manner, using its experience in the EU context;
 - EFCA organised and contributed to 53 training events; a total of 2967 officials (EU Member States, EU bodies and third countries, including by e-learning) were trained;
5. Following the advancements and achievements of 2022 in the areas of digitalisation of procedures and electronic workflows, EFCA extended the use of PPMT (Public procurement Management tool) to all procedures and implemented new modules and functionalities of Sysper (mainly the CCP "Leave on Personal Grounds" functionality, the functionality "NDP Payslips", the STAGE module and an ADI "ad interim" workflow), which continues to increase the efficiency and audit trace of all administrative procedures. .
6. EFCA implements an internal control framework applicable at all levels of management, designed to provide reasonable assurance that operations are effective and efficient and financial reporting complies with applicable laws and regulations.
7. The information provided in the Annual Report 2022 gives the Administrative Board reasonable assurance that the resources available to EFCA in 2022 were used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

Done on 20 April 2023

[Signed]

Chair of the Administrative Board

⁵ Provisional data based on the information provided by Member States up to 15 February 2023.

⁶ Provisional data based on the information provided by Member States up to 15 February 2023.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, the European Fisheries Control Agency implemented 95.4% of the Annual Work Programme (AWP) adopted by the Administrative Board in the framework of the Single Programming Document, despite the challenges still caused by COVID-19. Implementation was aligned with a coherent budget execution of 99.4%.

The agency supported the Member States and the Commission in the effective and harmonised implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). The activities spanned from the operational coordination of fisheries control across the EU, to tasks related to the international obligations of the Union, and from the assistance to Member States to improve the culture of compliance with the CFP, to the European Cooperation on Coast Guard functions. EFCA's work also supported the EU in the international dimension of the CFP; ensuring compliance with international provisions, providing assistance in the implementation of the Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) Regulation and directly cooperating with third countries, when requested.

During 2022, additional resources were granted to EFCA providing the Agency with the necessary operational capacity for assisting the Member States and the European Commission in the monitoring, control and surveillance regime harnessed to the Common Fisheries Policy, including the measures entailed through the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) with the UK. In addition, in 2022 three new projects subsidised by grants in the framework of the upcoming European Maritime Fisheries and aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) were included. These projects encompassed a study on the weighing process of fisheries products across the Union, a virtual regional training academy in the Western Mediterranean Sea for fisheries control and inspection, and the maintenance of the Handbook and online sectorial qualification framework (SQF) for the European cooperation on Coast Guard functions.

Highlights of EFCA's performance within its mandate include:

- In 2022 all six JDPs (NAFO/NEAFC, North Sea, Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean & Eastern Atlantic) were implemented as planned, keeping the measures and protocols set due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through the use of JDPs, EFCA provided assistance to Member States and the European Commission in the area of control, inspection and surveillance. Specifically, the activity focused on joint coordination and supporting national authorities to apply the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy in a uniform and effective manner. In 2022, the cooperative efforts resulted in 47 592 coordinated inspections reported within the JDPs framework, 5 167 of which led to the identification of inspections with at least one suspected infringement.
- The overall cost evaluation for implementing JDPs in 2021 was approximately €70 million.
- In accordance with the results of the regional risk analysis, priority was given to the control of fisheries with the highest risks, and joint control activities were regularly coordinated in the context of 'specific actions'. In total there were 27 specific actions proposed in the framework of Baltic, North Sea and Western waters and eight specific campaigns implemented in the framework of the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea.
- In 2022 EFCA used the framework of the JDPs to enhance the standardisation of inspections, in particular to increase the application of the 'last haul' observation procedures during inspections at sea in all EU JDP areas.
- The North Sea and Western Waters JDPs, continued to operate with the established Virtual Coordination Network (VCN), aiming to enhance a common situational awareness picture, and focus on risks related with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement with the UK. The VCN takes into account the outcomes of the risk assessment where threats to compliance associated with licencing, access to resources, displacement of fishing effort and gear conflicts were identified.

The VCN also plays an important role in the assessment of the impacts to control in EU waters due to divergence between the UK and EU regulations. It was a key channel of communication between the EC, Member States and EFCA concerning UK fisheries related issues, and a main forum to coordinate control activities.

EFCA provided assistance to the Member States regional Control Expert Groups (CEGs), in particular BALTIFISH, Scheveningen, NWW and SWW CEGs in a range of topics, with particular focus on the implementation of the Landing Obligation (LO) and implementation of pilot projects on Remote Electronic Monitoring. Furthermore, EFCA provided support to foster a common application of fisheries related regulation on control and inspection (e.g. Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/303 on Baltic Sea harbour porpoise).

- The EFCA working group on Remote Electronic Monitoring was reactivated in 2022, aiming to assist regional and national pilot projects.
- In the international dimension of the CFP, EFCA continued to assist the Commission in the cooperation with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries such as Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) (namely, NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT and GFCM), to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.
- In the fight against IUU activities, EFCA assisted the European Commission with the analysis of 773 catch certificates and processing statements from six third countries.

In the framework of the six-year EU funded PESCAO project, including a component aiming to improve the fight against Illegal, Unregulated and Unreported (IUU) fishing activities in Western Africa, EFCA continued to provide technical assistance to the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC), the Fisheries Committee for the Western Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) and their member countries. EFCA applied the experience gained in the EU context; the work facilitated by the easing of health and safety measures applied in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, allowing EFCA experts to once more be in situ in the member countries on a more frequent basis.

- The Tripartite Working Agreement (TWA) between, EFCA, EMSA and Frontex sets the foundations for the framework of cooperation, which aims to support national authorities carrying out Coast Guard Functions and to provide assistance and expertise on coordination and fisheries control using the means available in the agencies.

EFCA took the lead in a dedicated project allocated by the European Commission to update the Practical Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions, including ensuring European Coast Guard Functions Academies Network Project (ECGFA-Net) is followed up, and the implementation of a EU Coast Guard portal. The Handbook was made available in July 2021 by the European Commission through a recommendation⁷. The cooperation between the three agencies supports the implementation of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy⁸ as well as some specific activities linked to the EU blue economy report.⁹

- During 2022 2957 officials were trained by EFCA, including by e-learning.
- EFCA's chartered Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs), the Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and (since December 2022 only) the Ocean Sentinel, were operational and provided a robust platform for fisheries inspections leading to a total of 148 inspections and the detection of 58 suspected infringements. The EFCA chartered OPVs contributed to the implementation of JDPs in the EU sea basins by adding capacity to fisheries control operations and providing a platform to deploy multinational Member State inspection teams, including inspectors from Third Countries. This promoted transparency, a level playing field for the fishing industry and fostered a good exchange of knowledge and expertise. It also provided a first-hand understanding of fisheries situations in terms of compliance, to enable the fine tuning of risk assessments. EFCA has noticed challenges

⁷ https://ec.europa.eu/oceans-and-fisheries/publications/handbook-european-cooperation-coast-guard-functions_en

⁸ Council conclusions on the revision of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) Action Plan (26 June 2018), doc.10494/18.

⁹ The EU blue economy report 2021 - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)

for some MS to nominate Union inspectors for EFCA chartered means, thus this challenge had to be addressed using SNE's from MS deployed at EFCA. In addition to fisheries control tasks, EFCA's OPVs were made available for other operations in the framework of European cooperation on coast guard functions, such as pollution response operations, in cooperation with Member State authorities, Frontex and EMSA. A light Remotely Piloted Aircraft System was also deployed aboard the Lundy Sentinel and Aegis.

- Concluding the chartering tender in 2022 to charter three seaborne inspection platforms and one airplane marked a turning point and materialised EFCA's commitment to support Member States authorities and the European Commission through the promotion of compliance with the fisheries rules, and the contribution to the safety, security and sustainability of seas.
- EFCA's information systems enabled the collection of data from each Member State on fishing vessels, catches and other information. Overall, EFCA received Electronic Reporting System (ERS)-logbook data from 6 109 vessels from 12 Member States and Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) data from vessels, throughout all Member States concerned by JDPs. EFCA continued to develop a FLUX compatible system for the exchange of logbook data for all MS.
- EFCA coordinated the electronic exchange of inspections and surveillance reports (e-ISR) working group to facilitate the implementation between EU Member States, Commission and EFCA. The system is based on the EU standard for the exchange of fisheries data (FLUX) and should be in place by June 2023.
- The EFCA Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) web-based application, integrating a multitude of maritime data from several sources with a variety of analyses tools and features, continued to be used by a large community of users as a support to fisheries control and activities against IUU fishing. By the end of 2022 over 1200 accounts with access to the EFCA IMS operation were active in the fisheries control authorities in Member States, the European Commission and EFCA; representing an increase of 13 % from 2021. EFCA continued in 2022 to collaborate closely with EMSA to ensure that a high-quality service is provided to those users.
- Specific functionalities of IMS and services associated with it, such as Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM) and Copernicus Maritime Services (CMS), are applied in various Joint Deployment Plans.

As agreed in the North Sea JDP decision, the Real Time Closures established in the North Sea are visible in EFCA IMS promoting an efficient monitoring and control of fisheries activities in these areas.

Additionally, all the vulnerable marine ecosystem (VME) areas established in the Western Waters¹⁰ and all Fishing restricted areas (FRAs) established by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) were included in EFCA IMS. EFCA established ABMs, in coordination with Member States, permitting Fisheries Monitoring Centres of the respective Member States to receive alerts when a fishing vessel is present at speeds indicative of fishing activity in a VME area/FRA.

- Regarding the advances and achievements of 2022 in the areas of digitalisation of procedures and electronic workflows, EFCA extended the use of PPMT (the Public procurement Management tool) to all financial procedures. Also new modules and functionalities of Sysper were implemented (mainly the CCP "Leave on Personal Grounds" functionality, the functionality "NDP Payslips", the STAGE module and an ADI "ad interim" workflow), which contributed to increasing the efficiency and traceability of all administrative procedures.
- Through its Communication strategy, EFCA promoted a culture of compliance with the CFP and fostered the values of the European Union. The implementation of the Annual Communication Strategy followed a flexible approach, delivering communication online, and via physical and 'hybrid' events.

¹⁰ In accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1614 of 15 September 2022 determining the existing deep-sea fishing areas and establishing a list of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known to occur or are likely to occur.

I would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank EFCA staff for their professionalism and commitment.

This report is addressed to the Administrative Board of EFCA, the different EU Institutions, the EFCA stakeholders and the general public. As in previous years, a sixth issue of 'A year in review' providing a summarised version of the EFCA Annual Report 2022 will be published.

Susan Steele
EFCA Executive Director



PART I. ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

1.1 MULTIANNUAL PROGRAMME 2022-2026

In accordance with its Founding Regulation¹¹, EFCA's overarching objective is *"to organise operational coordination of fisheries control and inspection activities by the Member States and to assist them to cooperate so as to comply with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy in order to ensure its effective and uniform application"*.

EFCA's multiannual framework is guided, *inter alia*, by:

- the implementation of the features of the Common Fisheries Policy;
- the European Green Deal¹²;
- the recommendations issued by the Administrative Board following the Five Year Independent External Evaluation of the European Fisheries Control Agency on 21 June 2017;
- the Framework Financial Regulation (FFR);
- the support to the implementation of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS)¹³, where EFCA, together with EMSA and Frontex, is contributing through the implementation of the European Coastguard initiative.

Moreover, in line with the Council conclusions "Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030"¹⁴, the Commission Communication "Next steps for a sustainable European future"¹⁵ and its reflection paper 'Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030'¹⁶ on the follow-up to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and in accord with the European Union Agencies' Network (EUAN)¹⁷, EFCA closely adheres to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)¹⁸:

Goal 5: Gender Equality

- Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in political, economic and public life.

Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth

- Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.
- Strengthen the capacity of domestic financial institutions to encourage and expand access to banking, insurance and financial services for all.

Goal 13: Climate Action

- Integrate climate change measures into national policies, strategies and planning.
- Improve education, awareness-raising and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation, adaptation, impact reduction and early warning.

Goal 14: Life below Water

- By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices and implement science-based management plans, in

¹¹ Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the European Fisheries Control Agency, OJ L 83, 25.3.2019, p. 18.

¹² Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee Of The Regions, EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, COM(2020) 380 final

¹³ Council conclusions on the revision of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) Action Plan (26 June 2018), doc.10494/18

¹⁴ Council conclusions "Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030", as adopted by the Council at its 3685th meeting held on 9 April 2019, <https://data.consilium.europa.eu/doc/document/ST-8286-2019-INIT/en/pdf>

¹⁵ Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions Next steps for a sustainable European future, European action for sustainability, COM (2016)0739 final, <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM%3A2016%3A739%3AFIN>

¹⁶ European Commission, Reflection Paper Towards a sustainable Europe By 2030

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030_en

¹⁷ The 2021-2027 strategy for the EU Agencies Network euan_strategy_2021-2027.pdf ([euagencies.eu](https://euan_strategy_2021-2027.pdf))

¹⁸ <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

order to restore fish stocks in the shortest time feasible, at least to levels that can produce maximum sustainable yield as determined by their biological characteristics.

Areas of Intervention / Multiannual Objectives

Multiannual Objective nr 1 *Enhanced coordination of fisheries monitoring control and surveillance*

Area of intervention **Operational Coordination**

Assisting the EU Member States through operational coordination of their control and inspection activities, to ensure the effective and uniform applications of the Common Fisheries Policy, is at the core of EFCA activities.

Operational Coordination may include activities under the Joint Deployment Plans, and where appropriate, through operational plans.

Key Actions:	Expected results:	Achieved 2022
Yearly planning, implementation, and assessment of the JDP's	Effective and efficient deployment of means Timely planning and assessment of the JDP's	Yes
Ensure the highest level of availability and exchange of quality of fisheries related data	Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States	Yes
Regional training provided under JDPs	Enhanced skills and knowledge of Union Inspectors	Yes

(Further details can be found in Part I – Achievements of the year)

Multiannual Key Performance Indicator on operational coordination	Baseline 100
2022 Result	110

It addresses the level of deployment of means (FPV, flights and exchange of inspectors), the follow up of JDP assessment recommendations and the satisfaction from stakeholders regarding fisheries information systems and regional training provided.

Meaning: Having as basis the 2019 JDPs activities (excluding UK deployments), the 2022 indicator had an increase of 10%, which is considered adequate due to the increased sea boundaries related with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.

Multiannual Objective nr 2 *Promote compliance through an effective and harmonised application of Union inspection procedures*

Area of intervention **Assistance to Cooperation**

Specific work will be devoted to the improvement of common procedures, methodologies and best practices in support of the three phases of the JDPs: planning, implementation and assessment. It will include **the development of methodologies/projects** concerning regional risk assessment implementation, **best practices for coordination**, the **optimum use of information tools**, and the **facilitation of support to the coastal Member States**. This will ensure that appropriate actions are taken against non-compliance detected by Union inspectors and the cost effectiveness of control operations.

EFCA will develop and apply methodologies in coordination with the Member States to facilitate the evaluation of the cost-effectiveness and compliance of specific fisheries. Long term planning in this respect will be done in cooperation with the Member States concerned and the Commission. It may specifically include support for evaluating compliance in the framework of the landing obligation.

Equally, EFCA will also support the European Commission and the Member States in the proceedings of the expert group on compliance¹⁹.

Ensuring the availability and quality of **fisheries related data** is essential for EFCA activities. Maintenance and enhancement of the services facilitating access to data on fishing activities and control continues to be a key component of EFCA's business. This includes the integration of the suite of operational systems: Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), EFCA Integrated Maritime Service (EFCA IMS), Electronic Inspection Report (EIR), Electronic Recording and Reporting System (ERS), Jade and FISHNET.

Key Actions:	Expected results:	Achieved 2022
Improvement of data management and fisheries information systems in support of fisheries MCS	High performance systems with high level of availability	Yes
Development of methodologies and guidelines	High quality standard of guidelines developed	Yes
Compliance evaluation	Evaluate the level of compliance by JDP	Yes

(Further details can be found in Part I – Achievements of the year.)

Multiannual Key Performance Indicator on assistance to cooperation **Baseline 100**

2022 Result **103**

It addresses the compliance with the data and systems governance, satisfaction from stakeholders and number of compliance evaluations conducted.

Meaning: Having as basis a high level of satisfaction, generally above 80%, the target is to have a similar level satisfaction of users of methodologies, guidelines and training platforms.

The implementation of the data and systems governance frameworks will continue in the incoming years.

¹⁹ Article 37(2) of the CFP basic regulation: "The expert group on compliance shall be composed of representatives of the Commission and the Member States. At the request of the European Parliament, the Commission may invite the European Parliament to send experts to attend meetings of the expert group. The Agency may assist the expert group on compliance meetings as an observer."

The number of compliance evaluations is expected to increase up to at least one evaluation per JDP until 2024 (target carried over from previous programming documents).

Multiannual Objective nr 3 *Assist the EU in its international dimension in accordance with article 30 CFP Regulation*

Area of intervention **International Dimension**

In line with the CFP basic regulation²⁰, the remit of EFCA, the Working Arrangements on EFCA's international activities between the European Commission and EFCA (AB Decision 20-116), and **on request from the European Commission**, the Agency may assist the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, in order to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.

Key Actions:	Expected results:	Achieved 2022
Support in the fight against IUU fishing activities through implementation of international projects	Enhanced capacity to tackle IUU fishing activities	Yes
Support in the provision of training and assistance to Third Countries	High awareness and usage of E-learning platform among Third Countries	Yes
Support to the EU through the participation at RFMOs	Tasks assigned to EFCA in relation to RFMOs delivered in accordance with approved annual strategy for external dimension	Yes

(Further details can be found in Part I – Achievements of the year.)

Multiannual Key Performance Indicator

on the level of assistance on the CFP International Dimension **Baseline 100**

2022 Result **106**

It addresses the number of Third countries to which EFCA cooperates, training satisfaction and satisfaction from stakeholders on the provided technical support to the EU.

Meaning: Considering the baseline established in the Single Programming Document the target was kept at a similar level regarding the number of third countries with which EFCA cooperated. trainees and stakeholder's satisfaction. The International activities depend on a mandate given by the EU Commission.

²⁰ Article 30 of the CFP basic regulation: "The Union shall, including through the European Fisheries Control Agency ("the Agency"), cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, to strengthen compliance with measures, especially those to combat IUU fishing, in order to ensure that measures adopted by such international organisations are strictly adhered to".

Multiannual Objective nr 4 *Provide operational support to national authorities in Coast Guard functions*

Area of intervention **EU cooperation on coast guard functions**

This area provides for cooperation with other European agencies to support Member States national authorities carrying out coast guard functions. Within the framework of the **Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA)**²¹, EFCA will cooperate²² with the **European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA)** to support national authorities carrying out coast guard functions.

Key Actions:	Expected results:	Achieved 2022
Charter of OPVs and other control means	Enhanced EU MCS capacity and exchange of best practices with multinational inspection teams Multipurpose platform highly available for EU cooperation in Coast Guard functions	Yes
Cooperation with EMSA and Frontex in the EUCG initiative	Enhanced interagency operational cooperation and cost-effective use of means	Yes
Contribute to the EUMSS and joint approach to the FAO, IMO and ILO rules	Implementation of the relevant actions under the EUMSS action plan and tailored activities for FAO, IMO and ILO purposes	Yes
Maintain and update the CG handbook	Timely and updated information provided to MS and EU Agencies	Yes

(Further details can be found in Part I – Achievements of the year.)

Multiannual Key Performance

on operational support to national Coast Guard authorities **Baseline 100**

2022 Result **101**

Having as basis 250 days as an adequate annual level of activity per EFCA OPV and 90 days as an adequate annual level of activity of RPAS usage, the objective is to keep those deployments at that level. In parallel, an increase of the visibility through the usage of the Coast guard portal is expected when the portal is available.

²¹ Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA) between the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) of 18 March 2021. Commission approval: C (2021)1675 final of 17 March 2021

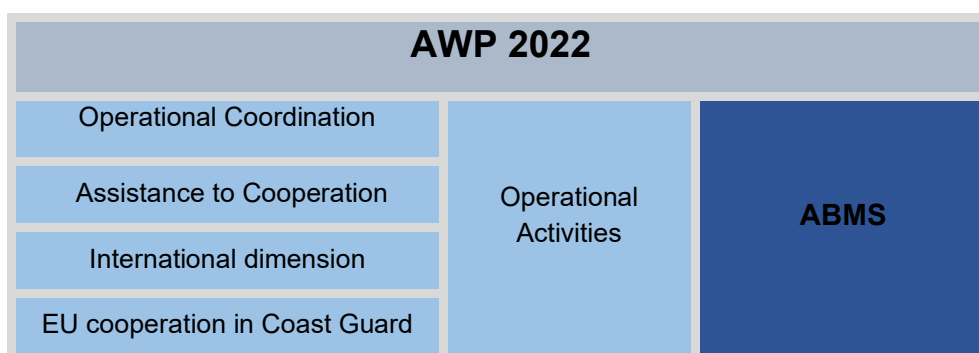
²² Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 8), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

1.2 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2022

In line with the Framework Financial Regulation and EFCA’s Financial Regulation provisions on annual and multiannual programming, the Annual Report 2022 was adopted following the Communication from the Commission on the strengthening of the governance of Union Bodies under Article 70 of the Financial Regulation 2018/1046 and on the guidelines for the Single Programming Document and the Consolidated Annual Activity Report.²³

The Annual Report 2022 mirrors the structure of the Annual Work Programme 2022, especially in the achievements of the year and embeds the requirements laid down in the Commission guidelines and template for the Consolidated Annual Activity Report.

The reporting of the operational activities has been grouped into four areas in accordance with the SPD 2022 structure.



The main year results are presented in the main body of the report, while comprehensive operational and administrative information is provided in the annexes.

²³ 25 C(2020) 2297 final

1.2.1. OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Operational activities revolve around the following areas:

- Operational Cooperation.
- Assistance to cooperation.
- International Dimension.
- EU Cooperation in Coast Guard.

1. Operational Cooperation

EFCA operational coordination activities are the corner stone of the Agency. They are constructed based on the Specific Control and Inspection Programmes Decisions by the European Commission and are implemented on an annual basis in the form of EFCA's Joint Deployment Plans (JDP), in all the EU waters and international waters of the Mediterranean and North Atlantic, for the fisheries that are considered a priority by the European Commission and Member States. Nonetheless, NAFO and NEAFC JDP are based on Regulations of the European Parliament and the Council.

WHAT ARE SCIPs?

The Specific Control and Inspection Programmes (SCIPs) are programmes that define minimum and common standards for control and risk assessment in a given sea-basin and for specific fisheries in that sea-basin. The scope, procedures and benchmarks of the SCIPs are laid down in an Implementing Decision adopted by the European Commission in the form of an Implementing Decision. For the fisheries that are covered by the SCIPs, according to the EFCA Founding Regulation, EFCA shall coordinate the joint inspection and surveillance activities by Member States concerned through a Joint Deployment Plan.

The SCIPs and JDPs for 2022 applied to the areas identified in the Annexes of the Commission Implementing Decision 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018²⁴:

1. Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic.²⁵
2. Black Sea.
3. Baltic Sea.
4. North Sea.
5. Western Waters of the Eastern Atlantic.

The Joint Deployment Plans

WHAT IS A JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLAN?

As already mentioned in Part I.1.1, the Joint Deployment Plans are established for fisheries/areas that are considered a priority by the European Commission and the concerned Member States. They can refer to:

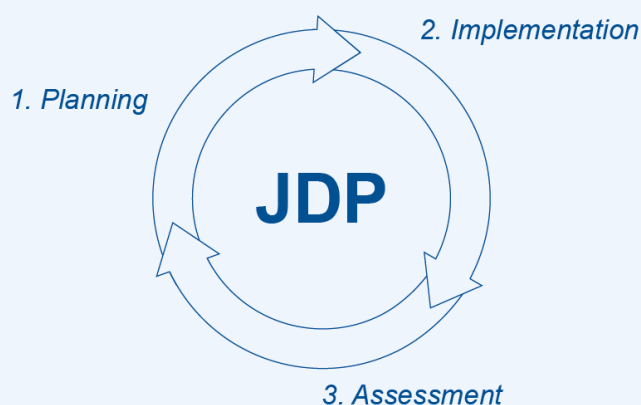
- EU and adjacent waters to which a SCIP adopted by the Commission in concert with the Member States applies, or
- International waters under the competence of a RFMO, where EFCA is requested to coordinate the implementation of the European obligations under international control and inspection programmes.

The JDPs life cycle consist of three phases: planning, implementation and assessment:

²⁴ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018 establishing specific control and inspection programmes for certain fisheries and repealing Implementing Decisions 2012/807/EU, 2013/328/EU, 2013/305/EU and 2014/156/EU (OJ L317, 14.12.2018, p.29).

²⁵ Only Bluefin tuna fisheries (BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic.

The JDP lifecycle



1. Planning

The planning of the deployment of fisheries control means at sea, in the air and ashore is based on results of a regional risk assessment conducted in accordance with the methodology developed by the Member States and EFCA. The organisational framework of the cooperation and coordination of joint control operations and the procedures for operational information to be shared are discussed and agreed by a Steering Group, composed of Member States, the European Commission and EFCA.

2. Implementation

The JDP is implemented through a year-round continuous campaign. EFCA coordinates the deployment of control means in operational areas and the implementation of joint control operations through a Technical Joint Deployment Group. The coordination covers the implementation of specific actions and specific campaigns, targeted inspections, sharing of fishing activity related data and collection of inspection and surveillance data for further analysis. The coordination may be conducted directly by Member States experts appointed to a Joint Coordination Team deployed to the EFCA Coordination Centre, either physical or virtually.

3. Assessment

The JDP is assessed and evaluated yearly by EFCA with the collaboration of the Member States, with the aim to improve future JDP planning and implementation, for an efficient monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing related activities in the sea basins covered by the JDP.

For this purpose, in order to achieve effectiveness and efficiency of operational activities, the Agency, based on the budget and cooperation structures available, has provided its operational capacity in the form of a Coordination Centre (either in a virtual mode or in person), chartered means (airborne and seaborne), access to relevant systems (e.g. EFCA IMS, FISHNET, etc.), as well as coordinated planning of the deployment of Member States control means within the scope of JDP.

Evolution of Joint Deployment Plans

In accordance with the Multiannual Work Programme, the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA (2012-2016)²⁶ and the related recommendations issued by the Administrative Board, JDPs are implemented as year-round joint operations covering a wide range of fisheries directed to the most relevant species as defined in the relevant SCIP decisions. These operations include a permanent exchange of information and intelligence between the Member States concerned.

Currently, as the SCIP is not limited in time, all JDPs have a multiannual scope. Control activities are planned for each year on the basis of the results of regional risk assessments. Member States assess the existing risks with regard to fish stocks, areas, periods and fleet segments exploiting these stocks, following the harmonised methodology established in cooperation with EFCA and Member States in accordance with the SCIP requirements. The JDP strategic planning for 2022 addressed all the prominent risks identified through a set of risk treatment measures in the form of specific actions and campaigns.

The JDP framework ensured that the Member States concerned kept collaborating closely with each other in 2022. This collaboration was accomplished thanks to the work of the Technical Joint Deployment Group (TJDG) of each JDP and the joint coordination of specific campaigns²⁷/specific actions²⁸ through a virtual coordination centre and exchanges of inspectors, although in low number compared to previous years²⁹. Other important elements are the exchange of Vessel Monitoring System and Electronic Reporting System (ERS) data, sharing of information on daily deployment of control assets (Situation Report - SITREP), results of inspection activities (Activity Report - ACTREP), lists of priority targets for inspections, and intelligence concerning current risk issues in the joint campaign areas. The exchange of data and sharing of information as well as using EFCA IMS at operational level, contributed positively to the transparency of the control operations in the JDPs areas.

As regards the graph and table “*JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution*” reported in 2022 for all JDPs, there was an overall decrease on the number of inspections (11% less inspections compared with 2021), mainly driven by a decrease on the reported land-based inspections, but still is the second record figure in number of inspections by year. All JDPs, except in NAFO, have less inspections reported in 2022. The decrease is of 5% for the Baltic Sea, of 6 % for the Black Sea, of 10% for the North Sea, of 11% for the Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic, of 21% for the Western Waters and of 56% decrease in the sea inspections in NEAFC. The observed decreases are not necessarily linked to decrease in Member States control efforts in the relevant sea-basins, and may be related to inspections that may be reported after the extraction date of this report. In spite of the overall decrease in the number of inspections for the Western Waters, North Sea and Baltic Sea, the number of sea inspections increased by 12%, 45% and 51%, respectively. The total number of detected suspected infringements increased in 2022, being the highest value of the last 6 years. Nevertheless, the value obtained in 2022 should only be compared with the years subject to the current SCIP (from 2019 onwards), so that the same sea basins and fisheries are considered. The increase in the number of suspected infringements, does not

²⁶ https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/library?f%5B0%5D=field_library_type%3A69

²⁷ ‘Specific campaign’ means a joint action where the concerned Member States and EFCA jointly focus on a specific fishery of primary common importance, planned in function of the results of the regional risk assessment. This specific campaign will be scheduled to take place in a specific period and in a specific area. Member States (MS) and EFCA will ensure efficient information flow on a daily basis and asset tasking. To facilitate a real-time coordination, the joint coordination team can be activated virtually or physically at the EFCA Coordination Centre during the operational period of these specific campaigns.” *EFCA ED Decision 2020/16 and EFCA ED Decision 2021/35*.

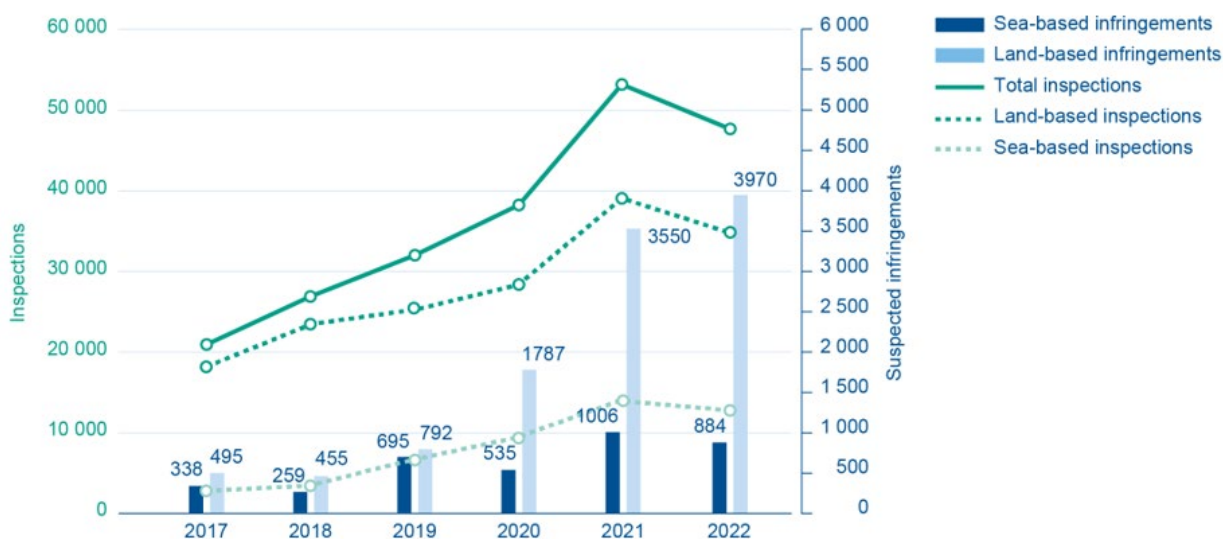
²⁸ ‘Specific action’ means a joint action where the concerned Member States and EFCA jointly focus on a specific fishery(ies) to address a specific threat of high risk as identified by the regional risk assessment. The specific action will be scheduled to take place during a specific period and in a specific area. The Member States and EFCA will ensure routine information flow and adequate asset tasking. To facilitate a real-time coordination, the joint coordination team can be activated virtually or physically at the EFCA Coordination Centre during the operational period of the specific action.

²⁹ Exchanges the Black Sea JDP could not be implemented due to the restrictions in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

necessarily reflect an increase in non-compliance and, in fact, may be due to control activities based on an improved risk assessment and targeting system. Additionally, in 2022 EFCA used a new infringement classification, based on the e-IRS code list.³⁰ This classification is more detailed and in a few cases suspected non-compliance behaviours that in the past were considered as one infringement, may in the new classification, be split in more than one suspected infringement (e.g., in the past non-transmission of VMS and AIS was considered a single infringement, while in the new classification VMS and AIS transmission are separated and, in case a given vessel is detected of not transmitting neither VMS nor AIS, it is considered as two suspected infringements).

JDPs/JDP	Inspections		Inspections with at least one suspected infringement	
	2021	2022	2021	2022
BALTIC SEA	3 886	3 710	94	97
NORTH SEA	2 271	2 043	145	129
WESTERN WATERS	4 573	3 634	253	229
NAFO / NEAFC	113	98	10	6
MEDITERRANEAN SEA	40 836	36 339	3 500	3 635
BLACK SEA	1 888	1 768	29	12
T O T A L	53 567	47 592	4 031	4 108

JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution



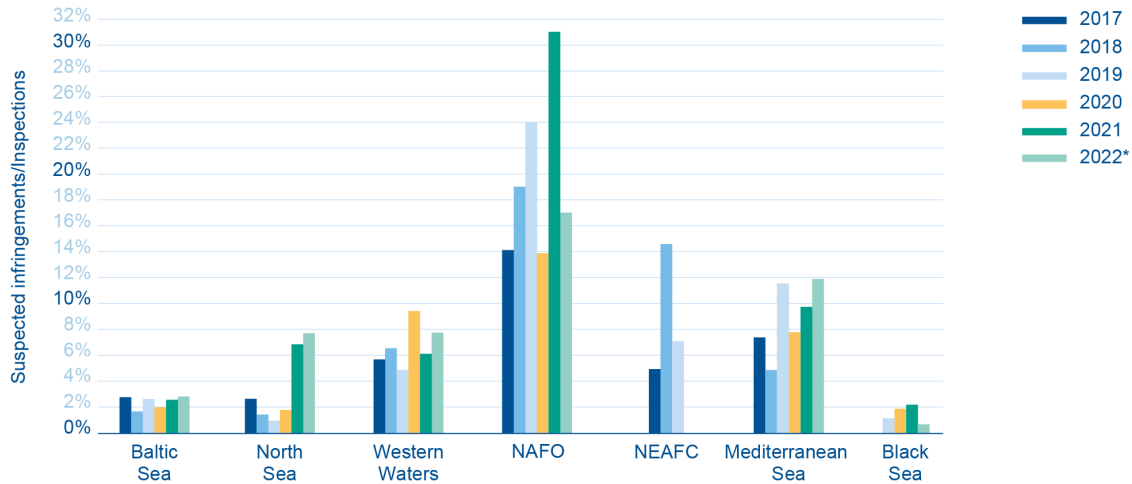
*2022 data available on 15th February 2023. Additional data may be received later from Member States. 2021 data as reported in the 2021 Annual Report.

As regards the “**Ratio of suspected infringements by inspection in the different JDP areas**”, a slight increase of suspected infringement ratio in the Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters, and

³⁰ In the context of the implementation of an automatic system for the exchange of Inspection and surveillance reports (e-ISR) through FLUX standard, a specific EU Infringement categories classification has been developed and validated through the EU ISR Working group and DG MARE ERS and Data Management Working Group. The classification can be found in the DG MARE Master Data Repository at: https://circabc.europa.eu/d/a/workspace/SpacesStore/05b6d0c1-7cb4-4826-8ce3-bd6ba2c704ae/MDR_XEU_Infringement_Type.xls

Mediterranean Sea JDPs, compared with the previous year, can be noted. The suspected infringement ratio for the NAFO and Black Sea JDP is lower compared to the suspected infringement ratio identified in 2021.

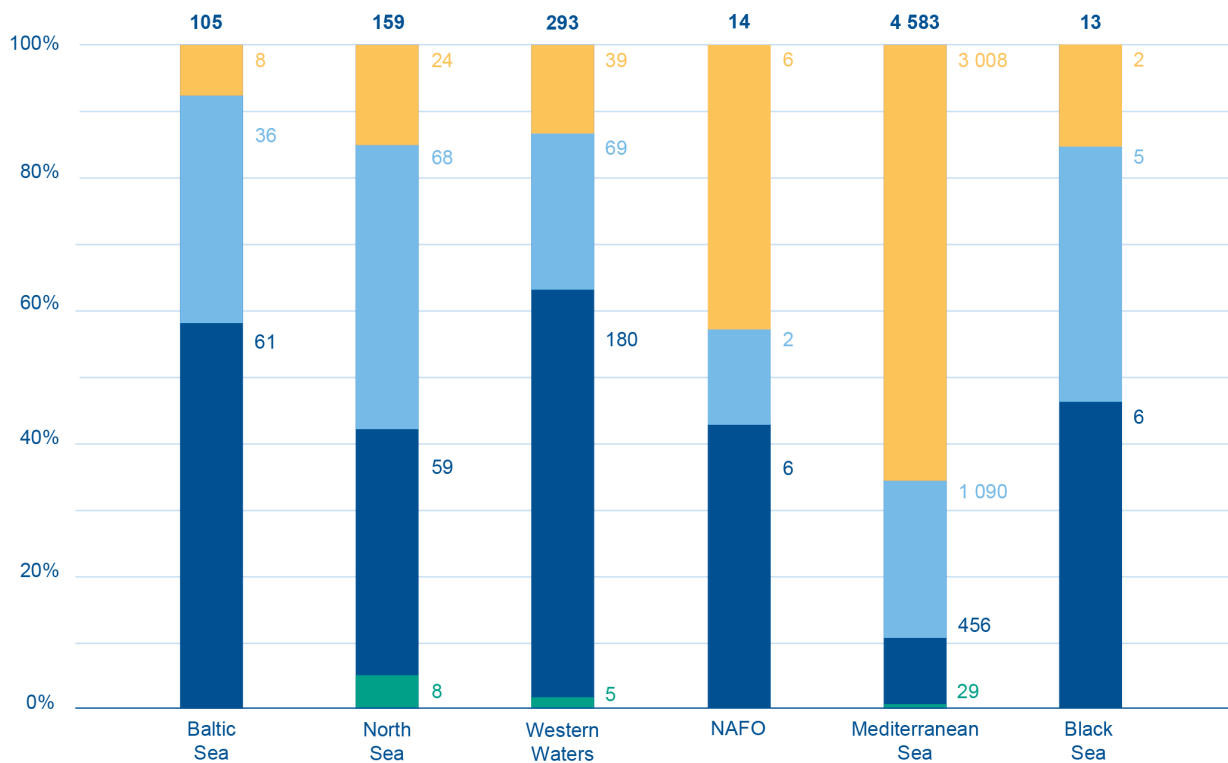
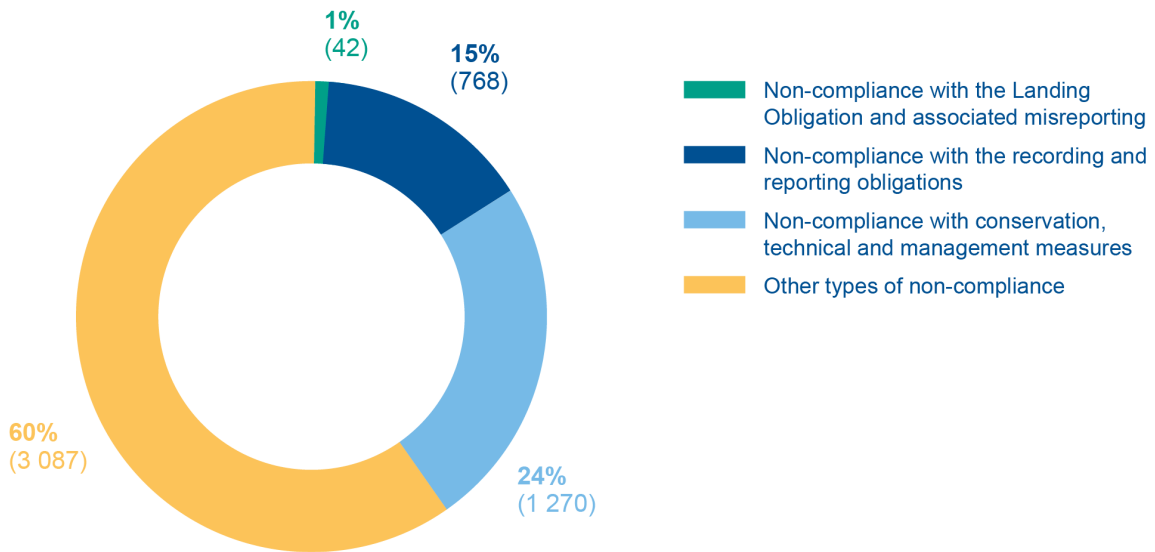
Ratio of suspected infringements by inspection in the different JDP areas*



*2022 data available on 15th February 2023. Additional data may be received later from Member States.

A detailed analysis by type of the most significant suspected infringements found in 2022, provided below, indicates that 15% of the suspected infringements were related with misreporting/misrecording and 24% were related to non-compliance with conservation measures. For all JDPs, except the Mediterranean and NAFO, these two types of infringement consist of more than 80% of the suspected infringement detected in 2022. These are generally considered to be the main threats, together with possible non-compliance with the requirements of the landing obligation for which the number of infringements remains extremely low (compared with the total). They may be because of the lack of appropriate control means and tools to detect instances of illegal discards. The category “Others” encompasses a very diverse suspected infringements type that are not related with the previous categories and are presented in detail in Tables D of each JDPs of Annex I. As previously mentioned, in 2022, EFCA used the agreed infringement classification of the e-IRS implementation document; this list is more detailed than the previously used. The suspected infringements related with misrecording were the more common detected suspected infringements in the Baltic Sea (58%), Western Waters JDPs (61%) and Black Sea (46%). For the Mediterranean Sea JDP, 10% of the suspected infringement detected are related with conservation measures, while the suspected infringements categorised as “Others” are the most common (66%). No suspected infringements were detected on fishing activities in the NEAFC RA. Details of the suspected infringement are presented in Annex I for each JDP.

Suspected infringements by type and by Joint Deployment Plan (JDP)*



*Data available on 15th February 2023. Additional data may be received later from Member States.

The last haul inspections (LH), last observed haul during a sea inspection where catch composition is recorded (sampled) by the inspector on board in the framework of the control of the implementation of the Landing Obligation, continued to be promoted and enhanced in JDPs to obtain a compliance indicator for deriving levels of illegal discards. The number of LH inspections conducted per JDP area in 2022 is presented on the map below. For all the JDPs with a Last Haul programme, except for the Baltic Sea JDP, the number of Last Hauls conducted in 2022 was higher than the previous year, which was already a higher value than the previous (2020). In 2022 the last haul programme was initiated in the Black Sea. The reduction in the number of LH in the Baltic Sea JDP results of the low fishing activity and, proportionality, low control in that sea basin.



JDP Assessment Reports

In line with its founding regulation, EFCA assesses annually the effectiveness of each JDP. The assessment reports prepared in 2022, concerning the JDPs implemented in 2021, encompassed all facts and figures of the JDPs. They include an analysis of the execution of Member States commitments of means, inspector exchanges at sea, ashore, and the number of inspections carried out and suspected infringements detected concerning the activities of the previous year. The assessment performs additional analyses, including on the following topics:

- The results of the Regional Risk Assessment exercises.
- The outcome of the Specific campaigns/Specific Actions implemented under the respective JDPs.
- Detailed information on specific fisheries control campaigns.
- Trainings and their impact.
- Inspections and infringements rate on vessels that are on the regional target vessels lists, provided by the flag Member States.
- Trends in suspected infringements.
- Exchange of data and information within the scope of JDPs and relevant for the operational activities.

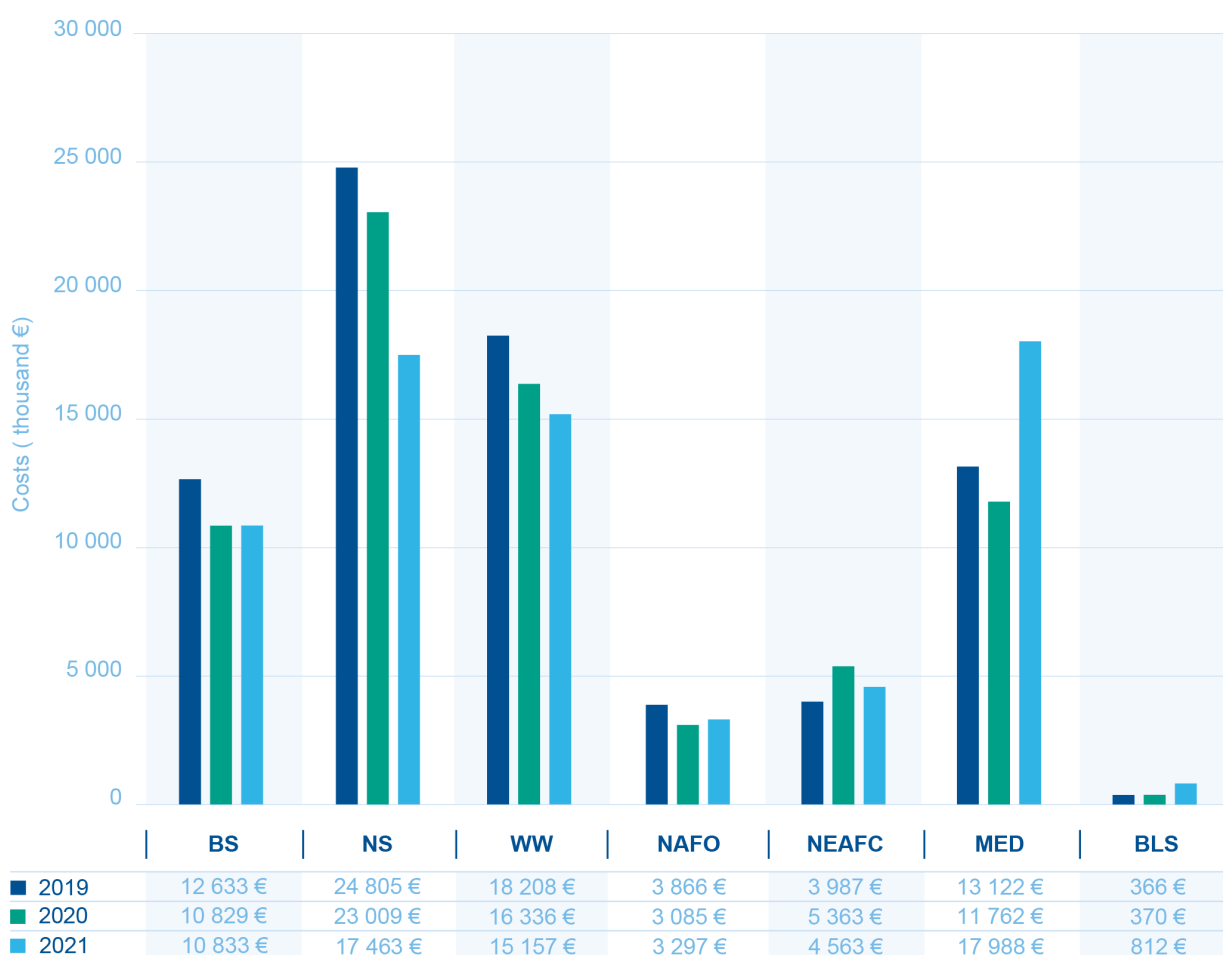
The assessment reports provide conclusions and important recommendations for developing the JDP framework further or for ensuring continuity, where activities already have a desired output and outcome. The recommendations included in the JDP assessments reports were followed up throughout the year.

The JDP assessment reports of 2021 were provided to the Commission, Member States and the European Parliament.

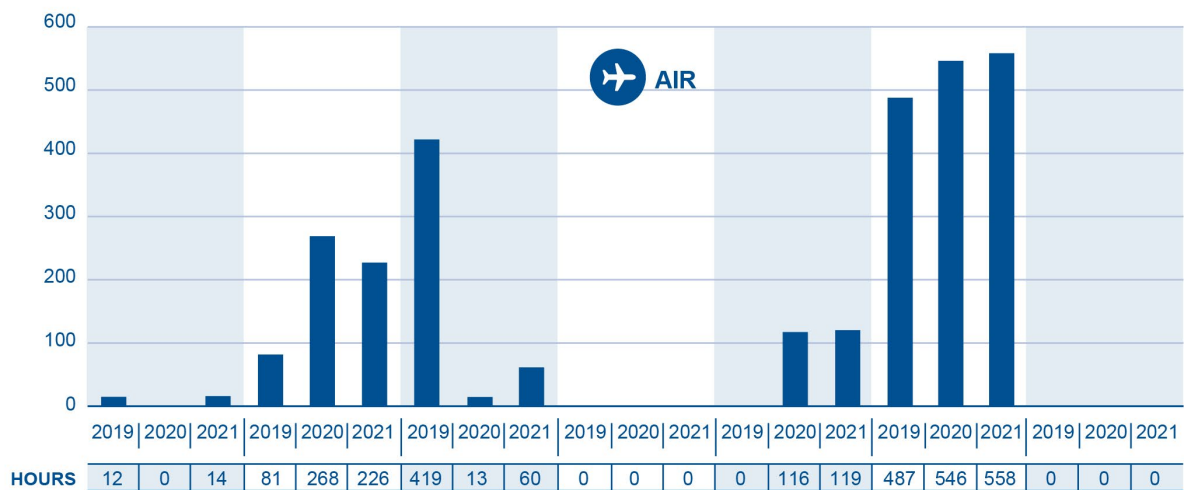
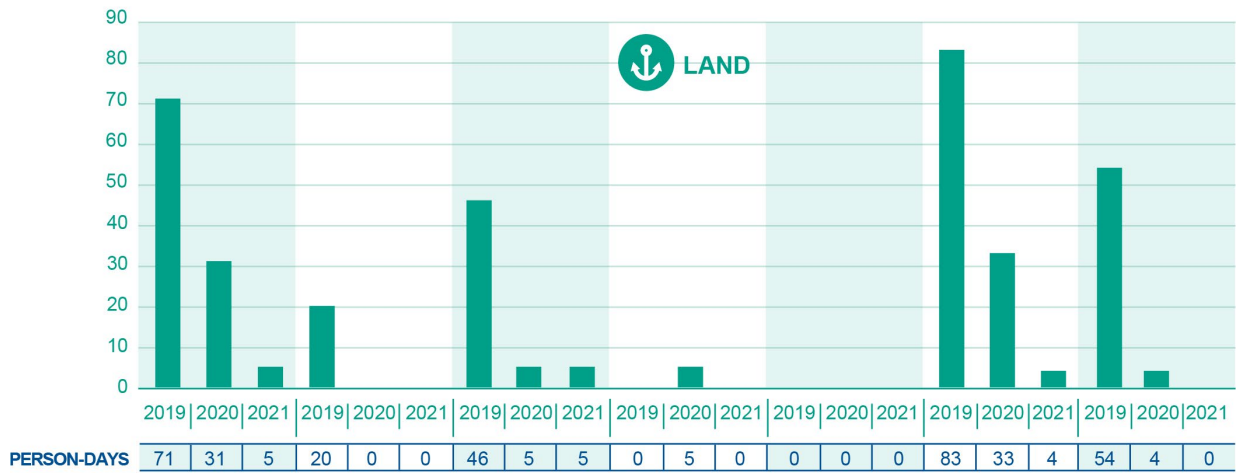
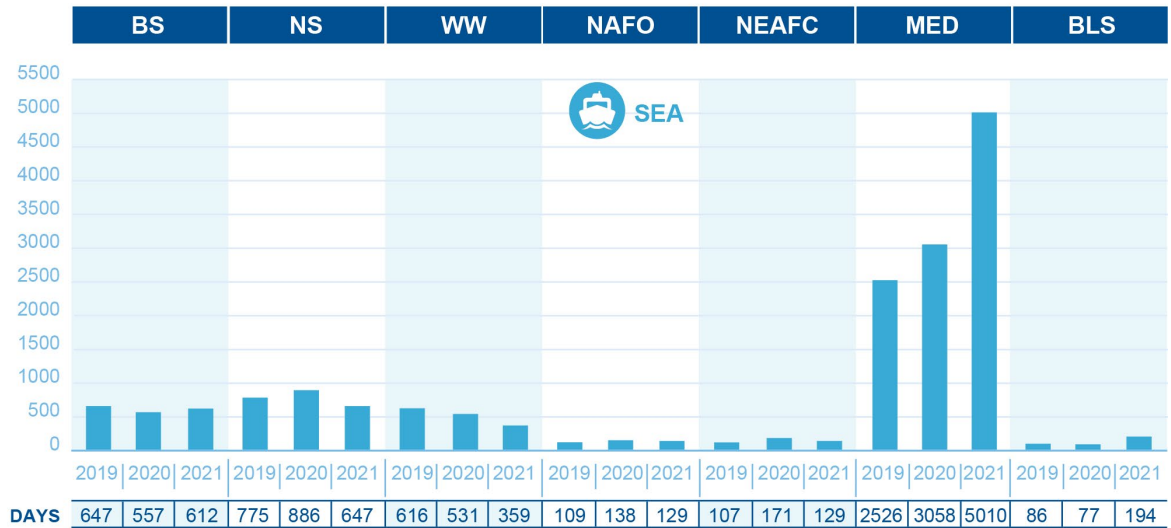
Cost Evaluation

In 2022, EFCA conducted an assessment of the costs incurred in 2021 regarding the implementation of the JDPs. The same model developed in 2013 through the Administrative Board Focus Group was used, with some modifications introduced in 2014. The cost of control activity is estimated by unit of time for each type of asset (patrol vessel, aircraft or car) considering labour of inspectors and crew, fuel consumption, maintenance, depreciation and insurance. The model uses different sources for the estimation of standard costs like salaries (Eurostat) or fuel price. When not available for the year of the estimation, an average annual increment is used. Unit costs are then multiplied by the control effort reported by Member States.

JDPs total costs during the period 2019-2021



Control effort deployed in the different JDPs for 2019, 2020, 2021



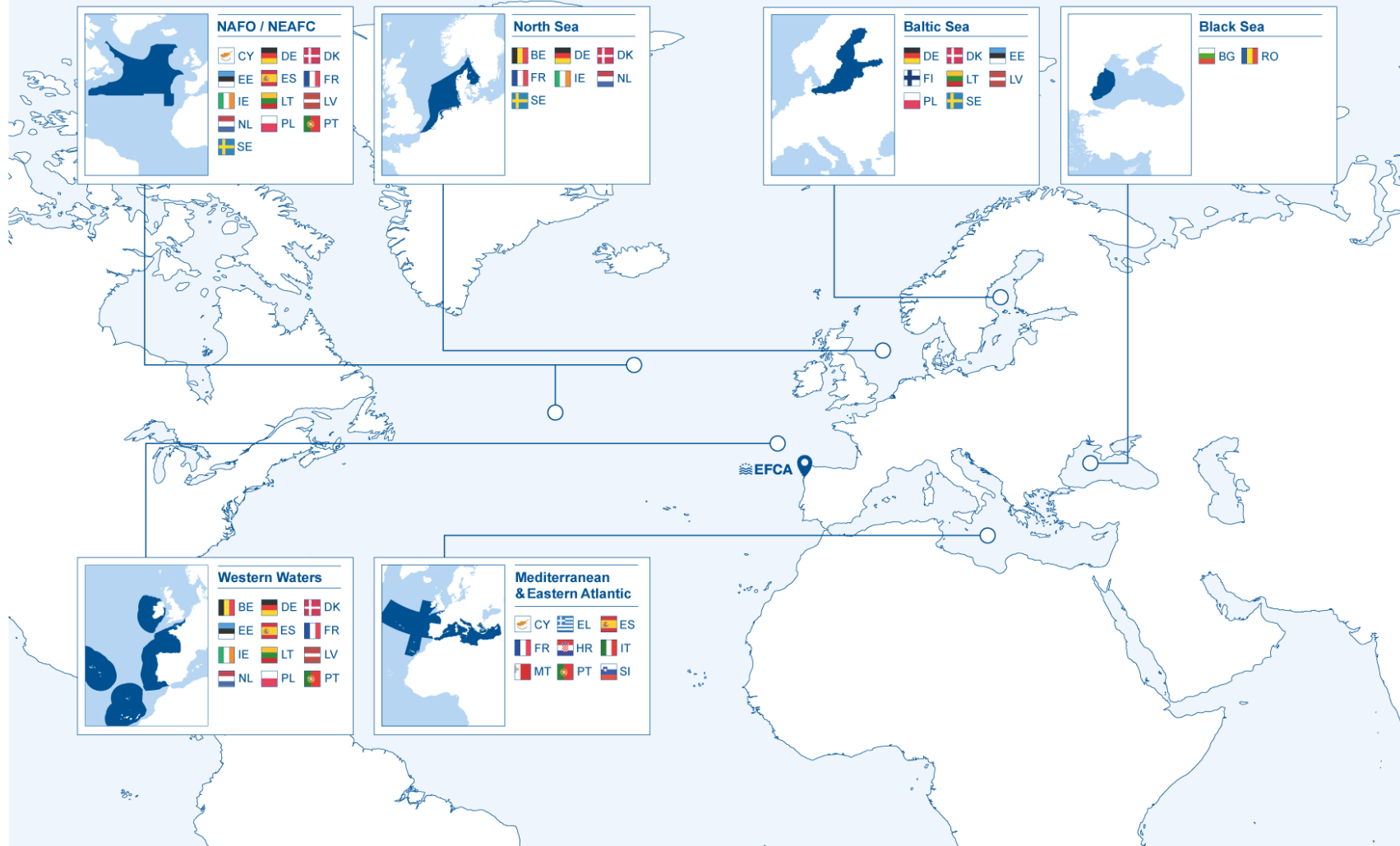
The global cost of €70.1 million in 2021, compared to the cost of the previous year, shows a decrease for the North Sea (24%), NEAFC (15%) and Western Waters (7%). The cost increased for the Black Sea (119%), Mediterranean Sea (53%) and NAFO (7%), due to an overall increase of control effort at sea. The cost of the Baltic Sea JDP in 2021 and 2020 are very similar (increase of less than 1% in the recent year).

Sea-based control effort increased in the Mediterranean, Black Sea and Baltic Sea while decreased in the rest of the JDPs when comparing 2021 with 2020. Land-based (including exchanges) control effort shows a remarkable reduction compared to 2019 and 2020 as this was the control activity mostly affected by the sanitary measures put in place by the various Member States, particularly in relation to the exchange days. This was particularly evident in the Baltic Sea, traditionally a JDP with several inspection teams exchanges, in the Mediterranean, Black Sea, North Sea and NAFO (the latter three JDPs not reporting any land controls with exchanges in 2021). In the Western Waters the number of exchanges remains the same between 2020 and 2021 but much lower from those executed in 2019. For air-based control, effort increased in the Western Waters, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean and in NEAFC while a reduction has been reported in the North Sea. The observed effort increase in some JDPs is likely due to the deployment of air-based means as the only control activity possible during the lockdown periods of 2021.

Assistance to Member States through Operational Plans

EFCA may consider the implementation of operational plans, in accordance with Article 16 of its Founding Regulation on the request of at least two Member States to coordinate their control means in a specific operation and/or area. In 2022 no such requests were made.

Implementation of JDP in EU Waters and International Waters in 2022



2. Assistance to Cooperation

EFCA has developed and applied methodologies in coordination with the Member States to improve the cost-effectiveness on JDP implementation considering it is based on an assessment of the risks of non-compliance. Additionally, EFCA assess together with Member States the need to update the guidelines on methodologies to derive indicators of compliance for specific fisheries. This includes the possibility to include in the future additional compliance indicators based on cross-checks analysis performed by Member States at vessel level.

In cooperation with the Member States concerned and on request of the Control Expert Groups EFCA conducted evaluation of compliance in the framework of the landing obligation in the mackerel fisheries in the North Sea and Northwestern Waters, and in the fisheries for demersal species in the North Sea.

Ensuring the availability and quality of fisheries related data is essential for EFCA activities as well as the maintenance and enhancement of the services facilitating access to data on fishing activities and control. Additionally, IT developments were consolidated to ensure the exchange of ERS message via FLUX in a near future and in setting up a matter data application for the fishing vessels.

EFCA initiated the activities related to the grant of the weighing of fisheries products. The first year was dedicated to the evaluation of Member States' methodologies and current practices. This will then be used to develop guidelines and best practices as a main outcome of the grant. The work conducted under this grant is done in close collaboration with the Members States and the European Commission.

Moreover, EFCA has continued the development and update of the different training material to be used by Member States, with the objective of contributing to the creation and implementation of a Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF) for the fisheries control and inspection³¹. In that regard, the EFCA e-learning platform³² has helped contribute to a level playing field and a harmonised methodology of inspections.

The training courses delivered by EFCA cover, in line with its mandate, control aspects of the CFP and the relevant international instruments. Subject to budget availability, the training is mainly addressed to the following audience:

- Training the trainers (EU Member States and third countries officials);
- JDPs inspectors: exchange of experiences;
- training related to IUU fishing: basic and advance (EU and third countries officials).

In the context of the European coast guard functions joint training courses are organised with other EU agencies. In addition, on request of the EU Member States, EFCA participates in national trainings in support of Member States.

3. International dimension

The Agency may assist the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs in order to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.

The Working Arrangements between DG MARE and EFCA aim to organise cooperation whilst ensuring that the Agency operates within the mandate given by the legislator. In this respect, a "Multiannual International relations strategy" is prepared jointly by the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (DG MARE) and EFCA, and embedded in the Agency SPD.

During this period, EFCA's activities have covered the following tasks:

³¹ Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 2), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

³² Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 2), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

- Provided support to the Commission as regards the activities of the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations, such as NAFO³³, NEAFC³⁴, ICCAT³⁵ and GFCM,³⁶ and cooperation with UK under the Trade and Cooperation Agreement.
- Organised seminars on operational coordination and/or capacity building involving RFMOs, and third countries.
- Promoted exchanges with third country inspectors, namely with UK and Norway and vice-versa, *i.e.*, participation of EFCA staff on patrol organised by third countries, and in the scope of the GFCM with other CPCs, such as Tunisia, Albania and Montenegro, inviting inspectors to the EFCA OPV.
- Provided assistance, *inter alia*, to:
 - Coastal States in the North Atlantic,
 - European Union in their collaboration with ICCAT and GFCM Contracting Parties and Cooperating non-Contracting Parties.
- Assisted the Commission and the Member States in the implementation of the Regulation (EC) 1005/2008 to fight against the IUU fishing³⁷, *e.g.* providing support in the assessment of third countries performance in the implementation measures to fight IUU fishing, including catch certificates analysis, and assisting the Member States to facilitate the enhancement of the implementation of the fight against IUU in the scope of article 30 of the CFP regulation.
- Contributed to the implementation of EU international projects in the fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance domain, including providing support to prevent and respond to IUU fishing, such as the PESCAO Project (Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa) and the e-FishMed Project³⁸.

4. EU cooperation on coast guard functions

This strategic area provides for cooperation on coast guard functions with other European agencies to support Member States national authorities carrying out coast guard functions. Within the framework of the Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA)³⁹, EFCA cooperates⁴⁰ with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) to support national authorities at EU level and, where appropriate, at international level by

- Sharing information.
- Provision of surveillance and communication services.
- Supporting capacity building actions, including the drafting and management of a Coast Guard Handbook.
- Enhancing the exchange of information and cooperation on coast guard functions including by analysing operational challenges and emerging risks in the maritime domain.
- Sharing capacity including inspections and chartered assets by planning and implementation of multipurpose operations including drills with Member States and/or EU agencies.

³³ North Atlantic Fisheries Organization, <http://www.nafo.int>

³⁴ North-Easter Atlantic Fisheries Commission, <https://www.neafc.org>

³⁵ International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna, <https://www.iccat.int/en/>

³⁶ General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, <http://www.fao.org/gfcm/en/>

³⁷ Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008 of 29 September 2008 establishing a Community system to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, amending Regulations (EEC) No 2847/93, (EC) No 1936/2001 and (EC) No 601/2004 and repealing Regulations (EC) No 1093/94 and (EC) No 1447/1999. Regulation as last amended by Regulation (EU) No 202/2011 (OJ L 57, 2.3.2011, p. 10)

³⁸ Grant agreement signed on 16 March 2018.

³⁹ Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA) between the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex), the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) revised on 18 March 2021.

⁴⁰ Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 8), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

- Supporting the Union and/or Member States, where possible in cooperation with other EU agencies, implementing specific projects falling under the coast guard functions in third countries.

The implementation of these actions is based on the Annual Strategic Plan agreed between the three agencies, (EMSA, Frontex and EFCA) under the TWA. It included cooperation actions between agencies in support to Member States authorities, comprising the organisation of seminars and workshops. EFCA also involves Member State authorities and promotes the implementation of multipurpose operations in the areas where a JDP is implemented (e.g., Black Sea MMO).

EFCA, thanks to the existing interinstitutional framework contract for air surveillance with Frontex, managed to charter air surveillance services, that this year have been deployed under the WW JDP and coordinated in cooperation with the MS concerned.

EFCA continued to provide support to the Commission and in cooperation with Frontex and EMSA led the activities of the dedicated Project, involving Member States national authorities, as regards the update and development of the Practical Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions.

The cooperation supports the implementation of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy⁴¹ (EUMSS), where the three agencies are contributing to the implementation of the European Coast guard initiative as well as some specific activities to the EU blue economy report.⁴²

The inter-agency cooperation continued to provide synergies between maritime policy, maritime spatial planning, maritime security and fisheries control as well as contributed to the EU Green Deal initiative and the sustainable blue economy.

EFCA promotes cooperation with other EU agencies, such as EU SATCEN, EUSPA, ESA, EDA and EUROPOL, in areas and projects related with fisheries control. To this end, EFCA has been assessing the added value of innovative vessel detection and earth observation (EO) technologies in support of maritime surveillance and fisheries control activities. To this end, a MoU has been signed with the EUSPA in order to further enhance EFCA's access to innovative technologies which could be used for fisheries control by MS.

In line with its Founding Regulation, EFCA continued to enhance its work on surveillance technologies for control and inspection and chartered the equipment (capacities) that is necessary for the implementation of the joint deployment plans. Three OPVs have been chartered in 2022, providing a stable capacity to support Member States in the framework of the JDPs for the next years. New technologies could offer a sustainable operational solution for improving MCS measures and their efficiency. The technologies encompass satellite and aerial monitoring including through RPAS.

Following the mandate from the EU institutions to strengthen EFCA's operational capacity for assisting the Member States and the European Commission in the monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries, as required by the Common Fisheries Policy, EFCA has launched and finalised an important procurement and reinforced its fleet with three new offshore patrol vessels, following the award of a public call for tender in 2022.

Also, based on a bilateral SLA, EFCA continued to benefit from EMSA Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) services on board EFCA chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel as well as OPV Aegis, which contributed not only to the monitoring, control and surveillance, but also to ensure higher level of safety and security during the mission.

1.2.1.1 OPERATIONAL COORDINATION (OBJECTIVE 1)

OBJECTIVE 1

Enhanced coordination of fisheries monitoring control and surveillance

⁴¹ Council conclusions on the revision of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) Action Plan (26 June 2018), doc.10494/18.

⁴² The EU blue economy report 2021 - Publications Office of the EU (europa.eu)

EXPECTED RESULTS							
1. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the North Sea, Baltic Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean, Black Sea and NAFO / NEAFC areas 2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States							
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TARGET 2022	ACHIEVED 2022					
By JDP:		NS	BS	WW	MED	BIS	NAFO-NEAFC
1. Percentage of control and inspection means deployed in accordance with the JDP schedule (% of total planned)	90%	90%	100%	95%	100%	96%	79%
2. Exchange ratio of ERS /VMS (% of ERS in relation to VMS of fishing activity)	80%	89%	65%	91%	37%	0%	84%
3. % of (sea) inspections on the two highest risk fleet segments	>60%	68%	58%	78%	95%	61%	N.A.
4. Workshops attendees satisfaction rate	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good >80%)	82%	79%	84%	100%	100%	98%
MAIN OUTPUTS							
Planned				Achieved			
1	Strategic risk assessment at fisheries level (gear, area and species) in the North Sea, Baltic Sea, Western Waters and NAFO / NEAFC, Mediterranean and Black Sea						Yes
2	Implementation of JDP decisions and deployment of means in accordance with plan						Yes
3	Operation of EFCA chartered capacities						Yes
4	Create and update a pool of Union Inspectors						Yes
5	Effective exchange of target vessels between Member States at the tactical level of coordination						Yes
6	Assessment reports of the regional control operations (JDP and operational plans), including the definition of major risks for the control activities						Yes
7	Evaluation of compliance by region						Partially
8	Workshops for Member States Union inspectors at a regional level						Yes

9	Implementation of standard inspection procedures	Yes
10	Implementation of operational plans (as required)	N.A.

The target value of the indicator “Percentage of control and inspection means deployed in accordance with the JDP schedule (% of total planned)” was not achieved for the NAFO and NEAFC JDP due to the low number of executed deployment of means, both in NAFO and NEAFC. This reduction was due to technical issues of the Member States’ means available.

The target value of the indicator “Exchange ratio of ERS/VMS (% of ERS in relation to VMS of fishing activity)”, was not achieved for the Baltic Sea, Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea JDPs. This is essentially caused by the number of Member States only exchanging ERS messages via FLUX, while EFCA can only receive via ERS 3.1. In the case of the Baltic Sea, 2 (FI and LV) out of 8 Member States concerned of the BS JDP are only exchanging ERS via FLUX and LT changed to FLUX during 2022. All the other Baltic Sea Members States have an exchange ratio of ERS/VMS messages above or very close to 80%. The cases of exchange issues were due to technical issues either at EFCA or at the Member States. In the Mediterranean JDP, for 5 out of 9 Member States concerned, EFCA was not able to receive their ERS data. These Member States (CY, GR, HR, MT and SI) account for 36% of the total VMS positions sent in 2022. Two Mediterranean Sea Member States (ES and FR) have an exchange ratio ERS/VMS above 80%. While MS BG and RO as well as EFCA due to technical issues are not yet ready to provide/receive the aforementioned data. In 2022 EFCA concluded the development of the application to exchange (via FLUX) and visualise logbook messages. The application is planned to enter in production in 2023 and will likely resolve the issue of FLUX data exchange with MS.

The implementation of JDPs follows a risk-based approach. For the North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean and Black Sea JDPs, the percentage of sea inspections conducted in 2022 on the fleet segments of higher risk levels was higher than 60% in accordance with established KPI. Likewise, the Baltic Sea JDP was very close to reach the KPI target and by the end of 2022, it reached 58%. In this case, the value is a consequence of the current low fishing activity and resulting lower inspection opportunities in the Baltic Sea in 2022 due to the poor status of the cod and salmon stocks and management measures taken to protect and rebuild those stocks.

The satisfaction rate of the attendees of the Baltic Sea JDP training was below, but very close to the 80% target. This event was conducted as a webinar and the evaluation was based on less than 60% of the workshop attendees (19 out of 33 attendees). The Baltic Sea training was focused on relevant regulations in place, including the LO and the use of acoustic deterrent devices (ADD) in certain fisheries, the inspections of pelagic vessels, and salmon fisheries, and as well, important monitoring, control and surveillance elements for the upcoming 2023 JDP implementation.

The compliance evaluations were conducted for the Baltic Sea (LO and unsorted landings of herring and sprat, North Sea and Western Waters (both LO)).

1. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the North Sea, Baltic Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean, Black Sea and NAFO / NEAFC areas

In 2022, EFCA continued coordinating six JDPs (Baltic Sea, Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea, North East Atlantic RFMOs (NAFO/NEAFC), North Sea and Western Waters). The JDPs were implemented through joint campaigns in accordance with the plan adopted by the respective Steering Groups (SG). EFCA organised several meetings for each SG and joint SG meetings, to address respectively regional or common aspects of several regions. The SG had a more detailed discussions on the JDP assessment at the meetings in the second quarter, and discussions on JDP planning for the following year took place at the meetings of September/October. The meetings were conducted as outlined below.

The main horizontal aspects discussed at the Steering Group level were related with the EFCA chartered means deployment taking into account the increased of EFCA’s asset capacity and the need involvement of Member State EU inspectors in particular on patrols conducted in EU waters. The additional funds allocated to EFCA were dedicated to provide adequate means for the fishing control activities at sea by EFCA, as regards the fulfilment with the international obligations of the EU *vis-à-vis*

third countries which were translated, among other measures, in a deployment of two OPVs during 2022. To address this increase, EFCA continued to use a pool of Member States Union inspectors that would be deployed at EFCA OPVs as well as SNE's allocated to EFCA for this specific task by MS. Later proved to be an optimal option in order to benefit from MS expertise and fulfil EFCA's obligation in relation to the deployment of fisheries control platforms.

Another horizontal topic of the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters Steering Groups meetings concerned the endorsement of the EFCA Guidelines for inspectors on the use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADD) (see further details in section *Standardisation of inspection methodologies and procedures* below), the follow up of the implementation of common recommendations of previous year's JDP assessment reports and to agree on FPV reporting under the JDP statistics.

EFCA also organised an extraordinary Western Waters Steering Group meeting on two occasions. The first was dedicated to discussing compliance with the landing obligation by the large tank vessels targeting small pelagic species, particularly freezer trawlers. This was triggered by new indications having manifested of practices of releasing fish back into sea directly from the net after it has already been caught. The meeting discussed possibilities for enhanced control measures and data sharing. The second meeting was a joint SG/TJDG meeting dedicated to discuss the implementation of new rules in fisheries for deep-sea species regarding vulnerable marine ecosystems (VME). A new regulation which entered into force in October identified a range of areas where VMEs were known to occur or were likely to occur, which would affect the fisheries in the Western Waters. EFCA introduced all areas in the EFCA IMS system and set alarms automatically forwarded to MS inspection authorities in accordance with their needs.

Since the Med JDP provides a critical contribution in the implementation of the international obligations for the EU, particularly in the framework of the ICCAT and GFCM RFMOs, EFCA organised specific technical meetings with the Med SG and MS experts to discuss a common understanding of existing control rules focusing on the following operations and procedures: transfers notification/authorisation; control transfers and at-sea investigations; and farming control procedures as laid down in Annex V of the Med JDP.

EFCA Steering Group meetings			
Meeting	Dates	Venue	JDP
Assessment of 2021 and planning 2022 JPD activities	26 January	Online	NAFO/NEAFC
Assessment of the 2021 JDP and planning of the 2022 JDP	18 January	Online	Black Sea
Extraordinary meeting on monitoring and control of fleet segment of freezer trawlers (midwater trawl and midwater pair trawl, PEL01), with a specific focus on the landing obligation	17 February	Online	Western Waters
Assessment of the 2021 JDP and planning of the 2022 JPD and SG activities, follow up on ICCAT/GFCM new recommendations and their implications for the JDP	2 February	Online	Mediterranean
Joint BS-NS-WW SG meeting to address horizontal aspects, specifically with regard to the EFCA chartered flights, the state of play with follow-up of the 2020 JDP Assessment Reports recommendations and ADD Guidelines, and EU-UK Virtual Coordination Network update	29 April	Online	Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters
2022 JDP state of play and 2021 JDP assessment reports	18 May 19 May 24 May 25 May 22 June	Online	NAFO/NEAFC Western waters North Sea Baltic Sea Black Sea
2022 JDP state of play, 2021	30 May	Online	Mediterranean

JDP assessment report, provisions on Mediterranean Albacore fishery			
Reflections on bluefin tuna control procedures, provisions on Mediterranean Albacore fishery	13 June	Hybrid (Brussels)	Mediterranean
2022 JDP state of play and 2023 JDP planning	6 September	Vigo	Baltic Sea
	6-7 September	Vigo	North Sea
	7-8 September	Vigo	Western waters
	8 September	Vigo	NAFO/NEAFC
	6 October	Hybrid (Madrid)	Mediterranean
Technical meetings on bluefin tuna control procedures	11 October	Online	Black Sea
	17 February	Online	
	30 March	Online	Mediterranean
	29 April 18 May	Online Online	
Joint SG/TJDG meeting on the implementation of MCS measures in relation to deep-sea fishing areas and VMEs under the WW JDP	21 October	Online	Western Waters
Joint SG meeting to address horizontal aspects, such as 2023 planning of EFCA chartered means, upcoming workshop on post landings activities in the JDPs and to present the outcomes of the EFCA Annual Risk Management meeting	9 December	Online	All JDPs
Joint BS-NS-WW SG meeting to address horizontal aspects, such as the implementation plan of the 2021 JDP Assessment Reports recommendations, and FPV reporting under JDPs	9 December	Online	Joint Western waters, North Sea and Baltic Sea

Regional Risk Assessment

EFCA risk-based management approach of control and monitoring activities is used regionally at three levels during the life cycle of JDPs:

- Strategic planning of JDPs: to identify specific objectives for the yearly JDPs campaigns and to guide the deployment of control means.
- Risk assessment: to identify priority fisheries / fleet segments where high risk of non-compliance with the current fisheries legislation is estimated. The main threats considered are non-compliance with the landing obligation, non-compliance with recording and reporting obligations, use of illegal gear, non-compliance with technical measures and fishing operations in closed areas/seasons.
- Operational level: to facilitate the exchange of best-practice and targets between different Member States at a short-term tactical level.

Following the same methodology as in previous years and as agreed in the guidelines developed with EFCA in collaboration with Member States⁴³, in 2022 Regional Risk Assessments were conducted at fleet segment level for several JDP areas (Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and fisheries activities of EU vessels and, for the first time, Other Contracting Parties' vessels, in the NAFO Regulatory Area). Dedicated regional workshops with participation of risk assessment Member States experts, as listed below, were organised.

EFCA also organised a NEAFC Preparatory Regional Risk Assessment workshop together with experts from Member States and the COM to present and discuss the results of the analysis performed by EFCA on the available data and to continue advancing towards a formal strategic RRA to be performed in 2023 to support and prioritize control and monitoring activities in the context of the NEAFC JDP.

⁴³ Guidelines on Risk Assessment Methodology on Fisheries Compliance.
<https://www.efca.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Risk%20Assessment%20Methodology.pdf>

In 2022, the non-compliance threats related with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) between EU and UK were assessed in the regional workshops of the North Sea and Western Waters, although the data available to conduct the assessment of these threats were limited regarding the level of catches of UK vessels in EU waters. Non-compliance with the same main threats identified for the EU fleet was qualitatively assessed for UK fleet and mitigation measures were put forward as recommendations to the JDP Decisions. The previously identified threats resulting of possible shifts of fishing effort by the EU fleet, changes in the magnitude and location of landings in EU ports due to the TCA, were identified as still applicable.

Regional Risk Assessment meetings		
Meeting	Venue	Dates
NAFO	Online	27-28 April
North Sea - demersal	Online	1-2 June
Baltic Sea	Online	8-9 June
Western Waters and North Sea - pelagics	Online	21-23 June
North Western Waters - demersal	Online	28-29 June
South Western Waters - demersal	Online	5-7 July
Mediterranean Sea	Vigo	6-8 September
Black Sea	Vigo	14 September
NEAFC preparatory regional risk assessment	Online	13-14 December

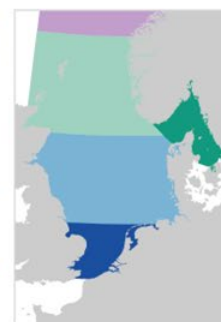
The two main outcomes of the regional meetings were: a) identification of those fleet segments with the estimated highest risk of non-compliance with the current regulations, and b) a recommended set of possible risk treatment measures to address each of the main threats identified for the fleet segments with the highest risk levels. On this basis, a series of specific actions/ specific campaigns, addressing main threats in the most relevant fleet segments and implementing some of the risk treatment measures, were agreed for the 2023 JDPs.

In the following tables, the two highest levels of risk of non-compliance identified for each priority threat for the different regions and fisheries are presented (a more detailed overview on the risk results by priority threat is available in Annex I). For the pelagic fisheries in the Western Waters and North Sea the highest risk results are presented disaggregated by species, in line with the procedure of assessing the risk of these fisheries.

North Sea - Pelagic fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Blue whiting

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer trawlers - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	2.a	■	■	■
	4	■	■	■
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	3.a	■	■	■



Mackerel

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO
Freezer trawlers - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	2.a	■
	4	■
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	2.a	■
	4	■

Herring

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer trawlers - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	2.a	■	■	■
	4	■	■	■
RSW tank vessels and polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	2.a	■	■	■
	3.a	■	■	■
	4	■	■	■

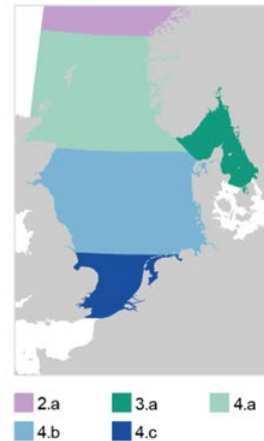
Industrial fisheries exploiting sandeel, sprat and Norway pout

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Industrial trawls 16-31 mm	3.a	■	■	■
	4	■	■	■
Industrial trawls < 16 mm	3.a	■	■	■
	4	■	■	■

Level of risk: ■ Medium ■ High

North Sea - Demersal fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

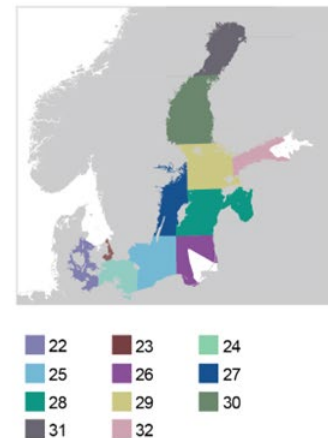
Gear – Mesh size – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-reporting	Use of illegal gear
Otter trawl / Seine ≥ 120 mm	4.a	Saithe, Hake	High	High	
Otter trawl / Seine ≥ 80 and < 100 mm	4.b	Plaice, Norway lobster	Very High		
Otter trawl / Seine ≥ 120 mm	3.a	Plaice, Haddock, Hake, Cod	Very High	High	
Otter trawl / Seine ≥ 90 and < 120 mm	3.a	Norway lobster, Plaice	Very High	High	High
Otter trawl / Seine ≥ 35 and < 70 mm	3.a	Northern prawn	Very High		
Beam trawl ≥ 80 and < 120 mm	4.b	Sole	High		High
	4.c		Very High	Very High	Very High



Level of risk: High Very High

Baltic Sea - Fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Gear – Mesh size – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-reporting	Use of illegal gear	Fishing closed season	Illegal selling	Unlicensed & use of illegal gear
Otter trawl ≥ 105 mm	22-24	Demersal species	High					
	25-27	Demersal species	Very High					
Otter and pair trawls ≥ 32 and < 90 mm	22-27	Herring		High				
Otter and pair trawls ≥ 16 and < 32 mm	22-27	Sprat		High				
Otter and pair trawls ≥ 16 and < 105 mm	28-32	Herring		Very High				
Gillnet ≥ 157 mm	22-32	Salmon		High				
Fixed gear	22-32	Salmon		High	High			
Gillnet (≥ 110 mm) and longline	22-24	Demersal species			High	High		
Recreational fishery	22-24	Demersal species					High	
Eel fishery	22-32	Eel		High				Very High



Level of risk: High Very High

Western Waters - Pelagic fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Anchovy

Gear	Area	Misreporting
Polyvalents -Purse seine	9	■

Herring

Gear	Area	Misreporting
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents -Mid water and mid water pair trawls	6	■
	7, except 7.d	■



Horse mackerel

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Illegal gear
Freezer trawlers -Mid water trawls and mid water pair trawls	7.d	■	■	■
	7, except 7.d	■	■	■
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents -Mid water and mid water pair trawls	6	■	■	
	7, except 7.d	■	■	
Polyvalents -Purse seine	8		■	
	CECAF	■	■	■

Blue whiting

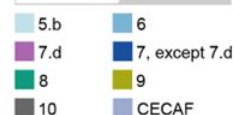
Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Illegal gear
Freezer trawlers - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	5.b	■	■	■
	6	■	■	■
	7, except 7.d	■	■	■
	8	■	■	■
RSW tank vessels and polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawls	6	■	■	■
	7, except 7.d	■	■	■

Level of risk: ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western Waters - Pelagic fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Mackerel

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Illegal gear
Freezer trawlers -Mid water and mid water pair trawls	6	■		
	7, except 7.d	■		
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents -Mid water and mid water pair trawls	6	■		
	7.d	■		
	7, except 7.d	■		
Polyvalents -Bottom and bottom pair trawls	7.d	■	■	
	7, except 7.d	■		
Polyvalents -Purse seine	8		■	
	CECAF	■	■	■
Polyvalents -Line	8		■	



Sardine

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Illegal gear
RSW tank vessels and polyvalents -Mid water and mid water pair trawls	8	■		■
Polyvalents -Purse seine	8	■		■
	9	■		
	CECAF	■		

Albacore

Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Illegal gear
Midwater trawl targeting albacore	7	■	■	■
	8	■	■	■
Bait boat, pelagic trolling and pole and line targeting albacore	7		■	
	8		■	
	9		■	
	10		■	
	CECAF		■	

Level of risk: ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

North Western Waters - Demersal fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Gear – Mesh size – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-reporting	Use of illegal gear	Fishing without quota
Trawl ≥ 120 mm	6	Anglerfish, Cod, Haddock, Hake, Saithe, Whiting	■	■		
	7.a		■	■		
	7, except 7.a,d		■	■		
Trawl < 120 mm	6	Anglerfish, Haddock, Hake, Norway lobster, Plaice, Sole, Whiting	■	■		
	7.a		■	■		
	7.d		■	■		
	7, except 7.a,d		■	■	■	■
Beam trawl < 120 mm	7.a	Plaice, Sole	■	■	■	
	7.d		■	■	■	
	7, except 7.a,d		■	■	■	
Seine	7, except 7.a,d	Hake, Haddock, Whiting	■	■		
Gillnet	7, except 7.a,d	Anglerfish, Hake, Saithe		■	■	
Trammel net	7.d	Sole, Plaice	■			
	7, except 7.a,d		■			
Eel fishery	6, 7	Eel		■		



5.b 6 7.a
7.d 7, except 7.a,d

Level of risk: ■ High ■ Very High

South Western Waters - Demersal fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

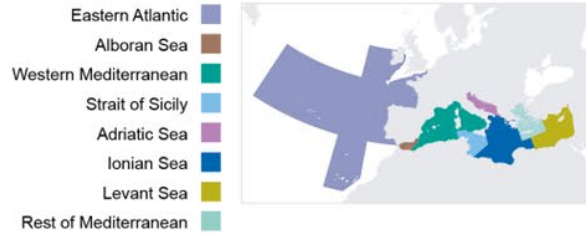
Gear – Mesh size – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-reporting	Use of illegal gear
Bottom trawl ≥ 70 and < 100 mm	8, except 8c	Anglerfish, Hake, Norway lobster, Sole	■		
	8.c		■		
Bottom trawl targeting mixed pelagic / demersal ≥ 55 and < 70 mm	8, except 8c	Hake, Norway lobster, Blue whiting, Mackerel	■	■	
	8.c		■	■	
	9		■	■	■
Gill and trammel net ≥ 100 and < 169 mm	9	Anglerfish, Hake		■	
Eel fishery	All	Eel		■	



10 CECAF 9
8c 8, except 8c

Level of risk: ■ High ■ Very High

Eastern Atlantic* and Mediterranean Sea
fisheries with the highest risk
of non-compliance




Gear	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Misreporting	Non-compliance with quota, bycatch and effort limit	Non-compliance with temporal/spatial closures	Non-compliance with general technical and management rules
Trawl	Strait of Sicily	Deep-water rose shrimp, Hake, Blue and Red Shrimp	■	■		■	■
	Ionian Sea	Deep-water rose shrimp, Hake, Blue and Red Shrimp	■	■			■
	Aegean Sea	Deep-water rose shrimp, Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i>	■				
	Western Mediterranean	Deep-water rose shrimp, Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i>	■	■	■	■	■
	Adriatic Sea	Deep-water rose shrimp, Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i> , Norway lobster, Sole	■	■		■	■
	Levant Sea	Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i>	■				■
Purse seine	Mediterranean without Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	■	■			
	Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	■	■	■		
Purse seine (catching vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		■			
Purse seine (farms)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		■			
Purse seine (auxiliary vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		■			
Purse seine (towing vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		■			
Longline	Alboran Sea	Red seabream, Hake		■	■		■
Longline, hand-line	Mediterranean Sea	Albacore, Bluefin tuna, Swordfish	■	■	■	■	■
Trammelnet, gillnet	Western Mediterranean Sea	Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i> , Seabreams		■			
	Adriatic Sea	Pandora, Seabreams, Sole		■			
	Strait of Sicily and Ionian Sea	Hake, <i>Mullus spp.</i> , Seabreams		■			
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	Albacore, Bluefin tuna, Swordfish		■	■	■	■
Lampara	Mediterranean Sea	Dolphinfish					■
Diving	Mediterranean Sea	Red coral					■

* Covers only bluefin tuna

Level of risk: ■ High ■ Very High

Black Sea - Fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Gear	Gear Code	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-reporting	Non-compliance with spatial / temporal closures	Fishing without license and authorisation	Use of illegal gears	IUU fishing activities
Midwater otter trawl	OTM	Sprat	■	■			■	
Bottom set gillnet	GNS	Turbot	■	■	■	■	■	■




■ EU Waters of the Black Sea

Level of risk: ■ Medium ■ Very High

NAFO - Fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Gear	Main Target Species	Area	Species misreporting	Area misreporting
Otter bottom trawls	Redfish, Greenland halibut	3L	■	■
	Cod, Redfish, Greenland halibut	3M	■	■
	Cod, White hake, Redfish, Greenland halibut	3N	■	■
	Redfish, Greenland halibut	3O	■	■
Longliners	Cod, White hake	LL	■	



■ 3L ■ 3O ■ 3M ■ 3N

Level of risk: ■ High ■ Very High

Data Exchange in support of JDPs

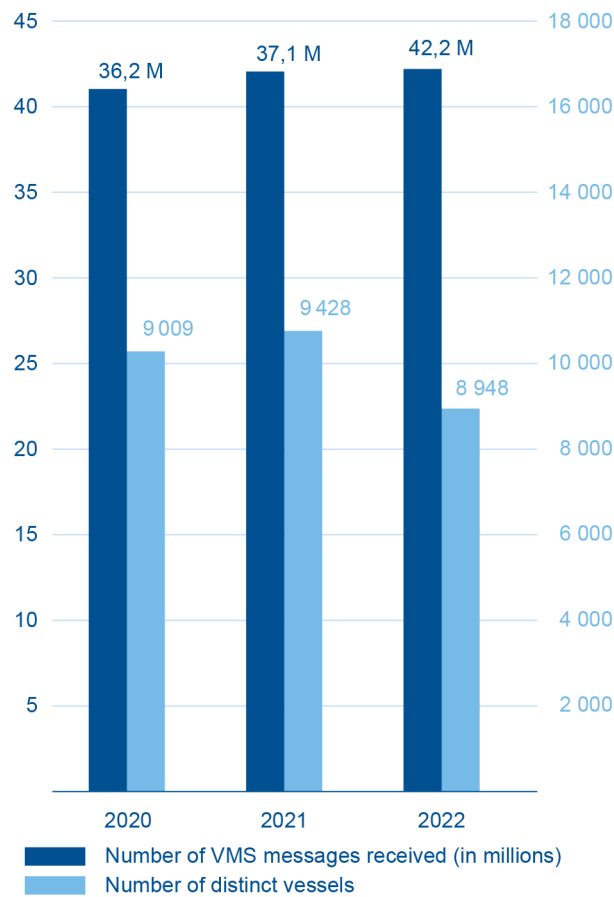
EFCA ensures that good quality data is available for planning, risks analysis, operational coordination, and evaluation of Joint Deployment Plans.

The main data received by EFCA from Member States were:





- a) vessel positions (VMS);
- b) electronic logbooks (ERS);
- c) summary of inspection and surveillance information (*Activity Reports*);
- d) positions and area of operations of MS Fisheries Patrol Vessels (*Situation Reports*)
- a) inspection reports in the case of serious infringements and also those linked with RFMOs, International Control and Inspections Schemes.
- b) lists of target vessels based on risk profiles; and
- c) catch and landings data in reply to a specific annual data call to support the Regional Risk Assessment.

Most of the data is exchanged daily, and the data flow from Member States to EFCA was also monitored daily. The magnitude of VMS and ERS data exchanged in 2022 can be seen in the graph below. Data transmission incidents were reported back to EFCA and to the Member States concerned. Some standard processes have been developed for the monitoring of the data flow and data quality, as part of the implementation of the EFCA data governance framework (see Objective 2.3). No ERS data was exchanged with the concerned Member States of the Black Sea JDP and with other Member States that only exchanged ERS messages via FLUX. This is a limitation in the EFCA system that will likely be resolved in 2023.

Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)



Electronic Reporting System (ERS)

Messages	Vessels	Member States	JDP
 2 103 052 Total number of messages pulled from Member States	 6 109 Total number of vessels pulled from Member States	 12 Total number of Member States connected	 5 Number of JDPs configured

JDP Implementation

In 2022 all JDPs were implemented in accordance with the plan agreed by the respective Steering Groups and adopted by the Decisions of the Executive Director of EFCA. Some activities had to be adjusted due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular in the first part of the year, but to a much less extent than previous years.

In order to improve compliance, promote the level playing field and cost-effectiveness, EFCA ensured interaction with Member States on operational matters through permanent exchange of information within the Technical Joint Deployment Groups via the FISHNET information exchange platform, and in addition predominantly via videoconference.

A continuous effort has been maintained to ensure smooth operational implementation of the respective JDP activities. As in the previous years, the organisational arrangements of the joint campaign coordination included the exchange of operational information, coordinated deployment of control assets, planned exchanges of inspectors at sea and in landing ports.

The implementation of specific actions / specific campaigns aimed to enhance the focus of control activities on fleet segments in periods and areas that were identified in the results of respective regional risk analysis as requiring risk treatment measures. In 2022, the coordination of control activities from the EFCA premises in Vigo was limited due to travel restrictions and other sanitary measures related to COVID-19. Nevertheless, the virtual coordination facilitated by the available systems also showed to be efficient and allowed good communication and coordination of all regional control means.

As in previous years, to ensure an adequate coordination for each specific action the TJDGs adopted an operational plan where a set of objectives and tasks were explained from an operational point of view. EFCA in collaboration with Member States effectively implemented a system of briefings with involved MS inspectors in advance of specific actions, which promote a common understanding of the purpose, inspection effort and expected outcome of the upcoming MCS activities, and a forum to clarify any possible questions regarding legal aspects, tactical operations and exchange of information. The TJDGs confirmed the added value of these briefings for the implementation of the planned joint control activities.

North Sea

The North Sea JDP was implemented as planned, except for one specific action. In total 6 specific actions, corresponding to a total of 76⁴⁴ weeks, were conducted. One specific action dedicated to the control of compliance with restrictive measures in place for fisheries in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), particularly with regard to the Dogger Bank and Cleaver Bank, was not conducted due to delayed

⁴⁴ Several specific actions may take place simultaneously.

adoption of the relevant legislation to provide pertinent fisheries restrictions. For some specific actions, the monitoring of the relevant provisions suggested that the previously identified risks did not manifest in non-compliant behaviour. This outcome will be used to inform the regional risk assessment for the JDP in the following year.

Other elements, such as the monitoring of the implementation of the landing obligation on fisheries identified as high risk and the use of illegal gears, that were already in place in previous years, continued to be the focus of specific actions conducted in 2022. In 2022, a total of 16 real-time closures (RTC) were established in the North Sea and Skagerrak, of which 14 correspond to closures triggered by the abundance of juveniles of demersal species⁴⁵ and the remaining 2 correspond to closures due to abundance of northern prawn juveniles⁴⁶. In 3 of these occasions, RTCs were established by joint teams working on board the EFCA chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel. EFCA provided a coordination role for the established Real-time closures by announcing to all Member States concerned, indicating the closed area in the EFCA IMS for the corresponding period, and keep up to date a dedicated page on the EFCA website where the links to Member States and Third Countries' websites on real time closures are available.

Similar to other JDPs, for the North Sea, for each specific action an operational plan was prepared, where a set of objectives and tasks were outlined from an operational point of view. Before the start of each specific action, EFCA organised a briefing with inspectors of the Member States involved in the respective specific actions. At these briefings the purpose and main expected outcomes of the given specific action were highlighted and the details of the operational activities were discussed to ensure a common understanding and implementation.

An important element of the 2022 North Sea JDP, as well as of the Western Waters JDP, concerns the new situation of the UK as a third country. Those elements are further detailed below in this section (see *JDP activities related with UK vessels*).

As regards the deployment of control assets in the North Sea, it should be highlighted that in general the Member States complied with the commitment as agreed in the JDP Decision. Considering the risk associated with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between EU and UK, there was an almost permanent presence of EFCA OPV in the North Sea and Western Waters area. In 2022, the EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel was present in the North Sea for 45 days, contributing to the implementation of the specific actions ongoing at the time of deployment. During these patrols there were exchanges with inspectors from DE, DK, NL and SE. Further details regarding the implementation of the North Sea JDP are provided in Annex I.

Baltic Sea

For the Baltic Sea, a total of 8 specific actions were implemented, corresponding to a total of 119 weeks⁴⁷, which is 18 weeks more than that the total duration of the specific actions conducted in the Baltic Sea in the previous year. The purpose of the specific actions in 2022 were similar to the ones conducted in the previous year, aiming to address very diverse threats. The threats that the specific actions were intended to treat included the potential non-compliance with the LO in demersal fisheries; non-compliance with the temporal closures of the fisheries for cod (and associated by-catch provisions), both for commercial and recreational fisheries; non-compliance with recording provisions of salmon and sea trout, as well as herring and sprat in the unsorted landings of small pelagics; and non-compliance with the use of acoustic deterrent devices in the fisheries with gillnet.

The range of activities in the Baltic Sea JDP further evolved in 2022, with the added focus on the control of acoustic deterrent devices, control of the recreational fisheries for cod in the Western Baltic, and control of the eel marine fisheries.

⁴⁵ Commission Regulation (EU) No 724/2010 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of real-time closures of certain fisheries in the North Sea and Skagerrak

⁴⁶ Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2201 of 1 October 2019 supplementing Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council with detailed rules for the implementation of real-time closures for Northern prawn fisheries in the Skagerrak

⁴⁷ Specific actions may take place simultaneously.

The specific action aiming to monitor the compliance with the provisions on the use of acoustic deterrent devices (BAS06) was related with a new delegated Act, Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/967. EFCA organised two workshops with the Baltic Sea, North Sea, and Western Waters control experts (on 14 April 2022 and on 9 December 2001) to address control measures related with the Acoustic Deterrent Devices. The workshops were an opportunity to share knowledge, best practices and develop a common understanding on how the provisions in the regulation⁴⁸ could be approached by inspectors in a harmonised manner (further details under *Standardisation of inspection methodologies and procedures*, below in this section).

The deployment of control assets for the JDP in the Baltic Sea was in general in line with the commitment as agreed in the JDP Decision. Some Member States kept adapting to a changing pandemic situation which resulted in some periods where reported activities were low. In 2022, the EFCA OPV, Lundy Sentinel served in the Baltic Sea for 39 days, contributing for the implementation of the specific action on going at the time of deployment. During these patrols there were exchanges with inspectors from FI, LV, LT and PL. Further details regarding the implementation of the Baltic Sea JDP are provided in Annex I.

Western Waters

In the framework of the Western Waters JDP, 13 specific actions were implemented corresponding to 151⁴⁹ weeks. The focus of the JDP was on the implementation of the landing obligation, both on control of illegal discarding and on compliance with the reporting obligations of legal discards. Other elements, such as the use of illegal gear and the misreporting of area or catch quantities, together with fishing restrictive measures in place for reduction of the impact on the marine environment, were also aspects covered by the Western Waters JDP. The elements previously presented for the Baltic Sea JDP concerning the control of the use of acoustic deterrent devices were also implemented in the 2022 Western Waters JDP.

Considering the risk associated with the Trade and Cooperation Agreement between EU and UK, there was an almost permanent presence of EFCA OPV in the concerned areas of the Western Waters and North Sea. In 2022, the EFCA OPVs, Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel served in the Western Waters for a total of 84 days, contributing to the implementation of the specific actions ongoing at the time of deployment and the execution of exchange of inspectors. During the WW patrols of EFCA OPVs there were exchanges with inspectors from ES, IE, PL and PT. Further details regarding the implementation of the Western Waters JDP are provided in Annex I.

A fixed wing aircraft (FWA) was deployed in the Western Waters in November and December 2022, operating from Cork airport (Ireland), with a total of 84 flight hours and 53 sightings performed. The flights were coordinated by EFCA from the EFCA Coordination Centre in cooperation with the Irish authorities, who were either present at the Coordination Centre or connected virtually. The FWA was equipped with a very good quality camera, allowing an almost real time video streaming to the Coordination Centre. This deployment contributed with air surveillance data to monitor fishing activities in the operational area and facilitated the collection of evidence for a possible follow-up proceeding in case of detected suspected illegal fishing activities (which did not occur), as a well as, contribute to ensuring compliance with the fisheries restrictions on the established Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems (VMEs).

To adequately monitor and support the control of the VMEs in Western Waters, in accordance with Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2022/1614 of 15 September 2022 determining the existing deep-sea fishing areas and establishing a list of areas where vulnerable marine ecosystems are known to occur or are likely to occur, EFCA included the 87 polygons in the EFCA IMS and established Automatic Behaviour Monitoring (ABMs), in coordination with Member States, permitting that Fisheries Monitoring Centres of the respective Member States received alerts when a fishing vessel enters a VME area. The monitoring of the element was a standard agenda item for the WW TJDG meetings, from October 2022 onwards.

⁴⁸ Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/967

⁴⁹ Several specific actions may take place simultaneously.

As already mentioned in the North Sea JDP implementation, an important element of the 2022 concerned the fishing activities of UK vessels in EU waters, which is further detailed below in this section (see *JDP activities related with UK vessels*).

Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Atlantic

The Member States operational effort for fisheries control inside the JDP slightly decreased in 2022, in comparison to 2021. However, the seaborne and airborne means continued to be deployed over the commitments agreed in the JDP Decision, contributing to promote a level playing field, and secure the coordination and assistance for better compliance.

In addition to the available seaborne means of the Member States, EFCA added additional capacity with the deployment of its chartered OPV “Lundy Sentinel” with RPAS on board. The deployment of EFCA’s control platform facilitated the deployment of Union/ICCAT/GFCM inspectors from EFCA, Member States – ES, HR, IT, MT, PT and ICCAT/GFCM inspectors from third countries – AL, ME, TN. Control activities were performed in the international waters of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean in the framework of the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection and GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme. Control operations also supported the implementation of two GFCM pilot projects, respectively for the control and inspection of the common dolphinfish fisheries⁵⁰, and of demersal and small pelagic fisheries in the Adriatic⁵¹.

The SG meetings of 2022 followed up the implementation of the JDP and focused on the preparation of the 2023 JDP based on the outcomes and recommendations of the regional risk assessment exercise organised by EFCA on 6-8 September.

In 2022, seven specific campaigns (hereafter MSC)⁵² were carried out in the framework of the Mediterranean JDP, whereas six were dedicated to specific periods and fisheries (MSC1 to MSC6) and one (MSC 7) concerned an all-year specific campaign in fisheries restricted areas (FRAs). The specific campaigns MSC1 to MSC6 were organised by EFCA using EFCA’s ICT, successfully hosting Member States representatives at the EFCA Coordination Centre. In preparation to each of these specific campaigns, operational plans were discussed and completed with the TJDG one month ahead of each specific campaign starting date. In addition to a kick-off meeting at the start of the specific campaign to introduce participants and the planned activities, EFCA also organised tailored made operational workshops, focusing specifically on the legislation in force and technical aspects of the fisheries targeted by the specific campaign.

During the implementation period of the specific campaigns MSC1 to MSC6, operational briefings were organised on a regular basis, where EFCA and the Member States experts participating exchanged information on the status and dynamics of the fishery, patrol means activity and intelligence gathered.

EFCA had continued collaboration with EMSA and Frontex within the context of the EU inter-agency coast guard cooperation by providing the services and information available at the agencies to support national authorities. Among the services used to support the specific campaigns it should be highlighted the EFCA-IMS, an application that provides an integrated maritime picture based on the real-time integration of Vessel Monitoring System (VMS), Automatic Identification System (AIS) and other maritime related data and tools. With Frontex the cooperation was ensured through the exchange of possible sighting reports of fishing vessels spotted by the national assets deployed in Frontex Joint Operation and by Frontex Surveillance Airplanes (FSA).

In support of the specific campaign MSC6, IT deployed its OPV “Bruno Gregoretti” in the Eastern Mediterranean, facilitating the exchange of inspectors at sea. EFCA allocated one EFCA Union inspector who joined teams of IT, CY and EL inspectors on board. The possibility of this exchange of

⁵⁰ Resolution GFCM/44/2021/4 on a pilot project for the control and inspection of common dolphinfish fisheries.

⁵¹ Recommendation GFCM Recommendation 43/2019/5 on a multiannual management plan for sustainable demersal fisheries in the Adriatic Sea (geographical subareas 17 and 18), and Recommendation 44/2021/20 on a multiannual management plan for the sustainable exploitation of small pelagic stocks in the Adriatic Sea (geographical subareas 17 and 18).

⁵² MSC1: Mediterranean Swordfish; MSC2: Gulf of Lion; MSC3: Bluefin tuna Purse seiners and Traps; MSC4: Strait of Sicily; MSC 5: Adriatic Sea; MSC 6: Eastern Mediterranean; MSC7: Fisheries Restricted Areas.

inspectors at sea was very welcomed by all participants involved, proving to be of high relevance for the promotion of a uniform level of inspections and exchange of best practices.

The MSC7 focused on Fisheries Restricted Areas was distinct from all the other specific campaigns since it was planned to allow for the permanent remoted monitoring of the activity of fishing vessels inside the GFCM FRAs (eight in total) in the Mediterranean Sea. This campaign also provided dedicated support to the joint inspection and surveillance activities coordinated by the joint coordination team during other specific campaigns MSC 2, 4, 5 and MSC 6. To support the permanent monitoring of these areas, a “speed anomaly over period” ABM type was used. This ABM was further tailored to the needs of Member States and according to the FRA’ specificities.

Since the beginning of 2022, the concerned Member States received ABM alerts regarding the activity of their fishing vessels inside the FRAs, namely in the areas that fall outside the areas of sovereignty or jurisdiction of the Member States (where this configuration is applicable). Overall, 323 ABMs were created. Throughout the year, the TJDG was regularly informed on the state of play of this campaign (via email, IMS and TJDG meeting), in particular, on the number of fishing vessels for which alerts were triggered. The analysis of alerts received, was followed up by the concerned Member States, leading to the detection of 29 suspected infringements (25 in Jabuka/Pomo Pit FRA and 4 in the Strait of Sicily).

Black Sea

Steering Group meetings in the context of the Black Sea SG provided an overview of 2022 JDP activities and MMO related elements. The meetings also focused on the preparation of the 2023 JDP based on the outcomes and recommendations of the regional risk assessment exercise organised by EFCA on 14 September.

From 29 November to 15 December 2022, EFCA coordinated the Black Sea specific campaign through the EFCA CC. This was implemented in accordance with the Black Sea JDP decision, by means of a coordinated programme of control at sea and at land and covered fishing activities related to turbot. During the implementation phase of the specific campaign, operational briefings took place every working day for the purpose of coordination and follow up of the campaign with the experts from RO and BG, present in EFCA CC. During these briefings, EFCA coordinated the exchange of information concerning the fisheries and control activities, identifying potential targets, and providing recommendations for the deployment of control means, sharing intelligence data and information on risks of potential non-compliances.

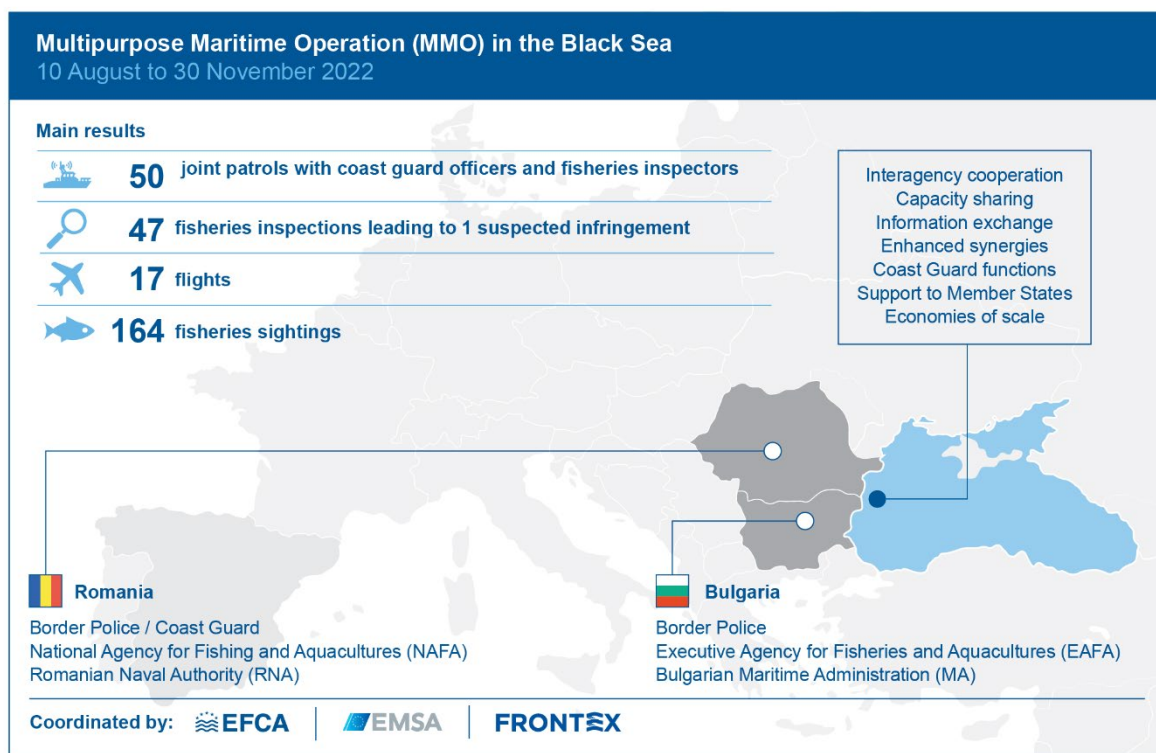
In terms of the inter-agency cooperation, 20 Copernicus satellite pictures were delivered and analysed during the campaign, 9 covering RO waters, and 6 corresponding to BG waters, and 5 covering simultaneously both Member States waters.

Support to RO and BG - Black Sea Multipurpose Maritime Operation

In the light of the inter-agency cooperation in the area of capacity sharing, from 10 August to 30 November 2022, EFCA as part of the EU cooperation on CG functions in cooperation with EMSA and Frontex took part in the MMO led by Frontex to support BG and RO national authorities in the Black Sea. EFCA was in close contact with fisheries control authorities of RO and BG in order to provide support in the context of the MMO.

In this regard, Frontex and EMSA’s assets and services were shared in a joint operation increasing surveillance and fisheries control capacity in the area. Therefore, these EU agencies as well as the RO and BG authorities (fisheries and border control communities) agreed on the implementation of coordinated multipurpose maritime operational activities in the Black Sea focused on combating illegal immigration, illegal fishing activities and marine pollution as well as addressing other CG functions. The main results of the MMO are summarised as follows:

- 50 sea patrols with fisheries inspectors deployed.
- 47 fisheries inspections at sea leading to 1 suspected infringement.
- 17 surveillance flights.
- 164 fisheries sightings.



NAFO-NEAFC

The European Union continued to be committed to having inspection presence in the international waters of NAFO and NEAFC (the *Regulatory Areas*), based on the number of EU fishing vessels operating in these areas. EFCA coordinated together with Member States concerned and the Commission the implementation of control operations in the NAFO and NEAFC Regulatory Areas, which included the deployment of control assets, such as sea patrols, air surveillance, and NAFO and NEAFC inspectors aboard of patrol vessels. The participating Member States coordinated efficiently the deployment of their control assets as agreed in the JDP Decision, to the extent possible considering the COVID-19 sanitary measures.

In the context of the JDP, EFCA continued to contribute to the standardised assessment of risk for fishing vessels from NAFO landing in the ports of Member States, performed by the flag Member State or by EFCA for the vessels of other Contracting Parties. The Post-Activity Risk Assessment (also known as PARA) criteria, endorsed by the Steering Group in 2021, was implemented by EFCA and Member States as a key document to assist the land inspections. When requested, EFCA also provided assistance to Member States in PARA preparation. Like for the other JDPs, EFCA updated factsheets for each NAFO Division and target species with information on legislation in force, average catch composition and status of the exploited stocks.

In collaboration with the Member States, EFCA continued the work on the vessel profiles. New Vessel's profile template was endorsed by the Steering Group including key information of vessels operating in the NAFO RA. The aim of the PARA, the factsheets and the vessel's profiles is to provide consistent support to assist the inspections.

In 2022, the NAFO-NEAFC Steering Group submitted a request to the EFCA REM Technical Working Group for the preparation of an operational project plan and review of the vessels monitoring plan for the implementation of REM systems in NAFO fisheries.

JDP activities related with UK vessels

When planning the 2022 JDPs, the Steering Groups of the North Sea and Western Waters JDPs agreed to continue an enhanced level of coordination, already established in 2021, to focus on the control issues that might arise in the context of the EU-UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA). The proposals on enhanced cooperation were included in the North Sea and Western Waters JDP Decisions for 2022 and took into account the outcomes of the risk assessment workshops conducted at that time, where the threats associated with control of fishing activity in terms of licencing, access to resources, displacement of fishing effort and potential gear conflicts were identified. The JDP decisions included the implementation of a Virtual Coordination Network (VCN), aiming to enhance a common situational awareness picture, to give focus to risks related with the TCA with the UK, which may emerge, and to ensure good coordination and exchange of information.

Throughout 2022, EFCA provided support for the smooth functioning of the VCN by providing exchange of information on fleet activity, analysis of fishing effort and incorporating the intelligence information received from the MS. In April 2022, the Western Waters and North Sea Steering Groups evaluated the operational aspects of the VCN and recommended less frequent meetings and transferred some activities to the respective Technical Joint Deployment Groups. During the WW and NS TJDG meetings any issues arising were clarified and communicated to Member States. As in previous years, EFCA prepared quarterly overviews of the spatial fishing activity in 2022 and a comparison to 2019 based on VMS data to provide information of possible spatial shifts in fishing effort that deserved special attention regarding control.

A weekly meeting was held with DG MARE units to discuss issues with the UK including legal, control, licence, data, operational, stocks and IUU issues. As divergences between the UK and EU regulations became more apparent, the VCN considered impacts to control in EU waters. EFCA produced a guidance on UK regulations and where to find them and shared this with the MS participating in the VCN. Changes of UK regulations, which were notified to the Commission, were always communicated to MS at the VCN meetings, and were reviewed in the context of any potential control consequences in EU waters. The VCN was a key channel of communication between the Commission, Member States and EFCA concerning UK fisheries related issues.

In 2022, the strategic risk assessment exercise regarding the threats resulting from the EU-UK TCA and the activity of UK vessels in the EU waters was incorporated in the regular regional risk assessment of the North Sea and Western Waters fisheries. The outcomes of the risk assessments conducted, and the experience gained in 2022 through the VCN and the TJDG were the basis for the planning of the 2023 North Sea and Western Waters JDP concerning TCA matters.

Implementation of standard inspection methodologies and procedures

In 2022 EFCA used the framework of the JDPs to enhance the standardisation of inspection methodologies and procedures, in particular through promoting best practices and the last haul observation procedures during inspections at sea and the use of a standardised risk assessment methodology, applicable regionally and nationally in all EU JDP areas.

The standardisation aspects were addressed through the regional training organised for EU inspectors and during relevant specific actions and campaigns.

The standardisation of the last haul observation was promoted consistently to the TJDGs and at regional training events. The COVID-19 sanitary measures adopted by Member States and EFCA might have prevented the realisation of last haul observations, in particular when the inspected vessels' conditions did not ensure that the operations to assess the catch composition were conducted in a safety manner (e.g., reduce/ closed space to conduct a last haul). Nevertheless, and as stated above, the number of last hauls conducted in 2022 were higher for most JDPs. As was already the case in 2021, the details of the sampling procedure were reinforced in the North Sea JDP to include the elements of the sampling of demersal species linked with the establishment of Real Time Closures according to Commission Regulation (EU) No. 724/2010 and Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2019/2201.

EFCA also contributed to the standardisation of the tactical and strategic risk assessment conducted at national level and hosted a dedicated meeting inviting risk assessment expert of all MS, where these elements were addressed. Further details of this meeting are provided in Objective 2.2.

Annex V of the Med JDP delivers an agreed common interpretation on specific control procedures for bluefin tuna fisheries. In 2022, several technical meetings took place with the Steering Group and appointed Member States experts, under the frame of the implementation of the international obligations for the EU, particularly as regards ICCAT. The discussions resulted in the amendment of the Annex V of the Med JDP in 2022 (EFCA ED Decision 2022/19). Modifications to this Annex focused on the following operations and procedures: transfers notification/authorisation; control transfers and at-sea investigations; and farming control procedures.

In closed collaboration with the Member States of the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters, EFCA concluded the guidelines for control of the use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs), which were used already in 2022 for sea inspections of the concerned gears and JDP areas.

The sampling procedure of unsorted landing of pelagic landings are based on the guidelines previously developed by EFCA in collaboration with Baltic Sea Member States. The use of these guidelines was highlighted in the operational plans of the Specific Actions of the concerned fleet segments.

2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States

The collaboration between Member States continued to be enhanced in 2022 in the framework of relevant JDPs. Regularly organised video conferences, including reestablishment some physical meetings and sharing of information through different electronic tools ensured a satisfactory level of understanding of the state of play as regard the planning, implementation and evaluation of the executed joint control operation. MS experts and inspectors supported efficiently the coordination of JDP activities at operational level. The considerable Member States participation and the result of the work of the joint teams deployed aboard of EFCA OPVs in 2022 should be highlighted. The EFCA OPV patrols organised in cooperation with MS inspectors in the framework of the Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic, Baltic Sea Western Waters and North Sea JDPs were a key factor in promoting synergies and maintaining the transparency of sea activities, still considering some COVID-19 related restrictions, which, in some cases, reduced MS' sea control effort. There were 40 MS Union inspectors hosted aboard of EFCA chartered OPVs Lundy Sentinel in the framework of JDPs (for more details please refer to Annex I).

Likewise, there were 2 MS Union inspectors hosted aboard of EFCA chartered OPV Aegis as well as, 3 MS aboard Ocean Sentinel (for more details please refer to Annex I).

With regards to sharing information on priority targets for inspections, 21 Member States exchanged information on 5 415 fishing vessels as possible targets in 2022. This information was provided to inspection teams working in the framework of the JDPs in the Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Atlantic and Black Sea areas. Based on this information 4 356 fishing vessels were inspected as targets (12.3% of the inspected vessels). In 2022, 300 suspected infringements were reported to be found on targets, corresponding to a suspected infringement ratio for target inspections of 16.8% at sea and 5.1% ashore.

The provision of assistance and expertise to Member States through regional workshops and best practice meetings for the Union inspectors, inspectors and Member States staff

EFCA organised regional workshops trainings and best practice meetings for Union inspectors, inspectors and Member States staff involved in the implementation of joint campaigns. In 2022 the majority of these training activities were delivered as webinars through IT communication platforms.

In 2022, 1067 fisheries inspectors from MS attended 32 regional trainings organised in the framework of the JDPs. These trainings promote the exchange of views between inspectors involved in the respective JDPs, aiming to bring their knowledge up to date with the fishery legislation in force and discuss issues relevant with the JDP framework, in particular the implementation of specific actions/campaigns. These events are a key step in promoting a regional level playing field. The workshops were well received by participants and where focused mainly on the practical implementation of specific actions/campaigns and their corresponding operational tasks to ensure an effective and efficient execution of the joint control operations at inspector's level. Special attention was drawn to the importance of targeted inspections, quality and importance of information collected by MS inspectors

during the joint operations, which in some cases are used for the evaluation of compliance levels. The use of the harmonised last haul procedures was promoted together with the follow up inspections ashore as an effective control tool in the context of the landing obligation.

EFCA workshop for Member States Union Inspectors		
Topic addressed	Dates (venue)	JDP
NEAFC JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	8-9 February (online)	NEAFC
Last Haul Procedures	23 February (online)	Med
NEAFC Port State Control (PSC)	2-3 March (online)	NEAFC
NAFO JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	30-31 March (online)	NAFO
Workshop on Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna	16 & 19 May (online)	Med
Black Sea workshop: relevant legislative framework and last haul procedure	25-26 May (Burgas)	Black Sea
Workshop on Mediterranean JDP: Adriatic	19 July (online)	Med
Workshop on Mediterranean JDP: Strait of Sicily	13 September (online)	Med
JDP training for new EU Inspectors	6 October (online)	Baltic Sea North Sea Western Waters
Workshop on Mediterranean JDP: Mediterranean swordfish and Mediterranean albacore	7 October (online)	Med
NS JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	18-19 October (Vigo)	North Sea
BS JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	23-24 November (online)	Baltic Sea
WW JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	26-27 October (online)	Western Waters
BS JDP implementation and relevant legislative framework	23-24 November (online)	Baltic Sea

In addition to the above, EFCA's coordinators also assisted Member States in 18 national workshops and one specific training (support on application of EFCA IMS) with a total of 725 participants, upon request in the context of the Western Waters, Mediterranean and Black Sea JDPs.

1.2.1.2 ASSISTANCE TO COOPERATION (OBJECTIVES 2-4)

Introduction

EFCA control and monitoring activities are based on agreed standards, and guidelines either set under the JDP framework or based on dedicated projects. Steering agreed practices, methodologies and guidelines establish a common basis to be implemented at national or regional level and are instrumental in ensuring a level playing field and improved co-effectiveness in MCS operations. To this end, the training events and material developed by EFCA is also a major contribution. Additionally, EFCA has a key role in providing adequate Fisheries Information Systems to enhance the sharing of data to, ultimately, contribute to a common maritime operational picture and effective MCS.

OBJECTIVE 2		
Development of methodologies and fisheries information systems in support of MCS activities		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
1. Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation		
2. Development of standard methodologies applicable to risk management and compliance evaluation		
3. Improvement of data management and fisheries information systems in support of fisheries MCS		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. User evaluation of the ERS, Fishnet and IMS applications	Not applicable	94%
2. Number of registered users in the EFCA IMS	>1200	1322
3. Number of guidelines/ methodologies in JDP decision / published in EFCA Website	10	11
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Guidelines and best practices on standardisation of inspection procedures, namely on weighing of fisheries products	Yes	
2. Standard procedures and guidance documents on the application of the rules of the CFP, including modern and more effective and efficient control techniques (e.g. REM)	Yes	
3. Support to the regionalisation process	Yes	
4. Methodology for regional risk management strategy	Yes	
5. Methodology for minimum standards for national risk assessment systems	Ongoing	
6. Methodology for alternative, compliance-based, benchmarks	Yes	
7. Guidelines on data and systems governance frameworks	Yes	
8. Business requirements for the development of EFCA systems in support of JDPs, EUCG Functions and the fight against IUU fishing	Yes	

1. Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation

EFCA provided assistance to the Member States regional Control Expert Groups (CEGs). EFCA cooperated with the CEGs, which are regional bodies created in the framework of regionalisation, such as BALTFISH, Scheveningen, NWW and SWW CEGs. The work of these groups has been reinforced and enhanced in accordance with the updated Terms of Reference and the CEG's workplans for 2022.

The main areas of activities of the CEGs, and where EFCA supports, are the common understanding on the application of fisheries regulations from the perspective of control and inspection, and the implementation of the landing obligation, in particular in the areas of risk assessment, evaluation of compliance and the implementation of remote electronic monitoring (REM), as outlined below. EFCA's

activities in all these areas contributed, directly or indirectly, to the CFP implementation by Member States. The CEG meetings coordinated by EFCA during 2022 are summarised below.

Control Expert Group Meetings			
	Date	Venue	Main topics
BALTIFISH CEG	23 Feb	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harbour porpoise issues, addressing questions by HLG on bycatch mitigation (CEG Chair) (Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/303 ○ Preparation joint workshop with BSAC on LO (EFCA, CEG) ○ State of play REM pilot project in the Baltic Sea ○ Control of salmon recreational fishery in the Baltic Sea
	10 Mar	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Possible common understandings on replies to the BALTIFISH HLG questions on the control measures for the protection of harbour porpoise in the Baltic Sea
	10 Jun	Riga, LV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Harbour porpoise issues: Questions by HLG on bycatch mitigation (CEG Chair) ○ Preparation joint workshop with BSAC on LO (EFCA, CEG) ○ State of play REM pilot project in the Baltic Sea ○ LO Compliance Evaluation in the Baltic Sea
NWW CEG	7 Jul	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Protected areas in the Baltic Sea involving measures for the protection of harbour porpoise.
	10 Jun	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● State of play of the NWW REM pilot project ● LO compliance evaluation update ● Presentation of EFCA Weighing project ● Other control issues in the NWW
Scheveningen CEG	29 Nov	Malaga, ES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EFCA presentation NWW RRA 2022 ● Draft NWW LO Demersal compliance evaluation ● NWW REM pilot Project state of play ● Other control issues in NWW
	8 Jun	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation of EFCA Weighing project ● State of play of REM pilot projects ● LO compliance evaluation update ● Other control issues in the North Sea
	30 Nov	Malaga, ES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● EFCA presentation NS RRA 2022 ● Final draft NS LO Demersal compliance evaluation report ● REM pilot Project ● Other control issues in the NS
Joint CEGs	7 Mar	Online	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The implementation of the CFP in the Baltic Sea ● Discard data: current situation and future needs ● Monitoring the regional implementation of the Landing Obligation in the Baltic Sea: Results of the LO compliance evaluation ● REM as a tool for improving compliance with the LO and Pilot Project in the Baltic Sea
	29 Nov	Malaga, ES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Role of EFCA in the assistance to CEGs ● LO Compliance evaluation of MAC fisheries in the North Sea and NWW

LO compliance evaluation

EFCA is coordinating, together with the Regional Control Expert Groups, updates of the compliance evaluation reports in relation to the Landing Obligation for certain key species in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters for the period 2018 – 2020.

In 2022, EFCA finalised the evaluation for COD, PLE, PRA and SOL in the North Sea and for MAC in the North Sea and North Western Waters for the period 2018-2020. In addition, EFCA completed a similar evaluation for demersal species in NWW waters (for ANF, COD, HAD, HKE, NEP, PLE, SOL

and WHG). These evaluations of compliance followed the ones conducted previously by EFCA and the Scheveningen and Western Waters CEG for the years 2016 and 2017 for the same areas but included a new species, PRA, in the case of the North Sea and ANF, NEP, PLE, SOL and WHG in the case of NWW waters. In all cases, the methods used in the first evaluations that, overall, provided more informative results, continued to be used to assess compliance. In 2022, EFCA established regional drafting committees to support EFCA in the preparation of the compliance evaluation reports. These drafting committees were constituted by control and scientific experts nominated by the MS of the respective CEG. The text of these evaluations has been agreed with the respective drafting committees that count with the participation of relevant Member States that have supported EFCA in the preparation of the compliance evaluation reports.

Additionally, EFCA completed an evaluation of compliance for demersal and pelagic species in SWW waters for the same period (2018-2020) following the request from the South Western Waters CEG to EFCA to carry out an evaluation of compliance with the provisions of the LO in this region for anglerfish, hake, Norway lobster, sole and jack and horse mackerel.

In 2022, EFCA also initiated the preparation of an update of the compliance evaluation for the Baltic Sea using data from 2019-2021, scheduled to be finalised in 2023.

Below is an overview of the compliance evaluations conducted or being prepared by EFCA in collaboration with the CEGs.

Area	In cooperation with	Period covered	Species covered	Status
Baltic Sea	BALTFISH CEG	2015-2016	herring, sprat, salmon, and cod	Completed in 2017
		2017-2018	herring, sprat, salmon, cod, and plaice	Completed in 2021
		2019-2021	herring, sprat, salmon, cod, and plaice	In preparation
North Sea	Scheveningen CEG	2015-2017	cod, sole, plaice, and mackerel	Completed in 2019
		2018-2020	cod, sole, plaice, prawns, and mackerel	Completed in 2022
North Western Waters	NWW CEG	2015-2017	whiting, hake, haddock, and mackerel	Completed in 2019
		2018-2020	whiting, hake, haddock, and mackerel, cod, anglerfish, Norway lobster, sole, and plaice	Completed in 2022
South Western Waters	SWW CEG	2018-2020	hake, anglerfish, Norway lobster, sole and horse mackerel	To be completed in 2023

The recent evaluations show low levels of compliance with the LO in some fleet segments. This supports the recommendation by control experts to prioritise the use of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM). This tool could serve a dual purpose, not only as a monitoring tool to improve the reference data available but also as a control tool for effective enforcing of the LO.

Support on Remote Electronic Monitoring regional pilot projects

During 2022, EFCA continued the work to address the requests for assistance in the preparation of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) operational plans for pilot projects at regional and national level. Requests from the Regional Control Expert Groups (Scheveningen, North Western Waters, and BALTFISH) and requests for assistance to national projects from DK and CY were implemented during 2022.

The REM pilot projects' operational plans will be gradually implemented in the period 2023-2024 in several EU sea basins; namely, in the EU waters of the North Sea, the Baltic Sea, and the North Atlantic (Western Waters). Participation in these pilot projects is voluntary and a minimum of 2 fishing vessel per MS are requested to participate. The EFCA REM WG will assist MS in the implementation of REM regional pilot projects and will consider best practices for REM implementation on fishing vessels, including to provide means to effectively control and enforce the LO at sea and to potentially provide a source of verifiable data.

The Regional CEGs agreed on a deadline for identifying vessels participating in the project by March 2022 and set a timeline for implementing the one-year project starting in October 2022. During the CEG meetings and the EFCA REM WG meeting in Malaga on 29 November-1 December 2022 it was clarified that some MS were ready to implement the projects in 2022 and others will join the projects during 2023 as the tender processes for the selection of vessels and providers are completed.

Remote Electronic Monitoring Technical Working Group

EFCA continued to coordinate the Technical Working Group on REM (EFCA REM TWG) to provide support and guidelines on how the REM systems should be set-up on fishing vessels in the EU, and to ensure that a level playing field is achieved throughout REM implementation. The composition of the EFCA REM TWG is open to representatives from all Member States and the Commission under coordination of EFCA. EFCA organises and chairs the meetings of this group.

The EFCA REM TWG was created originally for the development of the “Technical Guidelines and Specifications for the Implementation of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) in EU Fisheries”. The Guidelines were published on the EFCA website in 2019. The goal in 2022 was to assist Member States in the preparation for the implementation of regional / national pilot projects and consider best practices for REM implementation on fishing vessels, including to provide means to effectively control and enforce the landing obligation at sea and to potentially provide a source of verifiable data.

During 2022, there were several meetings of the EFCA REM TWG, plenary meetings, and regional subgroup meetings, as presented below. In September 2022, a request from the NAFO-NEAFC JDP Steering Group and from the Commission was received for the EFCA REM TWG to develop Technical Guidelines and specifications for the implementation of REM in NAFO fisheries.

REM Working Group meetings		
Meeting	Dates	Venue
Workshop with DK to exchange experiences and best practice on Kattegat REM project	24 January	Online
Plenary meeting on possible incentives for vessels' participation in REM pilot projects	22 March	Online
Regional meetings on REM pilot projects state of play (NS, BS, NWW)	3 – 4 May	Online
Plenary meeting on the state of play of the implementation of REM in MS	27 September	Online
Plenary meeting: Tenders, installation, data, and analysis	30 November – 1 December	Malaga, Spain

2. Development of standard methodologies applicable to risk management and compliance evaluation

The SCIP makes reference to the requirement for a harmonised methodology for risk assessment, as well as a methodology to define alternative benchmarks expressed in terms of improved levels of compliance (Art 7 of SCIP). These methodologies were prepared already in 2018 by EFCA in collaboration with Member States and were finalised in 2019 and are now available on the EFCA website^{53, 54}. In view of continuing developments, mainly concerning progress on establishing compliance indicators, the documents are considered live documents, and are to be updated accordingly. These documents are a good basis for the work conducted by EFCA and the Member States when conducting risk assessment and defining compliance indicators. In 2022, EFCA has further worked on harmonisation and sharing of best practices with Member States during the Annual Risk Management meeting. An overview of the different topics is provided in the sections below.

Minimum common standards for national risk assessment systems

EFCA organised an annual meeting with risk experts from Member States to discuss improvements to the regional risk management and to provide support to national risk assessments. The meeting took place in Vigo, on 15-16 November. EFCA discussed with Member States the results of the analysis of the information reported by Member States when conducting their national risk assessment following the requirements of the SCIP. This included the elements used on the national target systems as well as other risk related matters. Further work was agreed to establish best practices and EFCA committed to define a way forward, considering additional exchanges with Member States to address specific national and regional needs.

Minimum common standards for vessel target identification

As part of the objectives of the November annual meeting, EFCA discussed with Member States the results of the analysis of the risk elements used for the identification of vessels with the highest risk of non-compliance and proposed a list of harmonized risk elements for discussion. This list was based on the results obtained from the information received from Member States on their national risk assessments. This initiative will continue in 2023, in cooperation with Member States with the final aim to: (a) help to promote a level playing field, (b) facilitate the provisions of guidelines and best practices and (c) facilitate an improved reporting to EFCA, including the identification of threats the risk levels are associated with.

Development of indicators based on the results of crosscheck analysis

At annual risk management meeting EFCA discussed with Member States the possibility of developing compliance indicators based on the results of the crosscheck analysis Member States carry out routinely. It is expected that EFCA and Member States will continue the exchange of more detailed information on the type of crosscheck analysis in use when computing compliance indicators and on how this information could be used to inform compliance assessments.

Development of a risk treatment checklist

Another initiative that EFCA presented at the Annual meeting was a risk treatment checklist with the aim of streamlining and harmonizing, across years and JDPs, the risk treatment measures proposed as part of the Regional Risk Assessment workshops. This work will continue to be developed during 2023 and it will be tested at the 2023 Regional Risk Assessment Workshops using a risk treatment toolbox that EFCA has developed.

Computation of compliance indicators

In 2022 EFCA continued to work with the regional indicators for non-compliance with the landing obligation and for non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations. The former indicator was based on the analyses on data collected during the last haul programme and the data reported in the logbook (both the landing of quantities of fish below the minimum conservation reference size

⁵³ Guidelines on Risk Assessment Methodology on Fisheries Compliance.
<https://www.efca.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Risk%20Assessment%20Methodology.pdf>

⁵⁴ Guidelines on Indicators to Measure Compliance in Fisheries.
https://www.efca.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Guidelines%20on%20indicators%20to%20measure%20compliance%20in%20fisheries_1.pdf

(MCRS) and records of legal discards) for estimation of illegal discarding in the Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters and Mediterranean Sea.

The misreporting indicator was specifically calculated within the scope of the Baltic Sea JDP for unsorted pelagic landings based on data collected during dedicated specific actions. The analysis was performed by EFCA following previously agreed methodologies.

The outcome of the above-mentioned computation was used in the respective regional risk assessment exercises as supporting information to assess the likelihood of the concerned threats (*i.e.*, non-compliance with the landing obligation and misreporting of catch quantities).

Guidelines on Acoustic Deterrent Devices

As already presented under Objective 1, in 2022 EFCA, in collaboration with the Member States concerned of the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters JPDs, finalised the guidelines for control of the use of Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs). These guidelines are publicly available in the EFCA website⁵⁵ and were used in 2022 for specific actions addressing compliance with the provisions on ADDs in Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and the Council (Technical Measures).

3. Improvement of data management and fisheries information systems in support of fisheries MCS

In 2022, EFCA continued to develop, enhance, and maintain the integrated Fisheries Information Systems (FIS), which include EFCA specific applications designated to support the coordination of MCS and training activities.

Developments of existing or new applications

EFCA is continuously collecting and analysing the needs of end users and improving its information systems accordingly. Regarding control data (*i.e.*, *Inspection Activity Reports*), EFCA continued previous work on quality checks, in particular the development of a series of quality reports available in the user interface of the EFCA database of JDP inspection and surveillance information (JaDE). Furthermore, a major updated version of the application was deployed in 2022, which includes a new infringement data model, additional quality check controls and validation functionalities, new indicators in the JDP Activity reports, several improvements to the warning and errors messages raised by the application, and several bug fixes previously identified. Additional releases addressing minor bug fixes were deployed in the second part of 2022.

In 2022, EFCA has progressed on the establishment of a new unified architecture integrating all data domains dealing with fisheries and control data. In particular a data collection hub initialised with a data exchange over FLUX standard has been implemented, which is already in use for exchange of VMS data and will enter in production for logbook data in 2023. Additionally, a project for implementation of a single vessel repository as master data and reference data management system was also concluded.

Integrated Maritime Services (EFCA IMS) for fisheries control

EFCA is collaborating with EMSA in the provision of services through a web-based application, which integrates maritime data from several sources (EFCA IMS). This application offers a way to track vessels in real time, through the integration of vessel positions provided by systems such as VMS, Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) or Long-Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT). The EFCA IMS application is used by a large community of Member States users as a support to fisheries control and activities against IUU⁵⁶ fishing. As the users' community increases, EFCA and EMSA have been collaborating in the development of a set of standard procedures to improve the governance of the system (incidents management, user access management, etc.). By the end of 2022, more than 1200 credentials were valid for users of the fisheries control authorities in Member States, the European Commission and EFCA. In addition, the access to the EFCA IMS application by MS authorities has intensified with many users accessing the application on a daily basis.

⁵⁵ Guidance for Inspectors on Acoustic Deterrent Devices (ADDs) as required by Regulation (EU) 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and the Council of 20 June 2019 provisions

<https://www.efca.europa.eu/sites/default/files/ADD%20Guidance.pdf>

⁵⁶ More details please see Objective 3 and 4.

In 2022 there was a significant increase in position data availability due to an improved satellite AIS (Sat-AIS) coverage and the procurement of additional terrestrial AIS (T-AIS) services in areas with limited coverage. More importantly, in May 2022, an updated version of the application was released ('EFCA IMS V2.0'). This new version holds a large number of new and improved functionalities, addressing the needs of the fisheries control user community, which were partly funded by EFCA. In addition, some of the supporting modules and architecture were re-designed by EMSA in order to provide better performance and capacity. As developments continued, additional modules and supporting architecture improvements were developed in 2022 awaiting release in early 2023.

Furthermore, the use of specific functionalities and services such as Automatic Behaviour Monitoring (ABMs) and Copernicus Maritime Services - both imbedded in the EFCA IMS application - are taken on board in various Joint Deployment Plans. 2022 was marked by an intensified and more targeted use of ABMs in support of specific JDP campaigns and the monitoring of fisheries restricted areas.

Imbedded in the EFCA IMS, ABMs provide for automatic alerts using advanced algorithms applied on incoming vessel position data. Where in 2021 ABMs were mainly used in the Mediterranean Sea area for the monitoring of fisheries restricted areas (FRAs), the use of ABMs in 2022 was further refined and expanded into other areas requiring enhanced monitoring. In close cooperation with Member States several new and/or improved ABMs applicable to specific fleets were implemented systematically in support of operational coordination.

As reported in Objective 1, this was a key tool in the monitoring of the VME polygons in the Western Waters, and FRA's established in the in Mediterranean Sea, where Member States received notifications when vessels, with a certain fishing speed, entered the concerned areas.

As agreed in the North Sea JDP Decision, the Realtime Closures (RTC) established in the North Sea are visible in the EFCA IMS promoting efficient monitoring and control of fisheries activities in these areas.

During 2022, 283 ABMs were activated in support of Member States, monitoring fisheries restricted and /or marine protected areas, territorial waters or port access. This illustrates that today EFCA is one of the main drivers for implementing ABMs in an operational context and, in this capacity, is providing regular user feedback to the ABM development team at EMSA.

Furthermore, EFCA catered for dedicated ABM information sessions for Member States to exchange views and collect specific user needs on ABM capabilities for the automated monitoring of fishing vessel activity.

Given the ever-growing EFCA IMS user community, EFCA also provided dedicated training sessions upon request for MS control authorities.

Considering the importance of this application as a tool for MSC activities and to build a maritime awareness picture, EFCA and EMSA agreed that a more structured approach regarding resource allocation was needed to maintain the existing service level and associated development of the IMS for EFCA. Accordingly, a new SLA between EFCA and EMSA was prepared and, following the endorsement of the respective Administrative Boards, was signed by the respective Executive Directors during a meeting held at EMSA on 12 December 2022 (see Objective 7 for further details). The SLA includes all areas of cooperations between the two Agencies, of which the EFCA IMS is an important area.

Exchange of Inspection and surveillance reports

EFCA is coordinating a working group to facilitate the implementation of a system for the electronic exchange of Inspection and Surveillance reports (e-ISR) between EU Member States, Commission and EFCA. The system is based on the EU standard for the exchange of fisheries data (FLUX). The main outcomes of the e-ISR WG activities in 2022 was to continue the production of sample reports which can be used by Member States to test that the business rules they have implemented for the validation of e-ISR reports is conforming to the standard and the validation / review of the agreed code list, in particular the code list developed for the detected suspected infringements.

The working group met five times in 2022 by video conference and hosted one physical meeting on 22 October in Paris. In 2022, the priority was given to the most common types of inspections: fishing

vessels at sea and in port. Further work was also conducted regarding the incorporation of new types of inspection reports in the standard (fish farms, gear at sea, recreational fishing at sea and shore-based fisheries). The planning for entry in production of the exchange of reports regarding the two most common types of inspection (fishing vessel at sea and fishing vessel in port) is for June 2023.

Data and System Governance

In 2022, EFCA continued with the implementation of the EFCA Data and System Governance frameworks. Considering the linkage between the two frameworks and to improve the working procedures within EFCA staff, a revision of the organisational structure to be common to both frameworks was agreed.

Regarding the implementation of the EFCA data governance framework, EFCA continued the work of data quality checks, in particular regarding VMS and *Activity Reports* data, where monthly and weekly reports were prepared, respectively. These quality reports were a key support in assessing the timeliness, completeness and consistency of the data received and stored in EFCA systems. During 2022, it was identified that further work on the implementation of agreed processes and the assessment of compliance with the framework is needed, which has been planned to be addressed in 2023.

Several activities regarding *Access and Authorisations*, Demand Management, *Training*, *User Support*, and *Incident Management* of the EFCA System Governance were conducted in 2022 for several systems (JaDE, v-Track and ERS). For the EFCA IMS application, EFCA together with EMSA agreed on a shared procedure for *Incident Management* and prepared a draft of the *User Access and Authorisation*, which is due to be finalised in 2023. The two agencies continued regular technical meetings to work towards the resolution of issues (according to the agreed Incident Management Procedure) with the EFCA IMS system, and the development of improvements (Demand Management).

OBJECTIVE 3		
Development of training on MCS activities		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Updated training material available Use of the EFCA e-learning platform MS national training activities supported Provision of coast guard cross-functional training 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. % of users considering the training platform meets their expectations	80%	86%
2. Number of registered users in the EFCA e-learning platform increased by 3% each year	1030	1188
3. % of users who would recommend the training platform to their colleagues	80%	94%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. EFCA CC manuals developed and kept updated according to MS needs and expectations	Yes	
2. EFCA e-learning platform available and updated according to MS needs and expectations and used widely	Yes	
3. Enhanced knowledge on fisheries control in specific areas/legal framework	Yes	

4. Feasibility study to create a “logbook” for Union inspectors to collect and certify their activities, including EFCA training courses and modules followed and missions at sea in EFCA means	Yes
5. Training delivered in collaboration with EMSA and Frontex in the context of the EUCG functions, including third countries	Yes

1. Updated training material available

To give effect to its coordination duties and legal obligations, EFCA supports Member States in designing training programmes on fisheries control and inspection. A priority in the development of such training programmes is to create and make available reference materials for the training of the trainers of the fisheries inspectorates and of Union inspectors before their first deployment, the core curricula.

Essentially, the core curricula consist of several basic courses of practical knowledge for national fisheries officials involved in the control and inspection of fishing vessels and their activities. To date, the published core curricula manuals for the training of fisheries inspectors are the following:

- Core curriculum vol.1 “Inspection at sea” (updated version, 2017);
- Core curriculum vol.2 “Port inspection”;
2a) “Landing inspection” (updated version, 2017);
2b) “Transshipment inspection”;
- Core curriculum vol. 3 “General principles and specific types of inspection”;
- Core curriculum vol. 4 “Course for Fisheries Monitoring Centres operators on vessels’ tracking systems”.

In 2021, the existing three Core curriculum manuals “Inspection at sea”, “Port inspection” and “General principles and specific types of inspection” have been restructured/merged by an external expert. In 2022, an external expert further worked on a revised version of the manual, the main objective being to lighten/simplify the text and to delete repetitions (in particular, between “Inspection at sea” and “Port inspection”). The expert also updated the content including (but not only) technical measures, rules on exemptions to the landing obligation, multiannual plans, and specific control and inspection programmes (SCIPs). The draft new version of the manual (reduced from approximately 800 pages to 250 pages without illustrations) will be reviewed during the SGTEE meeting on 1 February 2023.

2. Use of the EFCA e-learning platform

In order to promote and proliferate the use of its e-learning platform by Member States’ inspectors, EFCA finalised the translation of the following e-learning modules in 2022:

- Course based on CC vol. 3 “General principles and specific types of inspection”: Bulgarian, Dutch, Estonian, French, German, Greek, Finnish, Italian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Romanian and Swedish (pending: Danish and Croatian);
- Course for FMC operators from EU Member States: Bulgarian, Croatian, Dutch, Estonian, French, German, Greek, Finnish, Italian, Lithuanian, Latvian, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Romanian and Swedish (pending: Danish);
- FMC operators manual (already available in English, German, Greek, Spanish, French, Italian, Polish, and Portuguese) to be published in 10 more languages (Bulgarian, Croatian, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, Lithuanian, Latvian, Romanian, and Swedish). Technical review of the translations is currently being done in cooperation with experts in the respective Member States. Publication is envisaged for summer 2023.

For non-EU countries, a training manual for FMC operators (non-EU) on vessels’ tracking systems is already available in English, French and Portuguese. Based on these three versions, the development of e-learning modules has also been finalised. The English version is already available on the platform; the French and Portuguese versions are currently being exported and will be available before summer 2023.

Currently, 1188 staff from EU and non-EU countries are registered active users of the EFCA e-learning platform.

3. MS national training activities supported

EFCA provided training to Member States inspectors and promoted exchanges between Member States' Union inspectors in the context of JDP operations, both at sea and on land. Training events covered the tasks carried out by Union inspectors deployed in the framework of JDPs, as well as specific training in relation to the IUU Regulation. It is to be noted that EFCA continued to make use of its event registration functionality in the e-learning platform to facilitate the organisation and management of training sessions.

Regional workshops for inspectors in all JDPs were organised and delivered by EFCA with focus on the standardisation of inspections and in an effort towards achieving a level playing field. A summary table of training events organised in 2022 by EFCA or national training events to which EFCA contributed is available in **Annex I** to this report.

EFCA reviewed and aligned its training courses following the principles of the Sectoral Qualifications Framework (SQF). The learner-oriented approach promoted by SQF (including the definition of learning outcomes, entry requirements, learning phases and assessment) was tested by EFCA during the "Basic Course on IUU for Newcomers" held on 22-24 March 2022. The feedback received on the new approach was generally positive. The EFCA Training Catalogue for 2023 was reviewed and restructured to reflect the changes. Work on preparing the delivery of the other courses following the example of the "IUU Newcomers" was initiated in 2022 and will continue in 2023, in particular regarding the NAFO and NEAFC training on JDP implementation and legislative framework.

4. Provision of coast guard cross-functional training

In the context of EU cooperation on EU coast guard functions the following awareness sessions were jointly organised between the three Agencies, under the coordination of EFCA for the benefit of the Member States national authorities implementing coast guard functions:

Name of session	Date	Format and participants	Feedback
Awareness session Maritime Surveillance	4-5 May 2022	An online session 77 participants from 21 Member States and Norway	Evaluated as very good or excellent (88% 4-5 rating)
Joint EMSA-EFCA workshop on maritime safety and fisheries control rules applicable to fishing vessels	21-23 June 2022	Presential session in Vigo 25 Participants from 12 MS and COM	Evaluated as very good or excellent (+80% 4-5 rating).
Awareness session on Search and Rescue (SAR) for the non-SAR community	28-29 November 2022	Online 60 participants from 14 Member States	Evaluation very good or excellent (100% 4-5 rating).

The aforementioned trainings have been organised in line with end-user needs, each agency consulted its own community. EFCA consulted the Steering Group on Training and Exchange of Experience. Each agency was invited to participate in the consultation meetings of the other two agencies.

OBJECTIVE 4		
Analysis for the weighing process of fisheries products in the Member States and strategy		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
1. Description and analysis of weighing practices of fisheries product 2. Evaluation of existing sampling plans, control plans and common control programmes and relevant methodologies 3. Recommendations and guidelines to ensure efficient and effective weighing of fisheries products		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Evaluation of the current weighing methodologies	20%	50%
2. Recommendations for improvements	1	0
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Implementation of the activities according to the project proposal	Yes	
2. Development of best practices and guidelines for weighing of fisheries products	No	

1. Description and analysis of weighing practices of fisheries product

A detailed inception report was provided to the European Commission detailing how the project would be executed by EFCA. As agreed in the project proposal, the first progress report was also provided.

EFCA established a dedicated group with Member States Points of Contacts (PoCs). The initial analysis of the weighing methodologies commenced with a meeting with the Member States PoCs to discuss the project and to request assistance in arrangements. These related to bilateral discussions with Member States to examine methodologies and practices in use, and to missions to Member States to see current practices. This process will continue in 2023.

EFCA carried out an evaluation of the documented practices in the Member States. Initial progress on this task was reported in the scheduled progress report to the Commission in the fourth quarter of 2022. Final outcomes will be provided in future progress reports, due to be delivered in the second year of this project.

2. Evaluation of existing sampling plans, control plans, common control programmes and relevant methodologies

EFCA evaluated existing sampling plans used by Member States and progress was reported in the progress report. Bilateral meetings and questionnaires for the Member States were held from June to December 2022 (and will continue in 2023). Visits to Member States also commenced in September 2022 to see the weighing plan methodologies in practice. Below there is an overview of the missions conducted in 2022. Final outcomes of this activity will be provided in the third progress report in 2023.

Mission	Date	Main topics discussed
Latvia	03 - 07/10/22	•The weighing practices in the context of the sample weighing plans for demersal and industrial fisheries.
Sweden	09 - 14/10/22	•The weighing practices in the context of the sample weighing plans for demersal and industrial fisheries
Germany	14 - 18/11/22	•The weighing practices in the context of the sample weighing plans for demersal fisheries
Estonia	14 - 18/11/22	•The weighing practices in the context of the sample weighing plans for unsorted small pelagics and industrial fisheries
Netherlands	23 - 25/11/22	•The NL project on tare weights for frozen pelagic species
Finland	28/11 - 02/12/22	•The weighing practices in the context of the sample weighing plans for unsorted small pelagics and industrial fisheries

3. Recommendations and guidelines to ensure efficient and effective weighing of fisheries products

The main objective of this project is the development of recommendations and guidelines to ensure efficient and effective weighing of the fisheries products. This will be based on the analysis of the currently used methodologies, conducted in 2022 and planned to be concluded in 2023. Therefore, no guidelines and recommendations have yet become available in 2022.

1.2.1.3 INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION (OBJECTIVES 5-6)

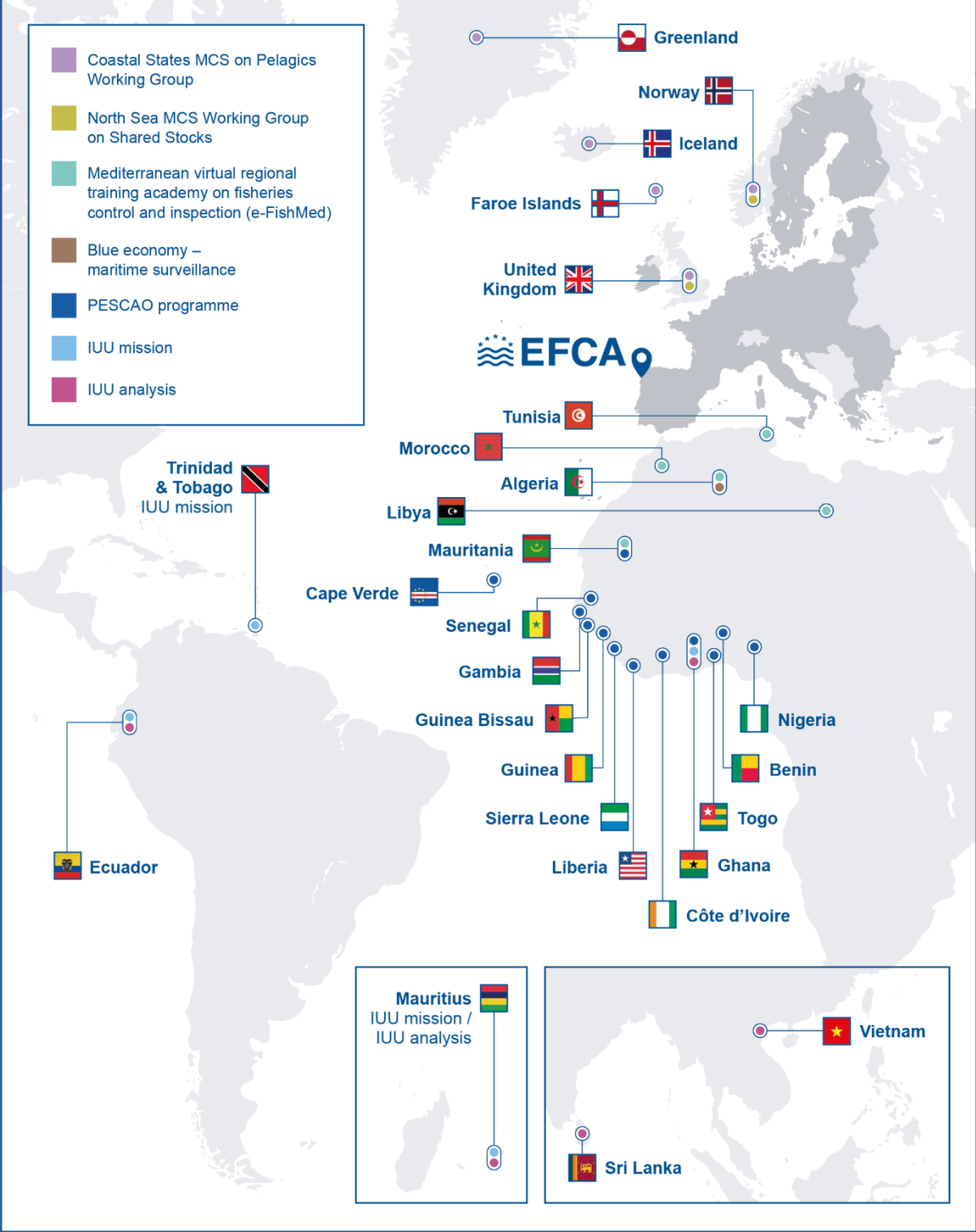
Introduction

In line with the CFP basic regulation⁵⁷, the remit of EFCA, the Working Arrangements on EFCA's international activities between the European Commission and EFCA has been approved in 2020 by AB Decision 20-II-6. In this regard, considering the availability of resources and COVID-19 restrictions in some MS, the Agency continued to assist the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, in order to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.

⁵⁷ Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1954/2003 and (EC) No 1224/2009 and repealing Council Regulations (EC) No 2371/2002 and (EC) No 639/2004 and Council Decision 2004/585/EC (OJ L 354, 28.12.2013, p. 22); Article 30 of the CFP basic regulation: "The Union shall, including through the European Fisheries Control Agency ("the Agency"), cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, to strengthen compliance with measures, especially those to combat IUU fishing, in order to ensure that measures adopted by such international organisations are strictly adhered to".

EFCA International Dimension
2022

- Coastal States MCS on Pelagics Working Group
- North Sea MCS Working Group on Shared Stocks
- Mediterranean virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (e-FishMed)
- Blue economy – maritime surveillance
- PESCAO programme
- IUU mission
- IUU analysis



OBJECTIVE 5		
Support the EU in the implementation of the external dimension of the CFP		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
1. Support to the EU delegation in RFMOs meetings 2. Support in implementation of international inspection schemes, pilot projects and specific campaigns 3. Support as regards training and assistance to Third Countries in relation to MCS activities 4. Assistance to the European Commission on analysis and evaluation mission to third countries as regards the implementation of the IUU Regulation 5. Increased collaboration between Member States IUU competent authorities in the organisation of training sessions, verification process and risk analysis relating to the import of fisheries products to the EU		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. % of RFMOs and third countries to which EFCA assisted on Commission requests ⁵⁸	100%	100%
2. % of analysis of catch certificates and supporting documents provided timely to the Commission ⁵⁹	100%	100%
3. IUU training sessions satisfaction rate	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good) >80%	88%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Tasks assigned to EFCA in relation to RFMOs delivered	Yes	
2. Pilot projects and cooperation with third countries delivered in accordance with the annual strategy	Yes	
3. Capacity building delivered to third countries as requested	Yes	
4. Analysis of information and reports of missions in third countries encompassing IUU Regulation	Yes	
5. Training sessions and seminars for Member States IUU competent authorities delivered	Yes	

1. Support to the EU delegation in RFMOs meetings

Throughout 2022 EFCA has closely supported DG MARE during the preparation, participation and follow-up of the EU representation in relevant Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs), namely GFCM, ICCAT, NAFO and NEAFC. This has included providing technical advice and contributions to EU proposals, reporting and general support to the EU engagement during the intersessional and annual meeting proceedings.

Throughout the first half of 2022 all meetings were conducted online with some presential meetings towards the end of the year. In this regard, EFCA personnel supported the EU delegation in the GFCM, ICCAT, NAFO and NEAFC Annual meetings, which were all conducted in person.

⁵⁸ In accordance with Annex XII

⁵⁹ In accordance with Annex XII

International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas, ICCAT

As regards ICCAT, EFCA participated and supported the EU Delegation in a number of intersessional meetings and technical working groups on monitoring and control issues. EFCA also participated in all relevant technical and coordination meetings with Member States in support of the activities for which they coordinate on behalf of the EU, such as the implementation of the ICCAT Joint Schemes of International Inspection, and also providing support in the development of new monitoring and control provisions. EFCA supported Member States and the European Commission in the review- of the BFT Management Plan as well as supporting other priority control areas and contributing to the work of the Compliance Committee in reviewing third country compliance with ICCAT conservation and management measures.

An EFCA staff member continued to chair the ICCAT panel that deals with the development and reviewing of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance issues (PWG - Permanent Working Group), as well as chair the newly established Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group (EMS-WG) and Catch Document Systems Working Groups (CDS-WG) and the Technical Working Group for the Electronic Bluefin Catch Document Programme (eBCD TWG). These required close coordination with the European Commission, ICCAT Contracting Parties and the ICCAT Secretariat and relevant stakeholders and participation in other relevant meetings where required.

Below there is a summary of dedicated events attended and/or chaired by EFCA staff in relation to the cooperation with ICCAT. The list does not include EU technical meetings, EU coordination, meetings with other ICCAT CPCs and/or internal meetings and bilateral meetings with the Commission, which were conducted both online and in person.

ICCAT Events/ meetings		
Events/meetings	Dates	Venue
First meeting of the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working	28 February	Online
Mediterranean Albacore Working Group	9-10 February	Online
Meeting of the Ad-hoc Working Group on Labour Standards	14-15 March	Online
Intersessional meeting of ICCAT Panel 2	4-7 March	Online
Catch Document Systems Working Group	4-5 April	Online
eBCD Technical Working Group	6-7 April	Online
ICCAT Panel on Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)	8-10 June	Online
Second meeting of the Electronic Monitoring Systems Working Group	6-7 June	Online
Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance	13 June	Online
Intersessional meeting of ICCAT Panel 1	13 October	Online
ICCAT Annual Meeting	14-22 November	Vale do Lobo, Portugal

General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean, GFCM

Regarding GFCM, EFCA participated in technical meetings with the Commission and MS and assisted in the development of proposals related to monitoring and control measures. EFCA continued to provide general support to DG MARE as regards control issues following specific requests from the Commission, as well as implementing specific projects in cooperation with third countries. This included implementing a Pilot Project in the Adriatic Sea on demersal and pelagic fisheries in association with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro and a Pilot Project for common dolphinfish in

association with Tunisia and Malta. Both Pilot Projects were conducted in full collaboration with the Member States, the European Commission and the GFCM Secretariat.

EFCA also supported the European Commission in a number of horizontal control initiatives in the GFCM including moving towards a Regional VMS, traceability and other control tools in the fight against IUU fishing and the strengthening of the GFCM compliance process.

GFCM meetings contributed to and/or attended by EFCA are listed below. As above this does not include EU technical meetings, delegation coordination and meetings with other GFCM CPCs:

GFCM Events/ meetings		
Events/meetings	Dates	Venue
Working group on VMS and related control systems (WGVMS)	24-25 May	Online
Working group on Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing	26 May	Online
Compliance Committee	27 May	Online
GFCM Annual Meeting	7-11 November	Tirana, Albania

Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization, NAFO

During 2022, within the EFCA sphere of competence and drawing on professional experience, EFCA provided technical support to the Commission on NAFO matters and participated in several meetings, either online or at in-person meetings, as presented below. The role of EFCA was to participate and support the Commission and Member States with regard to formulating and analysing proposals for NAFO CEM amendments and matters related to fisheries control in the NAFO Regulatory Area. This involved assisting the Commission in its preparation for the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) intersessional and meeting, NAFO Annual Meeting, Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) and STACTIC Working Groups meetings, also providing technical support during these meetings.

The outputs from the STACTIC meetings also fed into the NAFO/NEAFC JDP, where Member States were informed on the NAFO CEM changes. This is very important for maintaining a level playing field within the Union and deliver a high level of control in Union ports and in the Member States' Fisheries Monitoring Centres.

Various tasks have been delegated to EFCA from the Commission. The list of EU inspectors and inspection means were provided to NAFO Secretariat in accordance with established timelines and updated as required. EFCA also provided copies of all at-sea inspection reports to the NAFO Secretariat for uploading them on the NAFO MCS website. After the amendment of the NAFO Regulation (EU) 2019/833 in July 2021, EFCA also was timely providing to NAFO Secretariat list of EU NAFO observers, deployments of observers on board EU fishing vessels and observer trip reports. EFCA also contributed to the preparation of the EU NAFO Annual Report on control activities and hosted the NAFO Observer's workshop.

NAFO meetings with EFCA participation		
Meetings	Dates	Venue
NAFO STACTIC Intersessional Meeting	9 - 12 May	Hybrid (Halifax); EFCA participated online
NAFO Editorial Drafting Group (EDG)	14 July 31 October	Online
NAFO Observer Program Review Working Group (WG-OPR)	26 - 28 July	Hybrid (Montreal); EFCA participated online

NAFO WG on control of LO	29 - 30 August	Online
NAFO Observers' Workshop	29 - 30 Nov	Vigo, Spain
NAFO Annual Meeting (STACTIC Meeting)	19 - 23 September	Porto, Portugal

North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission, NEAFC

EFCA provided technical support to the Commission also on NEAFC matters and participated in relevant meetings, as presented below. The role of EFCA was to participate and support the Commission and Member States with regard to formulating recommendations and analysing proposed amendments of the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement and NEAFC recommendations on management of fisheries resources. This involved assisting the Commission in its preparation for the PECMAC meetings and the NEAFC Annual Meeting and providing technical support during these meetings.

The NAFO/NEAFC JDP for 2023, which was adopted in 2022, includes elements reflecting the outcome of the PECMAC meetings, in particular relevant changes of the NEAFC Scheme.

Various tasks have been delegated to EFCA from the Commission. The list of EU inspectors and inspection means was provided to the NEAFC Secretariat in accordance with established timelines and updated as required. EFCA also coordinated preparation of the NEAFC Annual Report on EU control activities, by collating Member States' data and presented the summarised report at the PECMAC summer meeting.

Below is an overview of EFCA participation in meetings organised by NEAFC.

NEAFC meetings with EFCA participation		
Meetings	Dates	Venue
NEAFC PECMAC Informal Meeting	28-29 June	Bergen
	12 September	Online
NEAFC Annual meeting	15-18 November	London

Trilateral EU – NO – UK Monitoring Control and Surveillance Working Group (MCSWG) for the North Sea

In 2022, EFCA assisted the Commission in the trilateral meetings of the MCS Working Group (MCSWG) with NO and the UK on the Shared stocks in the North Sea, particularly regarding surveillance and control issues of these stocks, which concern cod, haddock, saithe, whiting, plaice and herring. In its support, EFCA plays an active part in the coordination of control activities foreseen in the work programme of the MCSWG and attended by video conference the hybrid meeting that took place on 5 and 6 April, where very diverse topics within the scope of the working group mandate were discussed.

In October 2022, EFCA organised and hosted a seminar addressing the trilateral cooperation on control in the North Sea, where various cases on control issues were discussed, including procedures for establishing real time closures to protect juveniles, technical measures, inspection procedures, weighing and catch registration, the use of REM, EFCA IMS, and the introduction of novel technologies such as RPAS and automatic catch identification (CatchID) technology.

In October (12 – 19 October), an EFCA coordinator participated in an exchange on the UK FPV, Trafalgar Sentinel, taking part in the patrol as an observer. Based on the observer report of this exchange the MCSWG will reflect on an agreed template for future exchanges.

Coastal States Monitoring Control and Surveillance Working Group for pelagic stocks

EFCA supported the Commission in two important meetings regarding the standing agreement on MCS negotiations for pelagic stocks involving the Coastal States in the North-east Atlantic (EU, Norway, UK, Iceland, Faroese Islands, Greenland). EFCA participation took place online on 17 January and 23 February. At the latter an agreement was reached by the coastal States on the pelagic stocks.

2. Support in implementation of international inspection schemes, pilot projects and specific campaigns

EFCA carried out their operational activities through the Mediterranean JDP, which fully implemented the ICCAT and GFCM International Inspection Schemes involving the inspections at sea and sightings of third country fishing vessels and reporting to GFCM and flag States concerned in full cooperation with the Commission and the Member States (see Objective 2 point 4. *Assistance to Member States, including to Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation*).

The JDP was also used as a sustainable operational platform in relation with third countries in the scope of the GFCM to implement specific Pilot Projects, which, as mentioned above, included those in the Adriatic Sea on demersal and pelagic fisheries and in the central Mediterranean for common Dolphinfinch fisheries.

EFCA has continued to support the Commission in the implementation of a project in the scope of the WESTMED initiative on the establishment of Fighting Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fisheries Fishing Regional Academy – e-FishMed.

3. Support as regards training and assistance to Third Countries in relation to MCS activities

EFCA has not received any requests of assistance going beyond the framework of pilot projects e.g. PESCAO, Algeria, e-FishMed. More details on activities in relation to support third countries to MSC activities within aforementioned project could be found under objective No 6.

4. Assistance to the European Commission on analysis and evaluation mission to third countries as regards the implementation of the IUU Regulation

Regarding the analysis of the IUU Catch Certificates; Processing Statements and information from third countries, encompassing the IUU Regulation; the activities performed in 2022 by EFCA in support to third country evaluation missions of the European Commission; were the following:

- Sri Lanka – Catch Certificates (CC) analysis (February 2022).
- Ecuador – CC analysis and on the spot-mission (April 2022).
- Ghana - CC analysis and on the spot-mission (June-July 2022).
- Mauritius CC analysis and on the spot-mission (September 2022).
- Vietnam – CC analysis (October 2022).
- Trinidad & Tobago - on the spot-mission (December 2022).

Third country	Number of documents analysed		
	CCs	PS	Other documents
Sri Lanka	109	0	(+/-) 300
Ecuador	135	42	(+/-) 400
Ghana	56	11	(+/-) 100
Mauritius	79	48	(+/-) 200

Vietnam	198	52	(+/-) 600
Total	577	153	(+/-) 1600

Overall, 773 Catch Certificates and Processing Statements were analysed (to be noted that this figure only refers to CC and Annex IV specifically, not including all the accompanying documents).

5. Increased collaboration between Member States IUU competent authorities in the organisation of training sessions, verification process and risk analysis relating to the import of fisheries products to the EU

EFCA dedicated specific efforts and attention to the provision of training to Member States to assist them in the proper and uniform application of the IUU Regulation and to further foster cooperation and networking. To this end, the usual annual training cycle comprised of a “Newcomers” training (22-24 March 2022) and an “Advanced level” training (5-7 July 2022) was organised online. EFCA also organised its annual plenary seminar/steering group meeting on training and exchange of experience in relation to the implementation of the IUU Regulation on 15 December 2022.

Also, after consultation with DG Mare, EFCA gave access to a specific area of its e-learning platform (IUU module) to 78 officials in charge of catch certificates’ verifications in Northern Ireland-United Kingdom.

OBJECTIVE 6		
To strengthen compliance through the implementation of EU international projects as regards fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implementation of the Annual work Programme of the projects 2. Harmonisation of third countries legal framework in accordance with international standards 3. Increased capacity of third countries fisheries inspectors and other officials 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Joint regional missions organised with EFCA support	2	4
2. Number of trained officials in the areas covered by SRFC and FCWC	20	183
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Implementation of the activities plan for 2022 in the Multiannual 6-year PESCAO project	Yes	
2. Implementation of the activities plan for 2022 in the Multiannual 3-year Mediterranean Virtual Training Academy project	Yes	
3. Periodic reports of cooperation delivered to EC	Yes	
4. Training workshop at national and regional level, including dedicated training actions funded by international partners and agreed by the EC	Yes	

5. Implementation of international Projects under the Blue Economy - Fisheries and aquaculture in Algeria and the ECOFISH ⁶⁰ Programme in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean regions	Yes
---	-----

1. Implementation of the Annual work Programme of the projects

PESCAO project

The PESCAO programme was developed in the framework of the Regional Indicative Programme for Western Africa, both on component 1 (peace and security) and 3 (resilience). The Action Document was adopted by the Commission on 28 April 2017 - Decision C (2017)2951. EFCA signed its first grant contract with the EU Delegation in Senegal in March 2018 and the second one in November 2021. The specific objective of PESCAO is to improve regional fisheries governance in Western Africa through better coordination of national fisheries policies. There are 3 expected results:

- Result 1: A Western African fisheries and aquaculture policy is developed and coordination of regional stakeholders is improved.
- Result 2: Prevention of and responses to IUU fishing are strengthened through improved Monitoring, Control and Surveillance at national and regional levels.
- Result 3: Marine resources management at the regional level is improved, building resilience of marine and coastal ecosystems to perturbations.

In the framework of PESCAO - Result 2, EFCA continued during 2022 to provide technical support to the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, the Fisheries Committee for the Western Central Gulf of Guinea and their member countries, in a coordinated manner, applying its experience in the EU context.

Results in relation to the project are presented below under point 2 *Harmonisation of third countries legal framework in accordance with international standards* and 3 *Increased capacity of third countries fisheries inspectors and other officials*.

e-FishMed project:

EFCA is part of the Project “Mediterranean virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (eFish-Med)”, which promotes cooperation in the fight against IUU fishing, and the implementation of GCFM and ICCAT conservation and management measures.

The e-FishMed project is financed under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF). The Implementing Decision – C(2021) 3870 final - was adopted on 4 June 2021, the Contribution Agreement was signed by EFCA and DG MARE on 16 December 2021 and the project started on 1 February 2022.

The Overall Objective of the Project is to support the effective implementation of conservation and management measures through enhanced capacities, knowledge, skills and competences in fisheries control and inspection and fight against IUU fishing.

EFCA will conduct specific capacity building activities in the following target five Northern African/WestMed countries: Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia (hereinafter, “the Beneficiary Countries”).

EU Member States (France, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain, hereinafter “the Project Partners”) being part of the WestMed initiative will also be engaged and provide additional technical support to EFCA for the implementation of the Project.

⁶⁰ The action entitled ‘Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries to the Blue Economy of the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region’ (ECOFISH programme), was adopted by the Commission Decision C(2018)4132, with an EU contribution of EUR 28 million to be implemented in 72 months until September 2024. The ECOFISH programme will strengthen policies and institutional frameworks for sustainable management of fisheries while improving capacities to combat IUU fishing and supporting small-scale inland and marine fisheries (<https://www.ecofish-programme.org/>).

The specific objective of eFishMed is to improve national and regional MCS systems of Beneficiary Countries by setting-up a virtual regional training academy.

There are 3 expected results:

- Result 1: Development of a common training curriculum as a contribution to harmonisation of MCS activities across Beneficiary Countries.
- Result 2: Make available a set of e-learning modules and training material, made available online, improving the effectiveness of training activities for MCS Staff in Beneficiary Countries.
- Result 3: Set up of a staff exchange Project and organisation of training sessions through an e-learning platform, facilitating the exchange of experience and best practices between EFCA, Project Partners and Beneficiary Countries.

In relation to general administration activities, the e-FishMed kick-off meeting was organised online on 26 May 2022. The main objective of the meeting was to initiate discussions between EFCA, the Beneficiary Countries (Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia), and the Project Partners (France, Italy, Malta, Portugal and Spain). During the meeting EFCA presented an overview of the project, the short-term activities, the methodology for the evaluation of needs, as well as the proposed workplan for year 1.

The Inception Report, presenting the initial activities undertaken during the first and second quarters of the project has been sent to DG MARE on 3 August 2022 (cf. Section 12 “Monitoring and Evaluation” of Annex I of the Contribution Agreement No SI2.859407).

When it comes to operational activities during the initial six months of the Project (inception phase), EFCA focused on:

- Analysing the existing training capacities in the Beneficiary Countries and evaluating possible needs in the framework of the e-FishMed project; this process is still ongoing.
- Gathering requirements, analysing, and elaborating a first technical and functional design of the e-FishMed e-learning platform.

From 1 August 2022, the Project entered the implementation phase. On 7 September 2022 a contract was signed with an external expert to develop a common/harmonised training curriculum for fisheries inspectors and Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) operators working in the e-FishMed area and a learning approach modelled on the Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF) phased-in system.

A technical and functional study is being carried out to match the design of the e-learning platform to the needs of the Beneficiary Countries. The first pilot project of the e-learning platform is currently tested internally.

Algeria project

In the framework of the European Commission's Decision “Blue economy - Fisheries and aquaculture”, EFCA provided assistance to Algeria for the establishment of a national VMS, including technical support for the evaluation of offers (call for tenders to be launched by *Expertise France*), setting-up of a national FMC, legal assistance to Algerian authorities, technical support on VMS equipment and training of FMC operators. This EFCA assistance aims, in particular, to ensure that the equipment complies with the provisions laid down by ICCAT and GFCM.

The main activity carried out since the beginning of the Project on 1 March 2022 was drafting a work plan for 2022-2023 EFCA activities, which was prepared and shared with the EUD Algiers. Then, a first steering committee of the Project was held online on 18 May 2022. This was the first plenary meeting with Algerian authorities and other partners. EFCA had the opportunity to give an overview of its activities and upcoming technical support, in partnership with *Expertise France*.

Also, a mapping of the number of active vessels to be equipped (in line with GFCM and ICCAT requirements) was finalised. In collaboration with the Algerian authorities, the characteristics of transponders that will equip the fishing vessels has also been validated.

Furthermore, EFCA finalized the drafting of the terms of reference for the calls for tenders. It was already agreed that a single call for tenders should be launched by *Expertise France*, both for the setting-up of the FMC and for the acquisition of the transponders.

It is important to note that at the request of the EUD, the logical framework annexed to the EFCA contract has been modified in order to align the objectives on the number of vessels to be equipped with the results of the mapping (703 active fishing vessels so far, *i.e.*, 100% of the eligible fleet).

2. Harmonisation of third countries legal framework in accordance with international standards

EFCA also continued its progress on harmonisation of third countries legal framework in accordance with international standards, in this regard EFCA updated its PESCAO legal study and supported Cape Verde and Mauritania in the drafting and review of their National Plan of Action against IUU fishing (NPOA-IUU). EFCA also supported Togo for the drafting of national implementing rules related to the implementation FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA). A first draft was presented to Togolese Authorities on 22 September 2022 via videoconference. The second/final draft is currently being finalised.

Moreover, EFCA finalised the legal support to Gambian Authorities resulting in a consolidated draft version of the “Fisheries Act”, and the subsequent “Fisheries Regulation”. Within the framework of this legal assistance, support was also provided for the drafting of the NPOA-IUU as well as a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen national cooperation in the implementation of Port State Measures and fishing vessels’ registration. In this regard, EFCA organised two inter-ministerial workshops for national authorities on MCS cooperation held in Banjul (The Gambia) on 8-9 December 2022 and in Dakar (Senegal) on 12-13 December 2022.

3. Increased capacity of third countries fisheries inspectors and other officials

EFCA continues its effort to increase capacity of third countries fisheries inspectors and other officials. In this context, EFCA organised a regional event for the “pool” of PESCAO trainers on training methodologies in Lomé (Togo) from 15 to 18 November 2022. The 19 participants from PESCAO countries were previously identified as national fisheries inspectors’ trainers and/or Fisheries Monitoring Centre (FMC) operators’ trainers. EFCA also organised and/or supported the following training events for fisheries inspectors and FMC operators, as well as judges and prosecutors, in 2022:

Event	Dates	Format	No of participants	% of satisfaction
PESCAO national training on inspection (Mauritania)	07-09/02/2022	Online	20	100
PESCAO national training on inspection (Mauritania)	22-24/02/2022	Online	20	100
EFCA support to ISMI regional seminar on fisheries inspection	21-25/03/2022	Abidjan	18	N.A.
PESCAO national training on inspection (Ivory Coast)	28-31/03/2022	Abidjan	20	100
PESCAO national training for FMC operators (Guinea)	04-07/04/2022	Online	9	N.A.
PESCAO national training on inspection (Guinea Bissau)	09-12/05/2022	Bissau	20	100
EFCA support to ISMI regional seminar on criminal regime of offenses committed at sea	16-20/05/2022	Abidjan	23	N.A.
PESCAO national training on inspection (Sierra Leone)	03-06/10/2022	Freetown	17	80
EFCA support to ISMI online seminar on the fight against illegal trafficking	08/11/2022	Online	N.A.	N.A.

When it comes to operational capacity support the FCWC and SRFC organised four joint operations in 2022 with EFCA support (see table below). The EFCA-PESCAO experts contributed with the provision of EFCA's IMS analysis of satellite images (Copernicus programme). This additional data included information such as vessel location, identification and tracking data (for example AIS). With a view to provide an updated maritime situational picture and consequently ensuring an informed decision as regards the areas of surveillance, the satellite images received were analysed and conveyed to the patrol assets.

The joint operations continue to contribute to the development of a culture of cooperation amongst the countries in the sub-regions, and to reinforce the cooperation between EFCA, FCWC and SRFC. The results of the joint control operations also underline their value as a robust instrument to curb IUU fishing in the sub-regions. The cooperation with FCWC also demonstrated the possibilities offered by the Regional Maritime Centre for Surveillance and Control (RMCS) based in Tema (Ghana) from which two "African Nemo" operations were coordinated. In 2022, EFCA supported the following operations:

Name of the operation	RFB	RFB countries/patrol means involved	Period of deployment	Number of sightings	Number of inspections	Number of infringements
Commissaire Lefdhal	SRFC	CV, MR, SN	11-20/02/2022	266	159	13
Bica	SRFC	GW, GN, SL	14-22/05/2022	57	45	3
Total: 2 SRFC operations				323	204	16
African Nemo 22.2	FCWC/FR	BN, CI, GH, NI, TG	18-22/04/2022	35	-	3
African Nemo 22.4	FCWC/FR	BN, CI, GH, NI, TG	18-24/09/2022	65	-	-
Total: 2 FCWC/FR operations				100	-	3
Grand total: 4 FCWC/SRFC operations				423	204	19

To this end, it is important to note that EFCA also supported FCWC for the finalisation of Standard Operational Procedures (SOPs) related to the Regional Observer Programme and the RMCSC. EFCA also worked on the drafting of a manual of procedures for fisheries inspectors from Cape Verde.



1.2.1.4 EU COOPERATION IN COAST GUARD (OBJECTIVES 7 AND 8)

EFCA was primarily focused to support fisheries control using the available chartered means, as well as liaising with other agencies relevant actors in order to obtain available services which could be beneficial for MS fisheries control authorities (e.g., new technologies).

More specifically, in relation to chartered assets EFCA operated in total 3 offshore fisheries patrols in 2022, namely Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel in line with the JDP planning (Western Waters, North Sea and Mediterranean JDPs). In addition to the OPVs, EFCA operated a fixed wing aircraft dedicated for fisheries control. The process was done under the inter-institutional framework service contract for Surveillance Aircraft Services for Border & Coast Guard Functions to which EFCA is a participating institution.

OBJECTIVE 7		
Support to fisheries control and other ⁶¹ national authorities working in the field of Coast Guard functions		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Higher level of fisheries control ensured by making available services/means Antipollution equipment and supplies installed on board of the Charter OPVs Enhanced interagency operational cooperation and cost-effective use of means Ensure the involvement of the fisheries community in initiatives of other Agencies Cooperation with EMSA and Frontex in the EUCG initiative implemented Cooperation with other EU Agencies (i.e., EU SATCEN, ESA, EUSPA) in projects related with control technologies Further promotion of the use of new technologies for fisheries purposes, including in cooperation with other EU agencies 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Percentage of EFCA chartered means operational days carried out in multipurpose operations	60%	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Charter of three OPVs	Yes	
2. Charter or provision of air surveillance control means	Yes	
3. Readiness to provide support to MS during emergency situations at sea in relation to oil spills	Yes	
4. Contribution to the implementation of the EUMSS Action Plan	Yes	
5. Participation in the EUROPOL EMPACT Action Plan on fisheries	Yes	
6. Implementation of the CG Annual Strategic Plan under the TWA	Yes	

⁶¹ Article 3(3) of the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund and repealing Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (COM(2018) 390 final, defines coastguard as follows: coastguard' means national authorities performing coastguard functions, which encompass maritime safety, maritime security, maritime customs, prevention and suppression of trafficking and smuggling, connected maritime law enforcement, maritime border control, maritime surveillance, protection of the marine environment, search and rescue, accident and disaster response, fisheries control and other activities related to those functions

7. Support to CG forums (ECGFF, MCGFF) to implement joint initiatives of cooperation	Yes
8. Specific actions implemented under the close cooperation from other Agencies and with other projects in benefit of fisheries control	Yes
9. Analysis of feasibility to incorporate non-cooperative information in the EFCA systems for fisheries control	Yes
10. Use of new technologies for fisheries control by MS	Yes

1. Higher level of fisheries control ensured by making available services/means

EFCA's fleet consisted of three OPVs chartered in 2022: Lundy Sentinel, for a total of 10 months, until mid-December, Aegis until March 2022 and Ocean Sentinel for a first patrol in December 2022. These OPVs have been assigned as fisheries inspection platforms for JDPs in line with the JDP planning (Western Waters, North Sea and Mediterranean JDPs). See in Annex I a dedicated report of the EFCA chartered means activities.

At the beginning of the year, EFCA was operating under strict COVID-19 protocol which was applicable to its chartered means. Situation in this regard was constantly assessed; thus in June 2022 leading to downscaling some measures in this regard (e.g. removing obligatory PCR test before joining the OPVs) while in September, after considering the overall situation in the EU as regards the pandemic, the COVID-19 protocol for the EFCA OPVs was suspended.

Lundy Sentinel

In total the vessel performed 302 operational days at sea, delivering 239 fisheries sightings, 138 inspections leading to 55 detected suspected infringement.

There were 42 MS Union inspectors hosted onboard of the EFCA chartered OPV in the framework of JDP (for more details see Objective 1 and Annex I) and 5 third country observers / inspectors.

Lundy Sentinel continued to operate a light RPAS quadcopter to support fisheries control and to perform a pre-boarding assessment for safety and security reasons, including open spaces on board (to reduce risk of COVID-19 contamination). This RPAS service is provided by EMSA together with a SatCom service allowing the flights to be followed in almost real time from remote locations by EFCA staff. During 2022, a total of 138 flights followed inspections or surveillance of fishing vessels and additional 11 flights served for operational testing purpose.

Special health safety related measures (EFCA COVID-19 Protocol) were also applied to EFCA and MS Union inspectors joining the vessel until the end of September.

The patrols at sea were established through a risk-based approach and via the cooperation of the TJDGs members operating from Member States FMCs and/or from the EFCA Coordination Centre, which can also operate on a virtual mode.

OPV was also having the medical personnel deployed for the mission in the MED JDP. The medical service was provided on board Lundy Sentinel from 21 July to 30 September 2022. There were two interventions done in 2022, one on 29 July on board of an EU fishing vessel providing assistance to the injured crew member, and on 23 August, when a MS inspector deployed on board of the OPV needed medical assistance.

Aegis

Thanks to the SLA in place between EFCA and EMSA, EFCA had the possibility to charter additional capacity to support MS in a scope the JDP, to support the control of the fisheries situation in the North Sea and Western Waters as a result of the EU-UK Trade Cooperation Agreement. With the Notice of Mobilisation of Aegis to EFCA, the vessel was delivered from EMSA to EFCA in Port of Piraeus (Greece) on 10 September 2021 until 31 March 2022.

In 2022, EFCA OPV Aegis was operational 40 days at sea, with a total of performed 31 sightings, 5 inspections and 1 suspected infringement detected. Due to the limited specific contract which was valid

till the end of March, and to a breakdown of the vessel, Aegis operational performance in 2022 was limited.

There were 2 MS Union inspectors hosted onboard of this EFCA chartered OPV in the framework of JDP (for more details see Annex I).

Ocean Sentinel

The latest chartered OPV to join EFCA fleet was Ocean Sentinel, once the 1st SC implementing the framework contract No EFCA/FRA/2022/02 was signed.

Ocean Sentinel conducted her first patrol in December 2022.

It was operational 24 days at sea, with a total of 5 performed sightings, 5 inspections and 2 suspected infringements detected.

There were 3 MS Union inspectors hosted onboard of EFCA chartered OPV in the framework of JDP (for more details see Objective 1).

Chartered aerial surveillance

EFCA is part of the Inter Institutional framework contract Aerial Surveillance Services for Border & Coast Guard Functions launched by Frontex in 2020 and awarded in 2021. Through the call, EFCA had the opportunity to charter flights for Mid-Range or Long-Range Maritime Area Aerial Surveillance.

In 2022, EFCA launched a Specific Contract for aerial surveillance services for fisheries control in the context of JDPs.

A fixed wing aircraft (FWA) deployment took place between November and December 2022, from Cork (Ireland), with a total of 84 flight hours and 53 sightings performed, in the scope of the Western Waters JDP. Flights were coordinated by EFCA from the coordination centre in cooperation with the Irish authorities. Further details on this deployment are provided in Objective 1, when presenting the implementation of the WW JDP.

2. Antipollution equipment and supplies installed on board of the charter OPVs

It worths mentioning, that besides fisheries control tasks, two of the EFCA's OPV's were made available to multipurpose tasks in the framework of European cooperation on coastguard functions, such as assistance and pollution response operations, in cooperation with Member State authorities, Frontex and EMSA. In that respect, Lundy Sentinel and Aegis had on board equipment for pollution response, and dedicated supplies were placed on board all three OPVs.

In order to be ready to face situations requiring immediate assistance to persons found in distress at sea, all the EFCA's OPV's are equipped with additional food and first aid supplies to support mass-rescue operations. It is important to underline that the Lundy Sentinel and Aegis were available for potential pollution response or other safety related tasks also during the quarantine periods established by the EFCA protocol for the OPVs to address the coronavirus pandemic.

EFCA operated Lundy Sentinel with pollution response equipment installed on board, consisting of oil dispersant spray booms and an oil recovery trawl, to neutralise oil spills, provided by EMSA. This pollution response capacity was available to the EU Member States at their request. The OPV Lundy Sentinel was notified to the EU's Common Emergency Communication Information System (CECIS) as a vessel of opportunity (VOO). After the expiration of the Lundy Sentinel FWC, in mid-December, this pollution response equipment was redelivered to EMSA.

3. Enhanced interagency operational cooperation and cost-effective use of means

In cooperation with EMSA, EFCA has been active in the use and in the promotion of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) for fisheries control. These activities can essentially be summarised in the use of an RPAS on board the EFCA chartered vessel and in the cooperation with Member States fisheries authorities to demand RPAS services or to make the best use of existing RPAS services provided by EMSA in their waters.

Regarding the first activity mentioned above, a light quadcopter RPAS seaborne from the OPV Lundy Sentinel, was operated during the year of 2022, as a complementary fisheries control tool to have initial pre-boarding assessments, to monitor the ongoing inspections on board fishing vessels and to monitor post-boarding activities of the previously inspected vessel. More detailed assessment please consult Annex I: Activity Report EFCA chartered maritime and aerial assets – 2022.

EFCA chartered vessel Lundy Sentinel was also contributing to ECGFF exercise COASTEX22 while using opportunity of vessels presence in the context of the MED JDP.

4. Ensure the involvement of the fisheries community in initiatives of other Agencies and 5. Cooperation with EMSA and Frontex in the EUCG initiative implemented

The involvement of the fisheries community in the initiatives of other Agencies can be an added value for a more global and comprehensive approach to fisheries inspection and control. The cooperation with EMSA and Frontex is fundamental for this approach.

One concrete example to illustrate the involvement of the fisheries community in the initiatives of other Agencies is EFCA's cooperation with Europol in the field of fisheries.

EFCA was involved as participant in the Operational Action (OA) Wildlife trafficking for the part concerning to Fisheries and in the Operational Action Jaguar Network focused on cooperation with Central and South America countries, also for the part related to fisheries.

In 2022 EFCA participated in several meetings organised by EUROPOL for National Contact Points (NEC) during which the general strategy is defined with participating States and other EU agencies. Also, EFCA participated actively to some specific strategic and operational meetings at OAP ENVICRIME Level, including some strategic meeting at OA level.

On 13-14 September 2022 in Vigo, EFCA, in close cooperation with EUROPOL, organised the annual meeting of the Operation LAKE. This operation is a specific action for the fight against illegal trafficking of Glass Eel. Several EU MSs (from law enforcement community, including fisheries control authorities) participated in this meeting, as well as participants from US, Colombia, DG Santé, Interpol and OLAF. This was a good opportunity to further promote awareness of MS of specific topic as well as facilitate closer interaction between MS various authorities.

Implementation of the annual strategic plan agreed with EMSA and Frontex under the TWA

The Annual Strategic Plan agreed between EFCA, EMSA and Frontex under the Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA) covered the five coast guard cooperation areas, with EFCA coordinating the Capacity Building and Risk Assessment areas. The TWA coast guard cooperation was chaired by Frontex during the first half of 2022 and by EMSA during the second half of the year. An overview of the activities held in 2022 under the cooperation areas coordinated by EFCA is provided in the Annex I.

TWA Steering Committee

The TWA Steering Committee, composed by the Executive Directors of the three agencies, is the main forum to define and establish the priorities of the cooperation, through an Annual Strategic Plan (ASP). On 6 of July 2022, the 7th Steering Committee of the chaired by EMSA TWA took place in Lisbon.. The ASP for 2023 was agreed as a project oriented plan and focusing on specific engagements of Member States national authorities. The ASP for 2023 was incorporated in the EFCA Single Programming Document and Work Programme for 2023.

A detailed report of the implementation of the annual strategic plan agreed with EMSA and Frontex during 2022 can be found in Annex I.

Five Coast Guard Cooperation Areas



Sharing of information

EFCA Integrated Maritime Services
Sightings / observations



Surveillance and Communication services

Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems
Piloted Fixed Wing Aircraft
Copernicus Maritime Services



Capacity Building and Training

Coast Guard Practical Handbook
Cross-sector training and capacity building



Cooperation on risk analysis

Cross-sector risk analysis
Risk Analysis products



Capacity Sharing

Multipurpose Maritime Operations
Operational briefings
Sharing of airborne and seaborne capacity
Exercises

Capacity Building

Regarding the Capacity Building area of the cooperation between EFCA, EMSA and Frontex, which EFCA is coordinating, all activities planned under cross-sectoral capacity building were implemented according to the plan:

- Awareness session Maritime Surveillance:

The session covered as main general subjects, Maritime surveillance for fisheries control, Maritime information and surveillance services as the Integrated Maritime Service (IMS), Automated Behaviour Monitoring (ABM), Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems Services (RPAS), Earth Observation Services (EO) and Monitoring of External Sea Borders and operational response (Eurosur Fusion Services, Maritime pre-frontier monitoring).

- Joint EMSA-EFCA workshop on maritime safety and fisheries control rules applicable to fishing vessels:

The session joined the Member States communities of EFCA and EMSA and was jointly organised by both Agencies and hosted by EFCA. The subjects covered by EMSA included the international safety instruments (Torremolinos and Cape Town Agreement and Directive 97/70/EC), Dir 97/70/EC Harmonized safety regime for fishing vessels, case studies, International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F) and Fishing vessel safety inspection: what to look for.

The subjects covered by EFCA included the identification of fishing vessels and their activities, an overview of fishing vessels and master's declarations, an overview of documentation and systems on board of fishing vessels and specific fisheries control regime applicable to non-EU fishing vessels (IUU Regulation). A field visit in the port of Cangas do Morrazo was also organised in cooperation with the support of Spanish authorities visiting a Spanish vessel fishing in the NAFO area.

- Awareness session on Search and Rescue (SAR) for the non-SAR community:

As this was a session for the non-SAR community, the content of the session was general, for non-specialists and covered the legal framework of SAR, the IAMSAR Manual in general terms, technologies available for SAR and the presentations of two examples of national organisations of SAR. The three EU agencies also provided a short overview of some of their related services and their roles in the SAR mission.

There was, in general, a high interest from the different communities and the evaluation provided by participants confirmed this high interest. A number of participants requested follow up sessions on this subject. More details as regards the training sessions can be seen under objective No 3.

Furthermore, in this area of Capacity Building, activities related with the follow up of the European Coast Guard Functions Academy Network (ECGFA-Net) project, namely to foster a coast guard exchange programme and to promote the Coast Guard Sectoral Qualifications Framework (SQF) activities have been implemented through the Coast Guard Cooperation Handbook and Capacity Building Project (see Objective 8).

Risk assessment

A joint common document was developed describing the risk assessment frameworks of each agency and the support to Member States developed within each agency. This document also includes an overview of data and products available through the agencies and a comparative analysis of the risk methodologies and experimental combination of risk assessment products.

Moreover, an exercise on how to combine the outcome of risk assessments or risk assessment related information in an info-graphic was explored. The diversity of the information to be combined and the different methodologies in use by each agency is wide and further development is required.

Annual European Coast Guard Event

The Annual European Coast Guard Event of 2022 was hosted by Frontex in Warsaw as a hybrid meeting. EFCA presented the Coast Guard Handbook and Capacity Building Project⁶² and coordinated a break-out session under the theme “Practical handbook on European cooperation on coast guard functions and Capacity Building”. The break out session covered the following general subjects:

- Practical Handbook on European Cooperation on CGF.
- Coast Guard Capacity Building and Training Network and Sectoral Qualifications Framework.
- Online platform - European Coast Guard Handbook beta version of the online platform (Portal) demo and introduction.

The session allowed to raise awareness about the three subjects and to discuss with the participants the expected added value.

Cooperation with the Coast Guard Functions Fora

European Coast Guard Functions Forum

The three EU agencies, EFCA, EMSA and Frontex, have supporting the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF) with the organization of thematic workshops, in order to foster cooperation and the exchange of experience and best practices.

The chair of the ECGFF during 2021-2022 (first half) was Croatia. EFCA has contributed to ECGFF Workshops organized with EMSA and with Frontex. The ECGFF-EMSA workshop was on the use of “RPAS for maritime Surveillance” with a specific break out session on Fisheries Control was co-organised by EFCA and the Directorate-General for Natural Resources, Safety and Maritime Services of Portugal. The use of RPAS for different aspects of fisheries control were discussed, such as preboarding analysis, on the use of evidences in legal proceedings, on the discrepancies between Air

⁶² Project “Implementation of the results of the Coast Guard qualifications Network and the Practical Handbook on European cooperation on coast guard Functions”. Contribution Agreement attributed to EFCA through Commission Implementing Decision of 4.6.2021 on the financing of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2021, C(2021) 3870 final..

Space (FIR) management and EEZ. The ECGFF-Frontex workshop was on “Multipurpose Maritime Operations – Best Practices” and EFCA contributed with an intervention outlining its experience on MMO.

During the plenary of the ECGFF, a COASTEX22 exercise was also organised with the participation of the EFCA chartered vessel. The COASTEX22 had two scenarios, the first on illegal fishing and the second on Collision, search and rescue and pollution response. The EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel participated in the illegal fishing scenario and the exercise included communication with the EFCA Coordination Centre, the boarding of a simulated fishing vessel fishing illegally and the use of the light RPAS on board Lundy Sentinel, which was transmitting the video footage in real time to the plenary. Euronews was on board the EFCA vessel and on board the Croatian vessel and the released video about the exercise can be seen under the following link:

<https://www.euronews.com/video/2022/09/27/coastex-22-preparing-the-worst-scenarios-to-ensure-the-best-outcomes>

Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum

The Italian Coast Guard organized and chaired from the 29 September to the 1 October 2022, in Naples, the Conference of the Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF) on the theme of “The new challenges in the Mediterranean Sea among blue economy, ecological transition and Coast Guard functions”. The conference brought together EU and non-EU Mediterranean countries and served as a platform of exchange of experience and best practices. EFCA contributed with an intervention on Next generation EU: Focus on fisheries activities.

Coast Guard Global Summit

Another important area of work was implemented in cooperation with the Coast Guard Global Summit (CGGS), which is an initiative launched at a global level by the Japan Coast Guard (JPG) to join in a non-binding, voluntary, independent and non-political forum Coast Guards and agencies of the world to foster dialogue and cooperation among them. Training and Capacity Building has been an activity promoted by the JPCG and associated partners within a Pilot Programme. EFCA, EMSA and Frontex have been contributing to this horizontal initiative also in 2022.

North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum

The North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum (NACGF) brings together EU and non-EU countries from both sides of the North Atlantic. EFCA contributed also in 2022 to the Experts Meeting Fisheries enforcement working group and participated also in the plenary conference in October 2022 hosted by Spain. The EFCA Executive Director delivered a keynote speech presenting “EFCA activities in fisheries control”.

The European Union Maritime Security Strategy and its Action Plan

The European Union Maritime Security Strategy⁶³ (EU MSS) and the respective Action Plan were adopted in 2014, with a revision of the Action Plan in 2018. A process of a comprehensive revision of the EU MSS and Action Plan was started in 2022 to address new and emerging threats that have evolved since 2014 and also consequence of the new geopolitical situation after the Ukraine invasion by Russia. EFCA has contributed through DG MARE to the revision of the EU MSS and Action Plan by providing information related to its activities and operations in the context of its mandate and under the European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions.

Cooperation with US in the field of maritime domain awareness

As based on previous year’s operational cooperation with US Navy, EFCA continued its participation in the PHOENIX EXPRESS exercise as an observer in the PHOENIX EXPRESS 2022 (PE22) exercise organised by US navy which was also supported by US CG. The overall aim of the exercise was to improve regional cooperation, increase maritime domain awareness (MDA) information-sharing

⁶³ https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime-security_en

practices, and enhance operational capabilities to achieve safety and security in the Mediterranean Sea.

In July 2022, in Tunis, EFCA participated in the Annual Senior Leadership Symposium meeting organised by the US Navy. The main goal of this meeting was to understand and discuss regional maritime opportunities and challenges for the Mediterranean Sea. Besides EFCA there were the US, Italy, Spain, Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritania, Malta, United Kingdom, Egypt, Algeria, Libya, France and Canada delegations.

6. Cooperation with other Agencies (i.e., EU SATCEN, ESA, EUSPA) in projects related with control technologies

In line with EFCA's Administrative Board authorisation provided to the EFCA Executive Director in 2021 and 2022, EFCA has approached the European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA), the EU Satellite Centre (EU SatCen), the European Space Agency (ESA) for the possibility to formalise bilateral inter-agency cooperation with each of these agencies. For that purpose, the agencies established contact points to deal with the administrative procedure necessary to set up an administrative cooperation.

European Union Agency for the Space Programme (EUSPA)

Following Administrative Board agreement through written procedure in January 2022, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between EFCA and the EUSPA was successfully concluded and signed by both Executive Directors during their meeting on 3 May 2022 at EUSPA, in Prague. For the time being, EFCA is providing technical advice and consultation in relation to the fisheries control area as regards two projects:

1. Bluebox prototype with OS-NMA, funded under GSA/GRANT/02/2019 – Bluebox Porbeagle VMS, having as scope the development of a transceiver to report to authorities the position of the vessel computed with Galileo and authenticated with OS-NMA.
2. Remotely Activated Beacon for fishing vessels, funded under H2020/GSA/GRANT/101004292 – GAMBAS, having as scope the development of a search and rescue beacon with the capability to be remotely activated by the rescue coordination centres.

In relation to the Bluebox project, at the end of September 2022, EFCA has been formally approached by EUSPA and the company in charge of the Project which is developing technical solutions in relation to the Bluebox project, asking EFCA to facilitate getting in contact with MS fisheries control authorities, in order to collect important technical information to complete the list of environmental and electromagnetic compatibility requirements applicable for different FMC/MS. EFCA has done so through information to Member States and through the Administrative Board.

EU Satellite Centre (EU SatCen)

When it comes to cooperation with EU SatCen, the Administrative Arrangement document is in its final draft stage. While there is an agreement in principle between SatCen and EFCA on content and format, the document was not ready by 2022 to be presented for Administrative Board endorsement given ongoing discussions at EU SatCen and European Commission level on the general EU SatCen mandate and future mission as a provider of services to Commission bodies and agencies. Although the current standstill is beyond EFCA's control, it is envisaged to finalise the approval and signing procedure as soon as possible and preferably before the year-end.

European Space Agency (ESA)

EFCA has established dialogue with the European Space Agency for the preparation of a MoU. A draft MoU is in the final draft stage with both agencies having reached an agreement in principle on the text. The draft MoU between EFCA and ESA is expected to be ready to be submitted for agreement to the EFCA Administrative Board in 2023.

Bilateral cooperation with EMSA

EFCA and EMSA EDs have signed the updated SLA in December 2022. The new SLA with EMSA extends the cooperation to other areas and covers overall i) the provision of IMS for EFCA, ii) provision of vessels suitable for fisheries monitoring and control purposes, iii) Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) services, iv) Copernicus Maritime Surveillance services, v) pollution response services, and as new areas vi) assistance in training and capacity building activities and vii) supporting the evolution of the maritime awareness picture. In addition, the SLA foresees a specific agreement defining associated financial resources and also an annual work programme with the specific activities to be implemented.

7. Further promotion of the use of new technologies for fisheries purposes, including in cooperation with other EU agencies

How we can benefit from control technologies?

-  Filling up in maritime awareness gap
-  Sharing limited capacity
-  Economies of scale
-  Increased reaction capacity
-  Continuous vessel behaviours monitoring
-  Planners and decision makers are better informed
-  Facilitating information sharing among authorities and across borders
-  Supporting further development of user community specific technologies
-  Contributing to the level playing field
-  Supporting sustainable exploitation of limited resources

EFCA Integrated Maritime Services (EFCA IMS)

The EFCA IMS – a web based real-time integrated maritime awareness application – is an indispensable platform providing real-time access to worldwide vessel position data and fisheries specific information in support of fisheries control coordination activities at EFCA and in the Member States. Being a textbook example of an enduring inter-agency cooperation between EMSA and EFCA – the application, driven by EFCA's consolidated user feedback and systematic functionality testing, is continuously being improved. Further information regarding the development of EFCA IMS in 2022 is provided in *Objective 2.3 Integrated Maritime Services (EFCA IMS) for fisheries control*.

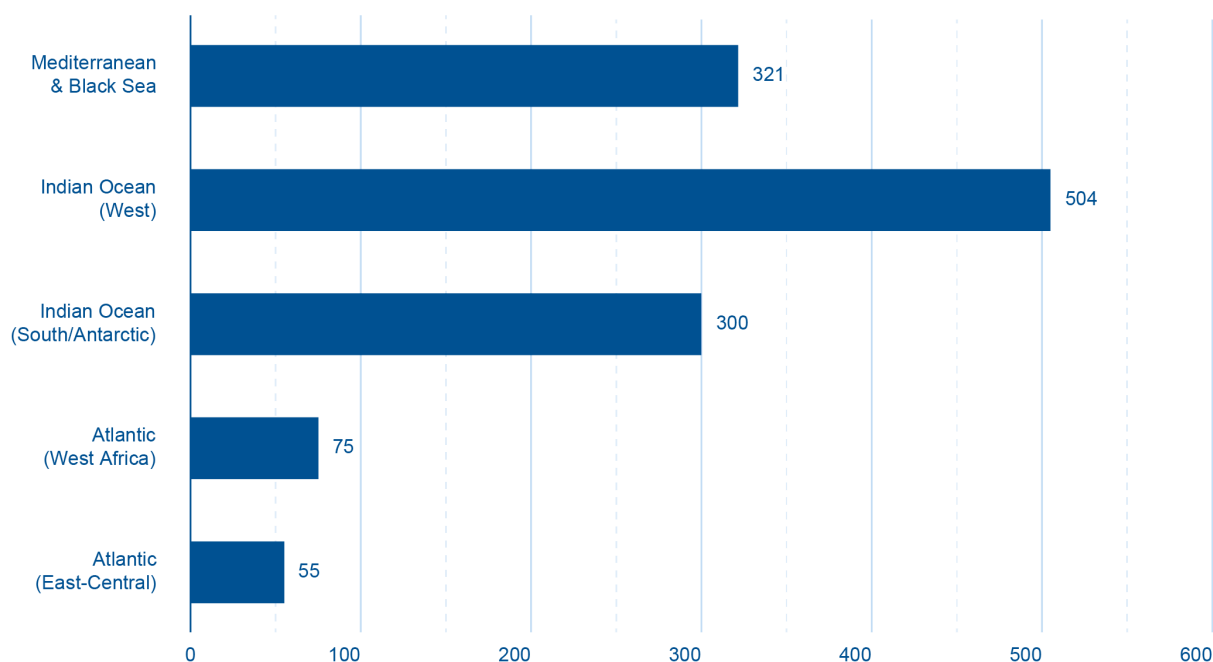
Earth Observation (EO) Technologies

Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS) Service

In 2022 EFCA further intensified the use of earth observation (EO) technologies in support of fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance.

The main source for the EO imagery used by EFCA is the Copernicus Maritime Service (CMS). The CMS is managed by the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA) and is a specific security service of the EU Copernicus Programme. CMS deliverables are accessible through the EFCA Integrated Maritime Services (IMS). CMS image deliveries also include the vessel detection service (VDS)

Earth Observation (EO) images delivered* to EFCA in 2022



* Provided through the Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS) service.

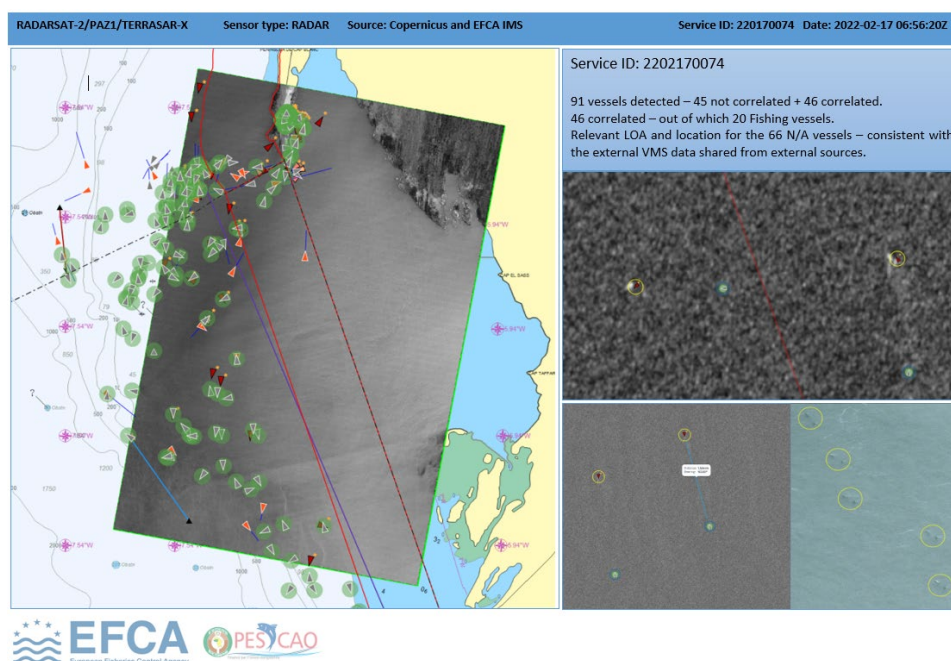
Enhanced EO analysis

CMS services and automated VDS correlation do not always cater for the very specific business needs of the fisheries control user community. This is why, on top of the standard CMS service deliverables available in the EFCA IMS, EFCA has developed –and continues to further improve– in-house enhanced EO analysis capacities, using satellite imagery delivered through CMS services or sourced from other providers.

Furthermore, EFCA performs systematic quality and validation checks on delivered CMS services and provides systematic feedback to EMSA.

EFCA continues to monitor the developments of several EO technologies and their potential applicability for fisheries monitoring and control. In this respect EFCA participated in relevant meetings, workshops, and technical working groups and intensified contacts with other EU agencies and bodies working in the remote sensing and EO domain.

At the request of Member States and the Commission, EFCA produced various detailed enhanced image analysis reports were produced in support of risk analysis, evidence gathering or operational decision making.



Example of EFCA EO enhanced analysis

Support to maritime surveillance technology related initiatives

EFCA continued to participate in various long term EU maritime surveillance technology related initiatives:

ENTRUSTED Project. EFCA is a member of the GOVSATCOM – H2020 CSA ENTRUSTED Project Consortium.

This European Union Governmental Satellite Communications (EU GOVSATCOM) initiative aims at providing secure and guaranteed satellite communication capacities and services to EU governmental stakeholders (EU countries, EU agencies and Institutions) for various security, defence, humanitarian aid, emergency response and diplomatic communication missions.

In the framework of this project, EFCA represents and safeguards the user needs of the fisheries control user community and provided specific input with regards to fisheries control related use cases.

MED-OSMoSIS

EFCA was an associated partner of the MED-OSMoSIS project that addressed governance for Maritime Surveillance in the Mediterranean. On 20 September 2022, EFCA participated in the closing event taking stock of several interesting ideas and modules/applications developed and tested during the project.

Surveillance Technologies development

As for EO technologies, the research community and related industry consortia increasingly consulted EFCA for the provision of input on various cooperative and non-cooperative communication, positioning and detection technologies.

Furthermore, in 2022, EU agencies such as the EUSPA, EUSATCEN or International bodies such as ESA, facilitated contacts between their project stakeholders seeking specific user input and EFCA.

In addition, partnerships are being rolled out between EFCA and those agencies and bodies establishing long term cooperation in specific surveillance technology domains.

This further confirms the EFCA's role as a recognized reference for providing the research and development community with fisheries control business needs.

Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE)

Representing the fisheries control user community, EFCA has been involved since 2012 in the development of the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE), a platform which facilitates the exchange of information between different maritime authorities across the borders. As from April 2019 EFCA is taking an active role in the CISE transitional phase, which is paving the way to the operational phase of CISE.

In 2022 EFCA has participated in the development of CISE, as member of the CISE Stakeholder Group and other technical working groups created under this project which is entrusted with the fine-tuning and execution of the activities needed to reach the objectives of the CISE transitional phase.

EFCA is also a member of the Pre-Operational Working Group established to prepare the operational services. Under this working group, EFCA has contributed to the Vessel of Interest (VOI), Event reporting and Risk profile service documents that define the conditions and procedures of the related services as well as in preparation of promotional/educative material.

OBJECTIVE 8		
Implementation of the Project on the Coast Guard handbook and the results of the Coast Guard qualifications Network		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Keeping the coast guard handbook updated and available on-line as a valuable document for Member States authorities 2. Enhancing cooperation on coast guard capacity building and training 3. Manage an online platform to host the coast guard handbook and coast guard capacity building and training network 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Authorities of MS participating in the project	At least 1 Authority of MS with CG authorities	109
2. Satisfaction rate from users of the CG portal	75%	N/A
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Implementation of the activities plan for 2022 in the Multiannual 4-year Coast Guard project	Yes	
2. Coast Guard handbook updated and available on the platform	N/A	
3. Network of academies of MS for capacity building and training created	Yes	

1. Keeping the coast guard handbook updated and available on-line as a valuable document for Member States authorities

Under this activity, it is expected to maintain a coast guard handbook that is relevant and useful for the Member States national authorities as an operational tool and reference manual, which is continuously updated with agencies and Member States information, including a comprehensive mapping and description of Member States national authorities' competencies, missions and roles.

Accordingly, in order to achieve the objective of 'keeping the coast guard handbook updated and available on-line as a valuable document for Member States authorities', during the first year of the project work has been done on the following activities:

- Activity 1.1.: To coordinate with Member States the update of information of the country factsheets and cooperation mechanisms, avoiding any double reporting information.
- Activity 1.2.: To coordinate with Member States the accuracy, continuous review and update of information of the country factsheets and cooperation mechanisms, avoiding any double reporting of information.

Hence, concrete tasks related to the implementation of Activities 1.1 and 1.1 were carried out during the first year of the project. More specifically in May 2022 a letter from the Executive Directors of EFCA and EMSA as well as the Deputy Executive Director of Frontex was sent to the Members of their Administrative Boards regarding the project to follow up with the "Practical handbook on European cooperation on coast guard functions". The three Agencies requested all Members of their Governing Boards to nominate one Point of Contact (PoC) each to follow up with the activities. Currently we have in total 49 PoCs from 21 MSs with a coastline (22 MSs are involved) as well as from Norway and Iceland.

During the 5th Annual European Coast Guard Event (on 31 May and on 1 June 2022) EFCA further promoted the project. Here the handbook was well received by the break-out session participants, since the majority of the audience (89%) considered very useful to know which MS national authorities are responsible for each coast guard function.

In 2022 a data protection procedure was adopted for the protection of the possible personal data that we may receive from the European countries involved in coast guard functions.

The content of the MS available information within the Agencies was verified to avoid any double reporting from Member States. In this regard, Agencies have updated the practical information (Service Catalogue, Training Catalogue, Best Practice Guidelines and Manuals Catalogue) available through the handbook.

2. Enhancing cooperation on coast guard capacity building and training

In accordance with the aim 'Enhancing cooperation on coast guard capacity building and training', it is expected to achieve a network of academies and bodies dedicated to training of CG functions, based on an inventory and mapping of the main relevant institutions in MS. The network shall be a relevant framework for an enhanced cooperation and interaction between the different institutions of the MS, including through an exchange program.

Thus, during the first year of the project a total of 61 Points of Contact from 19 different countries were gathered. A draft Exchange Programme Terms of Reference was prepared to be discussed with Member States Points of Contact and to be implemented in the following year. In the area of the Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF), a draft plan was developed for the suggested activities under the project, in co-operation with EMSA and Frontex.

3. Manage an online platform to host the coast guard handbook and coast guard capacity building and training network

The overall objective is to have an online platform hosting the coast guard handbook and the capacity building and training network, which shall be useful for MS national authorities implementing coast guard functions.

In relation to the online platform, during the first year of the project EFCA has focused on the following activities:

- Activity 3.1.: To enhance and maintain the online platform to host the coast guard handbook and all information of the capacity building and training network, in consultation with the other Agencies and the Commission.
- Activity 3.2.: To manage the online platform hosting the coast guard handbook and the capacity building and training network.

In 2022, EFCA collected the partner agencies EMSA and Frontex and changes to the menu structure and textual content of the online platform were made as regards a beta version of the online platform.

To this end EFCA continued to provide improvements to the data structure and filtering mechanisms to enhance the search and retrieval of information. In addition, updates were made to the information available on the online platform from the agencies' related catalogues and the country factsheets.

In order to proceed with an official URL, an URL under the Europa.eu domain was requested to DG COMM. The URL established now is coastguard.europa.eu. This will allow to have a unique identification of the online platform, linked to the Europa Domain and labelled as coast guard. It was agreed to extend the scope of the online platform and to include also the deliverables of the Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA) for the benefit of MS various coast guard functions authorities.

Last but not least a full redesigned of the interface of the platform was made to be compliant with the requirements of an EU branded harmonized website.

The integration of the EMSA Maritime Data Catalogue on the European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions online platform was also agreed.

The functional requirements for the integration of the Maritime Data Catalogue on the Coast Guard online platform were prepared together with EMSA and it needs now to be implemented through an external service provider. The goal is to make the catalogue available to restricted audiences in a way that is interactive and facilitates the search and retrieval of the information, as well as the connections with other elements relevant in the context of coast guard functions, such as best practices and services offered by the three agencies.

1.2.2. HORIZONTAL ACTIVITIES

The horizontal activities include:

Horizontal activities
Communication and Representation
ICT and Information Security
Administrative and Governance Processes

1.2.2.1. COMMUNICATION AND REPRESENTATION (OBJECTIVE 9)

Introduction

The Communication Strategy Plan ensures that EFCA activities are well known for the target audiences and stakeholders. Its activities are aligned with EFCA's Annual work programme and take on board the feedback and best practices of other EU agencies.

The Annual Communication Strategy has further developed the digital presence of EFCA to reach its stakeholders, basically through social media.

Main activity results

EFCA's Single Programming Document confirmed that the core mission of the Agency remained focused on the implementation of the joint deployment plans, encompassing a significant part of the regulated species.

The communication activities also reflected the Agency's commitment to the European Union's international agenda as well as EFCA's tasks in the framework of the EU Coast Guard cooperation.

OBJECTIVE 9
Promote a culture of compliance of the Common Fisheries Policy and foster the European Union values
EXPECTED RESULTS
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Stakeholders are informed about fisheries sustainability, the CFP rules in general and control measures concretely as well as its contribution to the European Border and Coast Guard and international project 2. General public is aware of the work of the EFCA in the area of control of the Common Fisheries Policy as well as its contribution to the European Border and Coast Guard and international projects 3. Local public is familiar with the general values of the European Union 4. Institutional partners are well-informed about the Agency's work and mission 5. EFCA staff is informed and involved in EFCA's work

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Participation in events, fairs, information seminars, conferences or meetings of other stakeholders that EFCA attended	8	20
2. Followers in Twitter	4000	4775
3. Monthly number of page views to the EFCA website	8000	6600
4. Publications and audiovisual material produced	5	5
5. Satisfaction with EFCA's intranet	90%	90%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Ensuring the quality and timeliness of EFCA's website content and social media presence	Yes	
2. EFCA presence in the main EU fairs, events, information seminars, meetings or conferences related to its areas of work	Yes	
3. Layout and distribution of the main publications of the Agency	Yes	
4. Production of effective video material and infographics describing EFCA's work	Yes	
5. Strong media relations on the topics covered by the EFCA	Yes	
6. Cohesive visual identity to be respected in the Agency	Yes	
7. Organisation of international and local events with vast local institutional presence and media coverage	Yes	
8. Cooperation with other EU institutions and agencies on Communication	Yes	
9. Sound implementation of the Internal Communication Strategy, including staff meetings and an updated collaborative intranet	Yes	

Results achieved by objective

1. Stakeholders are informed about fisheries sustainability, the CFP rules in general and control measures concretely as well as its contribution to the European Border and Coast Guard and international projects

Through its communication with non-governmental stakeholders, EFCA contributes to build a culture of compliance of the Common Fisheries Policy by generating trust, confidence and accountability of the CFP measures. For this reason, during 2022 EFCA was present in the meetings of the Advisory Councils relevant to EFCA work, attending both their general assemblies/executive committee meetings and dedicated workshops.

2. General public is aware of the work of the EFCA in the area of control of the Common Fisheries Policy as well as its contribution to the European Border and Coast Guard and international projects

In view of supporting the Communication Strategy defined by the European Commission, EFCA has worked hand in hand with DG MARE colleagues in Communication along the year, disseminating each other information, such as press releases or social media posts. On request of the EC Representation in Spain, EFCA presented its mission with the rest of representatives from EU bodies in Spain at the Madrid Book Fair and at an event in Foz (Lugo).

One video on Risk Assessment was produced as well as several audio-visual pieces for the social media work.

Regarding the online tools, EFCA's kept its website updated and intensified the presence of its social media channels: Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

When it comes to publications, a short version of the Annual Report 2021 was designed and printed as well as the Single Programming Document 2022, and a general leaflet on EFCA's work. Other material was produced with EFCA's corporate logo, such as mugs, pins or coins.

Moreover, EFCA increased the number of press releases and published web posts covering different areas, with issues ranging from the notifications of the Real Time Closures (RTC), the conclusions of the Administrative Board, the visit of offshore patrol vessel Lundy Sentinel to Cork, the kick off of the project eFish-Med, the bluefin tuna control campaign or the formalisation of the inter-agency cooperation between EFCA and EUSPA.

Several interviews and articles requested by newspapers and magazines were done, especially in the Spanish press, including for Faro de Vigo, Atlántico Diario, Ruta Pesquera, El Español, La Voz de Galicia or Radio Voz. Two press conferences were organised with positive coverage.

3. Local public is familiar with the general values of the European Union

In 2022, EFCA celebrated Europe Day in the presence of the most important local authorities, at the Museo del Mar de Vigo. It was very well attended with around 180 guests and it was widely covered in the local media and echoed in the social media networks.

Several meetings were organised between EFCA ED and local authorities and stakeholders, such as the Delegada de la Xunta de Galicia, Universidad de Vigo, Conxemar or ANFACO.

Moreover, EFCA was part of the European Commission (EUMOFA) stand in the Conxemar fair, having some publications and permanent staff on the stand and actively participated at the Vigo Sea Fest, running family workshops promoting oceans sustainability, with staff from EFCA giving talks to children.

4. Institutional partners are well informed about the Agency's work and mission

In 2022, EFCA, Frontex and EMSA agreed on a coordinated communication strategy for the forthcoming year. In this framework, the three agencies worked together with a common stand at the European Maritime Day in Ravenna and promoted the COASTEX exercise, with a reportage on it for Euronews.

5. EFCA staff is informed and involved in EFCA's work

After every Administrative Board meeting, an information meeting was organised with EFCA staff to keep them updated. Finally, the intranet has been kept updated encouraging the different units to keep it lively and with relevant content.

Compliance regarding transparency, accountability and integrity

EU institutions, bodies and Member States hold the EU agencies politically, financially and judicially accountable for their activities. These include the European Parliament, Council and Commission, as well as the Court of Justice, the ECA, the IAS, OLAF and the European Ombudsman.

All the meetings held by the Executive Director and staff with organisations or self-employed individuals engaged in EU-policy making and policy implementation are made public, in accordance with an Executive Director Decision on this subject.

EFCA's communication strategy and its presence on social media increase openness and transparency. EFCA has placed emphasis on developing a culture of integrity, loyalty and trust. It achieves this through the instruments put in place to ensure ethical behaviour. EFCA avoids situations that might impair its independence or impartiality, through its comprehensive rules on prevention and management of conflicts of interest. In addition to the staff regulations, EFCA has in place a code of good administrative behaviour for its staff as well as a handbook on management and prevention of conflicts of interest, which offer comprehensive information and advice on a variety of issues, ranging from behavioural tips to compliance with legal obligations. Furthermore, EFCA has in place a Code of Conduct for all persons participating in EFCA activities. Operational staffers likely to be deployed in multipurpose operations receive a specific training on Human Fundamental Rights. EFCA provides compulsory training for staff on anti-harassment, ethics and integrity, and publishes the declarations of interests of the members of the Administrative Board, the Advisory Board and the management team.

It is essential for all staff members to observe ethical principles and standards of integrity and conduct. Adherence to these fundamental values requires continuous awareness raising, guidance and training. Moreover, EFCA implemented its anti-fraud strategy, which was based on a risk assessment exercise, taking into account the OLAF guidelines. EFCA has developed a culture of integrity in which related risks are identified, assessed and addressed. Compliance with rules and maintaining a high level of ethical standards are shared responsibilities of EFCA's staff, creating an environment of trust, loyalty, responsibility and respect in the workplace. To this end, EFCA has in place a number of tools for protection of staff in general, and whistle-blowers in particular.

Data protection

Activities undertaken in the area of data protection in the course of 2022 were in line with the principles of transparency and accountability, highlighting the status of data protection compliance in EFCA.

The ARES register of records was continuously revised and managed by the DPO, and the public part of EFCA records of processing operations were made available on EFCA's website under the Data Protection section – Public Register compliant to Art. 31 EUDPR Regulation 2018/1725.

The DPO monitored the guidance provided by the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) on how to comply with the requirements and prepared background material and answered to various surveys and requests for information.

Access to Documents

Access to documents is an essential component of the policy of transparency being implemented by the European institutions. Under the Treaty on the Functioning of the EU, all EU citizens and all residents of the Union enjoy this right of access, which is governed by Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 (referred to as "PAD Regulation")⁶⁴.

To facilitate access to documents, the Library section in EFCA's website provides direct access to the majority of documents via a search form. The documents are directly accessible in electronic format. The main publications (*i.e.* annual reports and work programmes) are also available in the EU Bookshop catalogue, managed by the Publications Office of the European Union.

Documents which cannot be consulted directly on the Library may be supplied on request via a specific mailbox (efca-documents@efca.europa.eu). After considering each request, the service responsible

⁶⁴ Regulation (EC) No 1049/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 May 2001 regarding public access to European Parliament, Council and Commission documents (OJ L 145, 31.5.2001, p. 43); applicable to EFCA.

will send a reasoned reply within 15 working days. During 2022 there were three requests of access, all of them were responded.

1.2.2.2. ICT AND INFORMATION SECURITY (OBJECTIVE 10)

Introduction

The role of ICT within EFCA is to provide highly available ICT infrastructure and IT Services that will ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of information and data. Information Security is one of the pillars of ICT making sure that adequate controls are in place.

The IT Governance within EFCA assures that ICT is aligned and supporting the core business processes. ICT has to provide always state of the art infrastructure and IT tools. Continued improvement in all ICT aspects.

OBJECTIVE 10		
Ensure the smooth and secure functioning and availability of administrative and operational applications		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Highly available ICT services to support the EFCA business processes Mitigate the identified IT security risks with the appropriate controls Constant monitoring of IT incidents and threats to promptly identify, tackle and prevent vulnerabilities Ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the information and make sure that information is not compromised in any way Demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the EU data protection regulation (EU DP Regulation 2018/1725) by maintaining updated records of categories of processing activities of the Agency 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Availability rate for all ICT systems	>99%	99,70%
2. IT security incidents reported to the Information Security Officer and registered	100%	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Rationalise the technology landscape by reducing the technologies used	Partially	
2. Maximise efficiency by using the latest appropriate technology	Partially	
3. Implementation of ISMS aligned to ISO 27000 series	Partially	
4. Updated central register of records of activities processing personal data (Article 31 of DP Regulation 2018/1725)	Partially	

All the planned activities are based on a continuous improvement approach and have a multi annual planning. Therefore, they must be intended as partially achieved in relation to the specific tasks completed in 2022. In detail, the following completion percentages have been achieved: activity 1: 90%, activity 2: 80%, activity 3: 30%, activity 4: 65%.

Results achieved by objective

- **Highly available ICT services to support the EFCA business processes**

The development of new EFCA applications supporting the business processes continued, based on a high availability architecture.

A first version of the Data Exchange module supporting the Fishing activity data domain was developed and tested in the course of 2022. At the same time, the European Coastguard Handbook portal was successfully developed and tested, adopting the same high availability blueprint.

As regards the backup and disaster recovery services, the local backup has been improved with a dedicated storage appliance.

- **Mitigate the identified IT security risks with the appropriate controls**

The four policies planned to mitigate the IT Security Risks related to IT Operations processes and third parties have been defined, approved and they are already in force. Specifically, they mitigate the risks inherent to the following processes: “Change Management”, “Incident Management”, “Third Party suppliers” and “Third Party connection”.

- **Constant monitoring of IT incidents and threats to promptly identify, tackle and prevent vulnerabilities**

In line with the Incident Management policy and procedure, IT related incidents are registered and followed up, in collaboration with CERT-EU (<https://cert.europa.eu/>).

EFCA has also improved the protection perimeter of the cloud-based applications in the cloud, improving the adoption of the native alerting system of the cloud provider (AWS).

- **Ensure the confidentiality, integrity and availability of the information and make sure that information is not compromised in any way**

Main Information Security policy guideline the EFCA IT staff in ensure the CIA principles (confidentiality, integrity and availability).

- **Demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the EU data protection regulation (EU DP Regulation 2018/1725) by maintaining updated records of categories of processing activities of the Agency**

Register of Data Processing Records (DPR) is continuously updated and publicly available on the EFCA internet website.

1.2.2.3. ADMINISTRATIVE AND GOVERNANCE PROCESSES (OBJECTIVE 11)

Introduction

Provision of the support and monitoring necessary for the efficient administrative, financial, and physical functioning of the Agency and its governing and controlling body, the Administrative Board. It includes the support of protocol issues under the Seat Agreement with Spain, security of people, premises and properties.

OBJECTIVE 11		
Ensure sound management and efficiency in key governance and administrative processes		
EXPECTED RESULTS		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity for achieving its responsibilities by keeping it well informed. 2. Increase AB involvement and output legitimacy⁶⁵. 3. Ensure the optimisation in the allocation and use of EFCA's resources in accordance with the principle of sound financial management and with the guarantee concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions. 4. Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's administrative and support processes. 5. Ensure an effective dialogue with the Advisory Board while facilitating the interaction between the Administrative Board and the Advisory Board⁶⁶. 		
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Target 2022	Achieved 2022
1. Number of Administrative Board meetings	2	2
2. Preparation, adoption and notification of the SPD, Annual Report, Budget and the Accounts in due course	100%	100%
3. Submission to EFCA of Annual written declarations of interest of Administrative Board members ⁶⁷	100%	98%
4. Execution payment appropriations	>70%	58%
5. Percentage of planned procurements launched	>80%	57%
6. Open remarks/ recommendations from ECA ⁶⁸ and IAS ⁶⁹	<2	0
7. Availability rate for all operational applications hosted by EFCA	>99%	99,70%
8. Sysper modules made available to EFCA implemented	>90%	75%

⁶⁵ Within the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA exercise, the AB of EFCA issued a series of recommendations, one of them related to the Administrative Board functioning (Recommendation 6), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

⁶⁶ Within the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA exercise, the AB of EFCA issued a series of recommendations, one of them related to the Administrative Board and the Advisory Board interaction (Recommendation 7), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

⁶⁷ All AB members participating in meetings must have an updated DoI (yearly)

⁶⁸ European Court of Auditors (ECA)

⁶⁹ Recommendations rated Very Important or Critical.

9. Number of Advisory Board meetings	2	2
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Agency Administrative Board Decisions	Yes	
2. Adoption of the Agency single programming document (SPD)	Yes	
3. Adoption of the Agency Annual report	Yes	
4. Adoption of the Agency Budget and establishment plan	Yes	
5. Adoption of the Agency Accounts	Yes	
6. Annual Declaration of interest of the Administrative Board members submitted before the year end	Yes	
7. Implementation of the modules of e-Procurement and Sysper made available to EFCA	Yes	
8. Regular Reports to management on administrative implementation and forecasted information (budget, recruitment, procurement, training, etc.)	Yes	
9. Regular monitoring and implementation of any open remarks/ recommendations from ECA and IAS	Yes	
10. Provide the Advisory Board with the capacity to deliver their task including the advice to the Executive Director	Yes	

Results achieved by objective

1. **Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity for achieving its responsibilities by keeping it well informed**
2. **Increase AB involvement and output legitimacy**

During 2022, two Administrative Board meetings were held.

The 38th meeting of the Administrative Board took place on 5 April 2022 in a hybrid manner. The AB elected the Chair, adopted EFCA's Annual Report for 2021, the Anti-fraud Strategy and the Staff Regulation implementing rules.

On 26 October 2022, an AB meeting was organised in a presential manner. The Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2023 - 2027 and the Annual work programme for year 2023 were adopted as well as the Budget and the Establishment plan of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2023 including the implementation of Article 30 of the CFP (International Dimension). The AB also gave authorisation to EFCA ED to sign the proposed Service Level Agreement between EFCA and EMSA. Moreover, the Administrative Board issued recommendations for the five-year independent external evaluation of EFCA.

In 2022, there were four written procedures approved by the Administrative Board: The Memorandum of Understanding between EFCA and EUSPA, the final accounts for 2021, the General implementing provisions to the Staff Regulations and the Amendment of the assigned revenue budget for financial year 2022.

3. Ensure the optimisation in the allocation and use of EFCA's resources in accordance with the principle of sound financial management and with the guarantee concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions

EFCA's Financial Regulation is based on the Commission Delegated Regulation on the Framework Financial Regulation for the bodies referred to in Article 70 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 from which it does not depart except where its specific needs so require and with the Commission's prior consent. The Agency's Financial Regulation is the legal basis that underpin every financial transaction that is implemented at the Agency.

The Agency has established optimised financial and procurement processes aimed to ensure the adequate management of the risks in line with the principle of sound financial management.

- Continuous efforts in planning and programming the budget, the procurement procedures, and other related processes.
- Increase the knowledge and awareness of staff through training and informative sessions (delivery of the "Project Life Cycle" training to existing and new staff in 2022).
- Maintain a good communication and reporting channels with all actors involved in budget implementation (administrative and operational).
- Maximise the use of digitalised procedures through the onboarding of existing corporate tools shared by the Commission further contributes to keep the compliance level. These systems ensure the compliance with the most updated Financial and Staff Regulations for most processes.
- Sharing best practices and benchmarking of processes and policies by networking with other EU bodies. Participating in the Heads of Administration of agencies Network and other subnetworks (NAPO – Network of agencies for procurement, PDN – Performance network, IALN - Inter agency legal network, ICTAC - ICT Advisory Committee).

4. Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's administrative and support processes

EFCA continues to strive for an efficient use of its resources. EFCA adopts a risk-based approach to controls and the definition of its administrative and support processes. The collaboration and sharing lessons learned with other agencies contributions to achieve this objective. The following methods and actions have defined the activity in this area by EFCA in 2022:

- Risk based reduction of the ex-ante verification (45% of payments with lighter workflow).
- Quarterly ex-post verification of a sample of transactions. In 2022, all quarterly ex post verifications had close to 0 error rate result.
- Participating in the interagency procurement procedures (currently around 45 interinstitutional framework contracts) and inviting other bodies to participate in EFCA's own procurement procedures (particularly other agencies in Spain in respect of facilities management contracts).
- EFCA has always onboarded the existing tools of the Commission (ABAC, Sysper, ARES, e-Invoicing, PPMT), which increases the efficiency of the administrative processes. It reduces the future maintenance costs in comparison to self-developed, local systems.
- In particular, for Sysper the CCP "Leave on Personal Grounds" functionality, the functionality "NDP Payslips" and the STAGE module were implemented, as well as an ADI "ad interim" workflow and some functionalities regarding the implementation of the new rules on working time and hybrid working. For some years now, a priority for EFCA is to implement the ATS module (standby duty) and the EVAL/PRO modules (appraisal and reclassification). However, those were still not made available by DG HR for implementation in 2022. While the necessary preparatory work was done for the EVAL (appraisal) module and the related OBJ (objectives) module, those could not be applied yet for the 2021 appraisal exercise.
- Access to reserve lists of other agencies. EFCA was able to recruit one staff member in 2022 as a result of this procedure.

5. Ensure an effective dialogue with the Advisory Board while facilitating the interaction between the Administrative Board and the Advisory Board

The Advisory Board met twice in 2022, both of them in a hybrid manner. Throughout 2022, EFCA participated in meetings of the Executive Committees and Working Groups of the Advisory Councils, especially in those of the ACs affected by the Joint Deployment Plans adopted by EFCA, and when items related to EFCA competences were included in the agendas. The knowledge gained during the meetings supported the coordination function of the Agency by keeping EFCA staff informed of the discussions taking place and the main issues of concern for the AC members.

To promote the participation of the Administrative Board members in the Advisory Board; thus, to boost interaction among the two bodies, the meetings of the Advisory Board took place one day before than the meetings of the Administrative Board - the Administrative Board members were invited -.

A representative of the Advisory Board took part in the deliberations of the Administrative Board meetings without the right to vote. The Advisory Board representative in the EFCA Administrative Board was appointed in accordance with the yearly rotation system agreed by the Advisory Board members.

Facilities Management

Following the increase of staff, the Spanish Authorities negotiated, with the owner of the EFCA's building, the inclusion of the ground floor to the rental agreement starting in October 2022. The additional space was configured for its initial use which was not adjusted to the needs of EFCA. Therefore, EFCA signed the first contract with the current provider, for the improvements and works of the ground floor in December 2022.

Business Continuity Plan (BCP)

Although not considered as a Business Continuity situation, the sanitary crisis and consequential mass teleworking has proven the resilience of the Agency in front of critical and long-lasting situations. From early March 2020 on, the EFCA Business Continuity Management Team monitored and analysed the impact of telework of nearly all staff caused by the pandemic on the business continuity. It concluded early on that EFCA was well prepared to continue its operations reliably via telework and did not recommend to the Executive Director to activate the EFCA Business Continuity Plan at any point during 2021. It suggested, however, some adaptations of the units' individual Recovery Actions Plans and specific arrangements for back-up solutions in case of COVID-19 related direct or indirect absences affecting up to 30% of the staff as a precautionary assumption, which were subsequently implemented. No additional BCP exercise has been organised.

Information Security Management

The International Standard Organization (ISO) has published ISO/IEC 2700x series as the international standard for the management of information assets and to safeguard business continuity. Its objective is to help organisations like EFCA to ensure that information assets are always adequately protected and are available when they are needed. The aim is to achieve in the most pragmatic way possible an Information Security Management System (ISMS) which can eventually be certified according to the standard UNI/EN ISO 27001– 2016.

The ITSC decided in March 2016 to establish an Information Security Management System based on the international standard ISO 2700x series. Following preparatory work in 2017, the implementation phase started in 2018. Accordingly, 15 new ISMS policies were drafted in 2019 that govern the full set of 114 information security controls of the standard ISO. In 2020 the policies were fully revised and updated to the version 2016 of the standard ISO27001. Four of them were adopted in 2021 and now are in force. Finally, the standard ISO 27001 2016 did not enter into force and a new version (2022) was finally adopted. Policies were then updated accordingly for being fully compliant to the 2022 version.

PART II (A) MANAGEMENT

2.1 ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

Decision No 22-I-4	Adoption of EFCA's Annual Report 2021
Decision No 22-I-7	Adoption of the anti-fraud strategy of EFCA
Decision No 22-I-8	Adoption of General implementing provisions on the conduct of administrative inquiries and disciplinary proceedings
Decision No 22-W-1	Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between EFCA and EUSPA
Decision No 22-W-2	Adoption of the Final Annual Accounts of EFCA for the year 2021
Decision No 22-W-3	Adoption of the decision relating to the application by analogy of Commission Decision C(2022)1788 of 24 March 2022 laying down Gen. implementing provisions on working time & hybrid working
Decision No 22-II-4	Adoption of the SPD 2023 and MWP 2023-2027 & Budget 2023
Decision No 22-II-5	Adoption of the Draft SPD containing MWP 2024-2028 and AWP 2024
Decision No 22-II-XX	EFCA Administrative Board recommendations resulting from the Five-year External Evaluation of EFCA

2.2 MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS

One of the major external developments in 2022 was the military attack against Ukraine. Among the consequences, one that impacted EFCA's operations directly was the rise in fuel prices.

Additionally, the Green Deal, a set of policy initiatives by the [European Commission](#) approved in 2020, is another policy area in which the Common Fisheries Policy is enshrined, and to which EFCA contributes to implementing, through the promotion of a culture of compliance.

2.3 BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

2.3.1. BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (ART 103 FFR)

The financial year of 2022 was mainly marked by the general budget increase of 65% from 2021. EFCA had a 40% increase in the general EU subsidy, and a very significant increase in its assigned revenue (multiannual contribution agreements and grants). The additional EU subsidy granted to EFCA, starting in 2021, was linked to the legislative financial statement related to the increase in monitoring required in the EU waters adjoining the United Kingdom, including for the associated additional staff and the resources required for chartering 2 additional OPVs by EFCA. For that purpose, and despite the long and complex procurement procedure involved, EFCA successfully signed a new framework contract for the chartering of 3 OPVs in 2022.

Although the shortage of necessary materials (specifically, semiconductors) prolonged the preparatory phase of the vessels, EFCA successfully signed the first specific contract to charter reach one of the OPVs, starting activity in December 2022 or January 2023. EFCA was therefore able to achieve a 99.4% implementation of the related financial commitments for the year. At the same time, the signature of these contracts late in the year (committing around €9 million) triggered a high carry forward level of

the operational expenditure, and a lower payment implementation than in previous years (75%-80% in previous years vs. 58% in 2022).

2022 Budget implementation of the EU Subsidy

Title	Budget (€)	Committed (€)	% exec	Paid (€)	% exec
TITLE I - Staff Expenditure	11 040 000	10 062 956	91%	9 915 269	90%
TITLE II - Building and ICT expenditure	1 880 000	3 043 991	162%	1 443 596	77%
TITLE III - Operational expenditure	16 420 000	16 060 294	98%	5 594 002	34%
Support and Infrastructure Operational Systems	700 000	626 476	89%	250 538	36%
Effective coordination of joint fisheries control operation	680 000	587 565	86%	417 032	61%
Support of MCS activities	1 330 000	979 265	74%	340 082	26%
Support the EU in the implementation	150 000	67 691	45%	40 460	27%
EU Cooperation in Coast Guard	13 560 000	13 799 297	102%	4 545 890	34%
TOTAL	29 340 000	29 167 242	99%	16 952 866	58%

Other factors affecting the final budget implementation were:

- the energy prices increase,
- the high inflation increases affecting all services, but in particular the IT support services and other external services,
- the annual salary adjustments related to EFCA (general indexation and country coefficient) that had an impact of 6.8% increase starting in July 2022.
- Contract signed in December for the refurbishment of the additional office space provided by the Spanish Authorities (€0.9 million)

The transfers performed in 2022 per title are reflected below.

TITLE	Voted budget	Transferred	Appropriations (non-differentiated)
1 Staff Expenditure	11,040,000	-961,120.00	10,078,880
2 Building and Administrative Expenditure	1,880,000	1,166,120.00	3,046,120
3 Operational Expenditure	16,420,000	-205,000.00	16,215,000
TOTAL	29,340,000	70,000	29,340,000

Further details of amounts transferred can be found in Annex II.

From 1 February 2022 EFCA began implementing the following three additional projects, financed within the framework of contribution agreements under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF)⁷⁰:

- Analysis for the weighing process of fisheries products in the Member States and strategy (will run until the first quarter of 2024)
- Mediterranean virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection
- Implementation of the results of the Coast Guard qualifications Network and the CGF handbook

⁷⁰ European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund

EFCA is also implementing from 2022 a project financed by the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) with relation to the reinforcement of the fisheries surveillance in Algeria.

In terms of commitments carried forward from 2021, EFCA consumed 91.6%. This figure shows a higher implementation than in the previous year, but in line with years before 2021.

EFCA cancelled 1.4% of the payment appropriations in 2022 including all fund sources. The main cancellation (70% of the total) comes from the cancellation of the C8 commitments.

The payment delay has been maintained at the levels of 2020, at an the average of 21 days. Compliance with the Financial Regulation time limits was achieved for 97.5% of the payments, which is lower than in 2021. No interest was charged to EFCA for any payment delay.

❖ Activity Based financial reporting

EFCA has estimated the implementation of the Activity based budget 2022, based on the four operational activities presented in the SPD 2022 (detailed information is provided under Annex V).

Some of the overhead and indirect costs (interim services, translation costs, etc.) have been analysed further to allow for more precise distribution of the cost. The degree of staff dedication to each activity has also been weighted with the number of man/months worked and salary levels.

The results of this exercise for 2022 have been the following:

Code	Activity	AWP 2022	AR 2022	% execution vs. planned
1	JDPs, Operational Plans and Pilot projects	5,704,834	5,808,914	102%
2	Risk assessment and data analysis	4,533,103	4,664,428	103%
3	International dimension: compliance with international provisions	1,442,319	907,293	63%
4	Coast Guard and Capacity Building	17,659,744	17,786,607	101%
	TOTAL	29,340,000	29,167,242	99%

It needs to be noted that the results above do not include the implementation of the revenues received from the grants provided to EFCA. These grants have an implementation phase of greater than one year and, therefore, cannot be easily compared to the annual implementation of EU subsidy funds. For implementation information on the grants, please refer to Annex V (R0 fund source implementation).

Procurement

The main procurement efforts in 2022 were targeted towards the evaluation and award of the open procedure to charter 3 OPVs. As a result of the additional tasks and resources assigned to EFCA to enhance the necessary operational capacity for assisting in the monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries as required by the CFP, including the measures entailed by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) with the UK, the new framework contract for chartering services was required to cover the services of three OPVs instead of one as in previous years. .

Regarding the initiation of new framework contracts, EFCA signed the following contracts as a result of procurement procedures launched at the end of 2021 and during 2022:

- Provision of office stationery for EFCA (Open procedure €120 000) signed in May 2022
- Chartering of offshore fisheries patrol vessels (Open procedure €90M) signed in June 2022
- Chartering of an offshore fisheries patrol vessel (€3M) for 6 months June 2022
- Provision of insurance brokerage services for the EFCA building and chartered means (€430,000) signed in September 2022
- Provision of Legal advice in procurement and contract law (NP €9,960) in June and November 2022
- Provision of external audit services for EFCA (€21 550) signed in December 2022

- Communication services (Lot 1) and Event organisation services for EFCA (Lot 2) launched in December 2022.

Following the shared procurement approach, EFCA joined 6 different inter-institutional tenders with the Commission and other agencies in 2022, as listed below:

- EEA -Travel arrangement services (EEA/ADS/22/014)
- EIOPA - Management skill assessment service assessment management (EIOPA-OP-139-2022)
- DG DIGIT - Printing, copying and scanning services based on group based multifunctional devices, Princesse III (DIGIT/2022/OP/0004)
- DG DIGIT - Tenable Licenses and Services, ELA (NP/EC/22/03)
- DG DIGIT -DPS for end-user IT supplies (DPS ITS) (DIGIT/2023/DPS/0002)
- DG DIGIT -Microsoft High-level services (DIGIT/2022/NP/0017)

2.3.2. INFORMATION ON GRANT, CONTRIBUTION AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS PROVIDED IN ANNEX VI (WHEN APPLICABLE)

During the course of 2022, EFCA initiated the implementation of the following 3 projects associated with contribution agreements financed under the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF):

- A study signed by EFCA and DG MARE to conduct an analysis for the weighing process of fisheries products in the Member States and strategy (the weighing project). The project started in February 2022 and runs up to January 2024.
- The virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (e-fishmed) signed by EFCA and DG MARE on the 16 December 2021. The project started on the 1 February 2022 and runs for 36 months.
- The coastguard qualifications network and the CGF handbook, signed by EFCA and DG MARE on the 8 December 2021. This project started on the 1 February 2022 and will run up to the 31 January 2027.

CONTRIBUTION AGREEMENT	Appropriations	Committed	Paid
Virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (e-fishmed)	1,000,000	152,773	144,827
Coastguard qualifications network and the CGF handbook	2,437,500	235,784	202,493
Study on the weighting process of fisheries products	837,100	257,522	180,795
TOTAL	4,274,600	646,080	528,115

Currently EFCA has one grant agreement signed with the Delegation of the EU in Senegal and another one for the Implementation of international Projects under the Blue Economy - Fisheries and aquaculture in Algeria and the ECOFISH⁷¹ (respectively, the PESCAO project and the Algeria project, see Objective 6).

EFCA has signed several Service Level Agreements (SLAs) and Memorandums of Understandings with other agencies, Member States and other Bodies, to allow sharing of operational tasks and acquisition of services to support the implementation of different operational activities.

COUNTERPART	SUBJECT	SIGNATURE DATE	REFERENCE
-------------	---------	----------------	-----------

⁷¹ The action entitled 'Contribution of Sustainable Fisheries to the Blue Economy of the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean region (ECOFISH programme), was adopted by the Commission Decision C(2018)4132, with an EU contribution of EUR 28 million to be implemented in 72 months until September 2024. The ECOFISH programme will strengthen policies and institutional frameworks for sustainable management of fisheries while improving capacities to combat IUU fishing and supporting small-scale inland and marine fisheries (<https://www.ecofish-programme.org/>).

EMSA	SLA between the EFCA and EMSA for the MARSURV service	28/03/2018	Ares(2019)2544621
EMSA/FRONTEX/EFCA	Tripartite Working Arrangement	17/03/2017	A-00368
FRONTEX	MoU for the Inter Institutional Procurement on Aerial Surveillance Services	12/01/2017	A-01209
FRONTEX	SLA between EFCA and Frontex for the joint use of Frontex capability - Aerial and maritime surveillance in support of EFCA activities	06/02/2017	A-00628
SRFC, FCWC, ISMI	MoU between EFCA, SRFC, FCWC and the Regional Academy of Science and Technology of the Sea for optimising the training in the scope of PESCAO	15/03/2019	Ares(2019)1835621
French Maritime Affairs and Fisheries Directorate	Cooperation in Capacity building activities	24/09/2010	CFCA/2010/A-01005
EMSA	SLA between EMSA and EFCA for provision of IMS, vessels, RPAS, CMS, pollution response services, capacity building activities and support for the evolution of maritime situational awareness.	12/12/2022	Ares(2022)8693432

2.3.3. CONTROL RESULTS

EFCA continues to carry out ex-ante verification over a subset of financial transactions in its financial circuits based on a risk assessment methodology. To further enhance diligence, internal ex-post verification on a sample of transactions is carried out quarterly by EFCA financial staff. In 2022 around 57% of all payments have been processed with an ex-ante verification.

The results of the quarterly ex-post verification exercises performed in 2022 revealed zero (0%) error rate.

Performance Indicators	Target	Achieved
Execution rate commitments appropriations	As close as possible to 100%	99.4%
Execution payments appropriations	≥70%	57.8%
Percentage of payments done within the time limits	>98%	97.5%

2.3.4. COST AND BENEFITS OF FINANCIAL CONTROLS

The financial control procedures implemented at EFCA stem, to a large degree, from regulatory requirements which cannot be curtailed. Nevertheless, EFCA continues to make efforts to further streamline and lower the resources required to perform its financial procedures and controls without compromising those requirements. In the absence of any significant weakness detected which could have a material impact as regards the legality and regularity of the financial operations, it is concluded that the relevant control objective of effectiveness has been achieved.

EFCA strives to increase efficiency in all procedures related to administration, while it continues to safeguard the resources of the Agency and maintains its compliance with its legal obligations in this area (Financial and Staff Regulations among others). In this continuous effort to improve efficiency EFCA successfully implemented the Commission's available corporate IT solutions, i.e. e-procurement, document management system (ARES), HR management (Sysper2), management of missions (MIPS) and Advanced Getaway for Meetings (AGM).

In 2022, based on the most relevant key indicators and control results, EFCA has assessed the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of its financial control system and reached a positive conclusion on its cost-effectiveness.

2.4 DELEGATION AND SUB-DELEGATION OF THE POWERS OF BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION TO AGENCY'S STAFF

EFCA's Authorising Officer, the Executive Director, has delegated the budget implementation powers to each Head of Unit based on the competencies of each unit. The threshold under which the budget implementation powers are delegated is €80,000 per transaction. Each Head of Unit has been delegated the budget lines linked to the expenditure of their area of activity. In the case of the Head of Unit Resources and IT, the routine administrative expenditure (such as salaries and building services) has been delegated without a threshold. There are no sub delegations at EFCA.

All delegation agreement details are reflected in an Executive Director decision, and each delegated Authorising Officer has signed their conformity to comply with the Charter of the Authorising Officer by delegation. The authorising officer by delegation shall report regularly to the authorising officer on the implementation of programmes, operations or actions in respect of which powers have been delegated to him/her, and shall inform the authorising officer in writing of the management problems encountered and the solutions proposed to remedy them. No weaknesses were identified in 2022.

2.5 HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) MANAGEMENT

Personnel Selection and Recruitment

On the 31 December 2022 the establishment plan was 96%⁷² fulfilled, with 74 Temporary Agents (TA). The number of Contract Agents (CA) was within the estimates at 11⁷³. While the number of establishment plan posts was higher than in 2021, all in all establishment plan fulfilment was similar to the situation at the end of 2021.

Additionally, a total of 13 CA (10.3 FTE) was covered by ad hoc grants and contribution agreements related to the following projects:

- 3 CA (2.8 FTE) were covered by ad hoc grants, under the PESCAO project;
- 3 CA (2.7 FTE) were covered by a contribution agreement, under the project "Analysis for the weighing process of fisheries products in the Member States and strategy";
- 2.3 CA (1.84 FTE) were covered by a contribution agreement, under the project "Mediterranean virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection";
- 3.7 CA (2.96 FTE) were covered by a contribution agreement, under the project "Implementation of the results of the Coast Guard qualifications Network and the CGF handbook".

On the 31 December 2022 the number of Seconded National Agents (SNEs) was 6⁷⁴. The SNE work volume in 2022 resulted in 5.4 person/years of usage sourced by the EFCA budget and 1 person/year due to funding for the PESCAO project.

External personnel were used for replacement and amounted to 3.1 full-time equivalent (FTE).

Furthermore, external service providers were used for delivering specified structural services within the EFCA premises, in the areas of ICT, Logistics and Communication. The total of this amounted to 10.6 FTE.

Organisational development and staff structure

⁷² This includes job offers sent before 31 December 2022.

⁷³ This figure does not include CA covered by the Assigned Revenue (contribution agreements and grants).

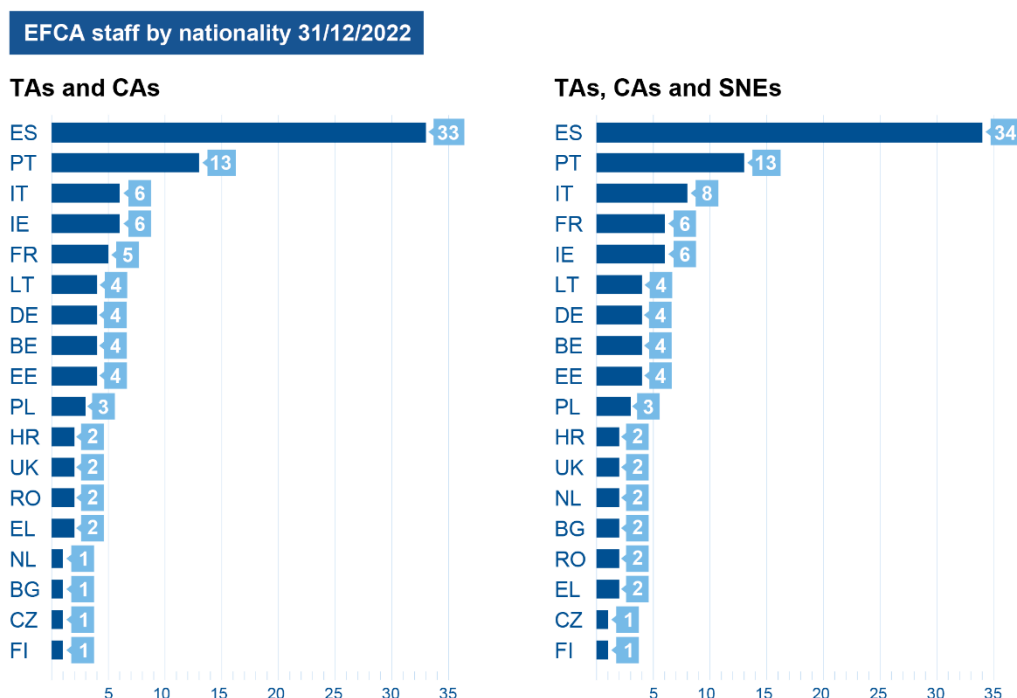
⁷⁴ This figure does not include SNEs covered by the Assigned Revenue (contribution agreements and grants).

EFCA carried out a job screening exercise for 2022 following the methodology agreed with the Commission. The jobs include all statutory staff as well as external service providers working *intra-muros*. The results are displayed in Annex IV allowing a comparative view on the allocation of human resources with the previous year. Operational staff account for 67.4 % of the total workforce.

In 2022, the volume of staff on parental leave, maternity leave or partly absent due to working part-time resulted in 1.87 person/years. On 31 December 2022, there were no staff on parental or maternity leave or partly absent due to working part-time.

As in the previous years there is a wide composition of staff in regard to nationalities as analysed in the chart below. By nature the chart below only includes posts filled.

Nationals of 18 EU Member States were working at EFCA on 31 December 2022.



On the 31 December 2022, the overall average age of staff, including SNEs was 48 years. The average age of staff, not counting SNEs, was as well 48 years.

Change management process

A reorganisation took place in February 2022 to adjust the organisation to the additional tasks and resources assigned to EFCA to enhance the necessary operational capacity for assisting in the monitoring, control and surveillance of fisheries as required by the CFP, including the measures entailed by the Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA) with the UK, and several new projects under the contribution agreements. The increase of staff was of almost 50 % as compared to the situation at the beginning of 2021, including temporary agents, contract agents and SNEs.

Prioritising health of staff and business continuity of the Agency, EFCA continued taking a flexible approach on teleworking, depending on the epidemiological situation. Thus, during the first two months of 2022, EFCA staff were requested to telework, in accordance with the EFCA action plan on the phased return to the office and in accordance with the sanitary situation, due to the case of *force majeure* caused by the COVID-19 pandemic situation. From March to September 2022, EFCA applied a limited cautious and voluntary return to the office. Since 1 October 2022, EFCA applies the rules on working time and hybrid working of the European Commission by analogy. In parallel, the action plan was

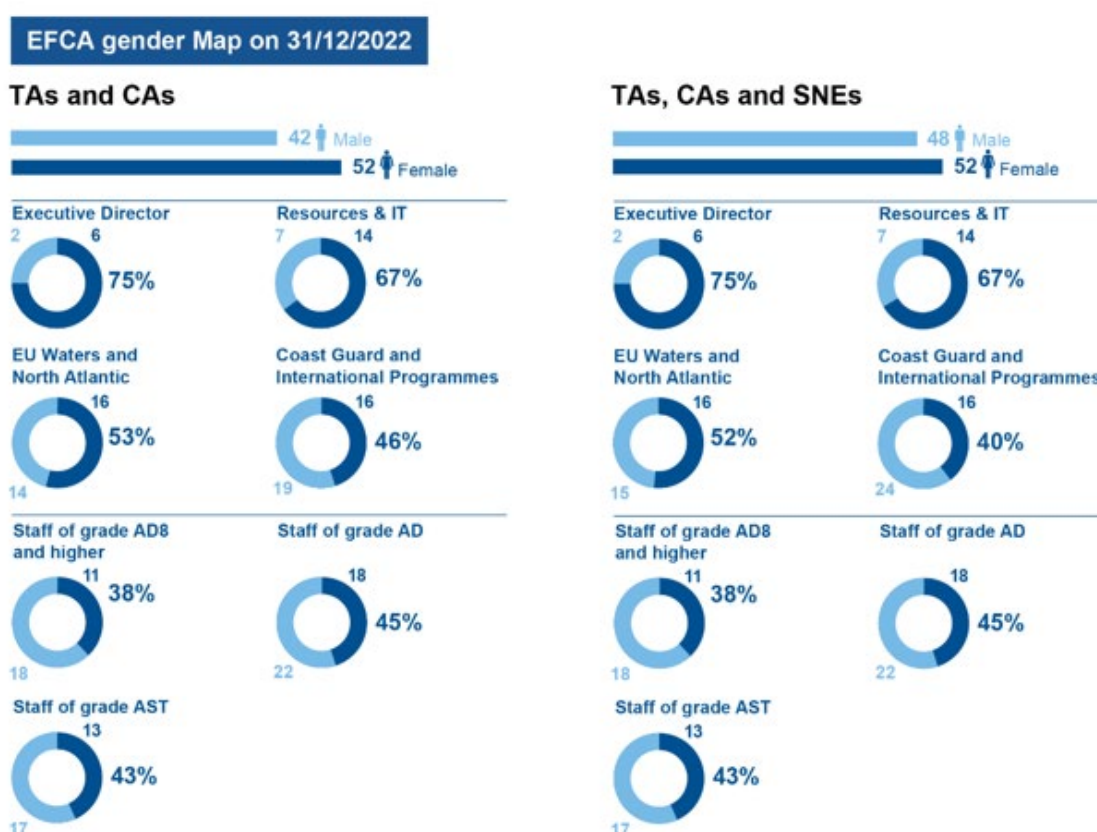
suspended with the exception of the medical protocol. Throughout the year, to help staff in the new work setting on a professional level as well to support their health and safety and personal well-being, EFCA provided relevant information, support, tools and training opportunities.

Gender distribution among EFCA staff

EFCA promotes a policy of equal treatment and aims to reach a gender balance among its staff, both in numbers as well as in grade and level of responsibility. The Agency has an equal treatment statement included in each vacancy notice published.

On the 31 December 2022, the overall percentage of female staff members was 55%. This figure is reduced to 52%, if SNEs are included (see chart below). Against these figures, 38% of the staff of grade AD8 (administrator’s function group, grade 8) and higher were female (this number is expected to increase in future years), while in the range AD 5 to AD 7, 64% of the staff were female . Moreover, 45% of the Heads of Sector, and 67% of the Deputy Heads of Unit are female staff.

There is a majority of male staff employed in operational coordination. In addition, the majority of staff of grade AD8 and higher are males. On the other hand, there is a majority of female staff under the Executive Director and in Unit Resources and IT.



Personnel policies and procedures

The EFCA intranet platform provides HR-related information within webpages, including documents, templates and forms.

General Implementing Provisions of the Staff Regulations

During 2022 the Administrative Board adopted new General Implementing Provisions (GIP) of the Staff Regulations on working time and hybrid working, as well as on administrative inquiries and disciplinary proceedings.

Appraisal and Reclassification

In 2022, the annual appraisal exercise was performed for all staff members. Following the reclassification exercise, 17 staff members were reclassified.

Training and Tuition

EFCA continued to offer online training on ethics principles via EU Learn. Refreshment trainings on MS Teams for end-users, Information security awareness, Data protection and Anti-harassment awareness were organised for all staff. The regular language courses were provided in virtual mode throughout the year in an intensive format. Spouses continue to participate in Spanish language classes organised by the Agency.

Figures related to the staff training activities in 2022 are as follows:

- number of collective online courses organised: 9;
- number of external training courses followed: 69;
- number of persons following language courses: 42;
- average number of training days per staff member: 5.7.

The scheme concerning tuition provided to staff members' children in the Vigo area in their mother tongue, and support for English and Spanish was continued in 2022 with an increase of requests after the summer period.

2.6 STRATEGY FOR EFFICIENCY GAINS

EFCA strives for increasing efficiency in all procedures related to finance and administration, while it continues to safeguard the resources of the Agency and maintain its compliance with its legal obligations in this area (Financial and Staff Regulations among others).

- EFCA continues to benefit from the efficiencies gained by adhering to the roadmap of the Commission in terms of onboarding their existing corporate IT systems (SUMMA,, e-Procurement pre-award and post-award modules, MIPS, AGM, Sysper modules, PPMT, etc.). In addition to the advantages found on the integration aspects between all these systems, there are clear benefits in reducing the maintenance costs of supporting the amendments and updates.
- As far as possible and fit to the needs, EFCA accepts the invitations for interinstitutional calls for tender received from the Commission and other agencies. Currently EFCA uses over 45 framework contracts signed by other entities. In addition, EFCA will continue to invite other agencies, if applicable, to participate in its open calls, particularly the EU agencies in Spain. This results in rotating the leading role between agencies, bringing efficiencies to the procurement efforts of agencies overall.
- The centralisation of common administrative tasks has also been successful in finding efficiencies. The financial initiation and verification continue to be centralised, which allows for greater control of transactions, unifying the methodologies and containing the knowledge in these areas. EFCA will continue to centralise where applicable to find new opportunities for efficiency.
- Another efficiency gain in the area of Human Resources is achieved by sharing existing reserve lists of recruitment procedures with other agencies. Where the profile of the reserve list matches the needs of the requesting agency, this practice allows to make use of the reserve list of another agency, without the need to organise a resource-consuming recruitment procedure.

2.7 ASSESSMENT OF AUDIT AND EX-POST EVALUATION RESULTS DURING THE REPORTING YEAR

2.7.1. INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

The Internal Audit Service (IAS) of the Commission is the Agency Internal Auditor. It provides independent advice, opinions and recommendations on the quality and functioning of internal control systems of the Agency.

In 2020 the IAS established a new audit plan (Strategic Internal Audit Plan 2021-2023). This audit plan was based on the results of an in-depth risk assessment carried out by the IAS.

During 2022 and in line with the Strategic Internal Audit Plan the IAS:

- concluded the audit on the cooperation between EFCA and DG MARE on activities related to Article 30 of the CFP;
- started the audit on HR management and ethics.

In line with the International Standards for the Professional Practise of Internal Auditing, the internal auditor confirmed the organisational independence of the internal audit activity.

2.7.2. EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

EFCA is audited every year by the European Court of Auditors (ECA). The audit provides a Statement of Assurance as to the reliability of the accounts of the Agency and the legality and regularity of the transactions underlying them. Furthermore, in preparing the specific Annual Report on the Agency, ECA shall consider the audit work performed by an independent external auditor on the Annual Accounts of the Agency.

In 2022, EFCA received a [Statement of Assurance](#) certifying an unqualified opinion⁷⁵ for 2021 Annual Accounts and indicating that the accounts are reliable and the transactions underlying the accounts are legal and regular.

With regards to the 2022 Financial Year, ECA conducted its on-site audits and concluded with a desk review in the first quarter of 2023.

At the same time, the 2022 Annual Accounts are being audited by an external audit firm. The final report of the Court, comprising its own observations as well as the results of the external auditor's work, is expected in quarter two of 2023.

2.8 (A) FOLLOW UP OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND ACTION PLANS FOR AUDITS AND EVALUATIONS

INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

In 2022, five recommendations were issued concerning the audit on the cooperation between EFCA and DG MARE on activities related to Article 30 of the CFP. The recommendations were all rated as important - the lowest IAS rating. EFCA submitted an action plan to apply the recommendations which was accepted and is currently being implemented.

There are no open recommendations from other audits.

⁷⁵ Unqualified audit opinion - The auditor's report contains a clearly written expression of opinion on the financial statements or the legality and regularity of underlying transactions as a whole. An unqualified opinion is expressed when the auditor concludes that, on the whole, the underlying transactions are legal and regular and the supervisory and control systems are adequate to manage the risk.

EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS

For 2021 the Court's Report on the annual accounts of the Agency did not include any observation.

No observation from past exercises are open.

EVALUATIONS

Information included in Part II. (B) External Evaluations

2.8 (B) FOLLOW UP OF RECOMMENDATIONS ISSUED FOLLOWING INVESTIGATIONS BY THE EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE (OLAF)

No investigations/recommendations have been carried out or issued during 2022.

2.9 FOLLOW UP OF OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DISCHARGE AUTHORITY

The European Parliament (EP) granted the Executive Director of the EFCA the discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2020. [On its resolution](#), the EP acknowledged the important contribution to the implementation of the objectives of the reformed CFP and highlighted the very good results achieved by the Agency.

The EP resolution contained comments addressed to EFCA. For each comment that required measures EFCA implemented and informed the Discharge authority accordingly. EFCA report on the measures taken can be found here - [hyperlink to European Parliament - EFCA report](#).

The EP resolution contained also a number of recommendations addressed to the EU agencies collectively; EFCA is actively committed to follow-up and implement the EP observations of horizontal nature, where applicable to the Agency.

2.10 ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT

The EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) Certification project, launched in 2018, is ongoing, focussing on the preparation of documentation, drafting of policies and collection of data. Certification has not yet been reached due to the circumstances of the sanitary situation.

It is to be noted that pre-pandemic EFCA had taken technical steps to increase videoconferencing and teleworking capacity, with the objective of reducing business travel and consequent carbon footprint. The pandemic accelerated dramatically the transition to remote working, and proved the preparedness of EFCA.

The carbon footprint of the Agency for 2022 has been estimated as 5137.70 tons of CO₂. This represents an overall decrease of 28.08 % of the value reported for 2021. This is attributed to the fact that one of the 2 vessels, Aegis, was chartered for less than 3 months over the reporting period.

A closer look at the statistics highlights:

- The annual CO₂ emissions arising from chartering the Lundy and Aegis vessels account for 83.75% of the annual EFCA carbon footprint value.
- While there has been an increase in workspace occupancy the energy saving measures reduced electricity consumption and provided a 12.49% reduction in carbon footprint.
- Conversely the increase in workspace occupancy levels over the year has led to the significant increase of water and paper consumption as well as waste generation as anticipated.
- Finally in 2022 official travel has resumed with the 2022 emissions from this travel exceeding 180 tonnes of CO₂ emissions as opposed to 10.5 tonnes reported for 2021.

Therefore, in 2022, while the consumption of the facility resources increased as the rate of occupancy of the workplace increased, the overall carbon footprint of EFCA was reduced by 28.08% due to the reduction in vessel operations.

It should be noted that EFCA chartered OPV Sentinel Marine is ISO 14001:2015 certified for environmental management. Furthermore, in accordance with the international rules and regulations, all the chartered OPVs carry all the necessary environmental certifications.

2.11 ASSESSMENT BY MANAGEMENT

EFCA has a system of management supervision and internal control in place to ensure the Agency is managed effectively and efficiently. The main elements of the system are described below.

At the end of 2022 EFCA had three units and an Executive Director Office. The EFCA management team consists of the Executive Director and all the Heads of Unit, playing a key role in the strategic and day to day management of the Agency.

The EFCA Administrative Board adopted the EFCA Programming Document in October 2021 containing the Multiannual work programme 2022-2026 and the Annual work programme for 2022. The execution of the Programming Document is monitored internally on a quarterly basis, discrepancies are discussed with the units, and corrective actions are taken as necessary.

The Annual Report outlines the achievements for the year and the resources used, with the primary aim of increasing the accountability and transparency of the Agency. The Annual Report is the tool used to monitor and report on the implementation of the Agency's activities and serves as a mirror image of the Programming Document.

EFCA continues to implement and further enhance its activity-based management. Moreover, the Agency's budget nomenclature follows the principles of activity-based budgeting (ABB). It complies with the principles of specification, transparency and sound financial management, providing the clarity and transparency necessary for the budgetary process and facilitating the identification of the main objectives as reflected in its Single Programming Document.

Assurance is based on the examination of the evidence of the effectiveness of the procedures and the controls in place. Such evidence derives from both internal and external sources.

Internally, the Executive Director is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the internal control systems, which are monitored and assessed on a regular basis and in accordance with the established mechanisms and procedures, as described in the sections above. The outcome of the implementation of these processes is included in Part III. A further source of assurance is the outcome of the internal audits carried out by the Internal Audit Service of the European Commission, which serves as the internal auditor of the Agency.

Externally, assurance is based on an examination of the evidence resulting from the observations and recommendations included in the European Court of Auditors' report, as well as the European Parliament's observations included in the Executive Director's discharge decisions.

Based on the information provided and as a result of an analysis and assessment of the internal and external elements of assurance related to the processes and procedures in place, it is considered that EFCA fully achieves the five internal control objectives for management (cf. article 30 (2) of the 2019 EFCA Financial Regulation), which include:

- effectiveness, efficiency and economy of operations
- reliability of reporting
- safeguarding of assets and information
- prevention, detection, correction and follow-up of fraud and irregularities
- adequate management of the risks relating to the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions, taking into account the multiannual character of programmes as well as the nature of the payments concerned.

PART II. (B) EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS

From the date of the Agency having taken up its responsibilities, and every five years thereafter, the Administrative Board shall commission an independent external evaluation of the implementation of its Founding Regulation.

Each evaluation shall assess the impact of this Regulation, the utility, relevance and effectiveness of the Agency and its working practices and the extent to which it contributes to the achievement of a high level of compliance with rules made under the Common Fisheries Policy.

The second Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA was commissioned by the Administrative Board for the period 2012-2016.

The evaluation results for the Five Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA 2012-2016 were presented on 20 June 2017 during a seminar to which the stakeholders and the Administrative and Advisory Boards representatives were invited.

The evaluation reviewed the implementation of EFCA's Founding Regulation during 2012-2016 against the evaluation criteria of follow-up on the last evaluation, relevance, coherence, utility, added value, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability and gender balance. The report indicated that "Data collected with the help of extensive desk research, interviews with some 60 stakeholders, five case studies (focusing on specific EFCA activities) and five surveys of key stakeholders confirm EFCA's positive performance across all evaluation criteria. This is mostly explained with EFCA successfully operationalising a role of 'honest broker' between the Member States, European Commission and industry, allowing EFCA to achieve objectives in terms of Member States cooperation and compliance, thus contributing to the level-playing field for the fishing industry and the sustainable exploitation of living aquatic resources. EFCA's strong performance was supported by adequate governance arrangements and working practices, with commendable efficiency efforts, e.g. use of e-administration."

The Administrative Board issued recommendations to the European Commission regarding changes to the Founding Regulation, the Agency and its working practices. The evaluation findings and recommendations were forwarded by the European Commission to the European Parliament and the Council and were made public (<https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>).

During the Administrative Board meeting on 14 March 2018 it was decided that the implementation of the AB's recommendations would be a common agenda point to be followed up in the AB meetings.

From the 11 recommendations of the External Evaluation for the period 2012-2016, 11 recommendations were implemented, and taken into consideration in the Single Programming Document of the Agency.

In 2021 the third Five Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA was commissioned by the Administrative Board for the period 2017-2021. The Board endorsed the [Evaluation mandate](#) and adopted the Terms of Reference which were the basis for a procurement procedure to select an independent external evaluator. EFCA signed a contract with a new company and the evaluation was formally kicked-off on the 26th November 2021. In the Kick-off meeting the External Evaluator presented the technical offer and refined the evaluation methodology and strategy for data collection and analysis, based on discussions and feedback from the Evaluation Steering Committee during the subsequent inception phase. On the 29th July 2022 the External Evaluator presented a draft final report which was submitted to the Members of the Administrative Board for comments. On the basis of the feedback provided, the Evaluator finalised the report. Finally, a Seminar on the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of the EFCA was held the day before the Administrative Board on the 26th October 2022, which brought valuable input to the Administrative Board for the issuing of recommendations to the European Commission regarding changes to the Founding Regulation, the Agency and its working practices, as required by the Financial Regulation. Both the evaluation findings and recommendations were made public and can be found here: <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2021>.

EFCA Five Year Independent Evaluation: Recommendations of the Administrative Board 2022-2027

Operational coordination

1. Explore ways to more efficiently address common issues across the various JDPs, including post landing activities, whilst ensuring continued focus on issues unique to individual regions.



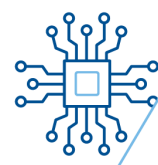
2. Ensure the update and improvement of regional risk assessment and risk management processes.



3. Continue supporting the European Union and its Member States for the implementation of the international dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy.

Assistance to Cooperation

4. Maintain a proactive approach and improve the support to Member States in a structured way in important areas for the compliance with the rules of the CFP, whilst considering the extent and nature of EFCA's role in the regional Control Expert Groups.

Training and capacity building

5. Strengthen EFCA's training and capacity building by exploring modern technologies and approaches to ensure an efficient use of resources and reach wider audiences in Member States and third countries, while also expanding the breadth and relevance of the topics covered.

Smarter information sharing and digital transformation

6. Upgrade the IT solutions for data sharing and analysis, maximising the value of data for fisheries control purposes in partnership with the European Commission and Member States, and in line with international standards.

PART III ASSESSMENT OF THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

3.1 EFFECTIVENESS OF INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

EFCA implements an internal control framework applicable at all levels of management and designed to provide reasonable assurance that operations are effective and efficient, but also that the financial reporting is reliable and the agency complies with applicable laws and regulations.

In April 2019, the Administrative Board adopted a revised Internal Control Framework (ICF) aligned with the control framework adopted by the European Commission and required by the EFCA Financial Regulation in its article 30.

The new ICF moves away from a compliance-based to a principle-based system. It provides the necessary flexibility to adapt to specific characteristics and circumstances while ensuring a robust internal control with a consistent assessment. The ICF, which takes into account the structure and size of EFCA, consists of 5 internal control components and 17 principles. Each principle is further deployed in specific characteristics. These specific characteristics are defined in such way as to take into account the specific governance arrangements in the Agency. They are defined to assist management in implementing internal control procedures and in assessing whether the principles are present and functioning. The Internal Control Framework supplements the Financial Regulation and other applicable rules and regulations.

Another key element of EFCA's internal control framework is the control and registration of exceptions to the established regulations, policies, rules and procedures. An exception is any transaction, financial or operational, which requires an approach that deviates from the established regulations, policies, rules and procedures.

A total of 3 such events were registered in 2022 (vs. 4 in 2021), all of them ex-post (approval after the deviation had occurred). The 3 events were "a posteriori" commitments and each of them had a different reason to happen. The events registered do not reveal any systemic failure, thus none of the events were of a nature that could lead to a formal reservation to the Authorising Officer's annual declaration of assurance.

The assessment of internal control is founded both on ongoing (continuous) monitoring and on specific (periodical) assessments, the main sources (non-exhaustive) contributing to both assessments are the register of exceptions and/or deficiencies, the audit results from different sources, ex-post controls results, implementation of the anti-fraud strategy, dedicated surveys, and key performance indicators.

The assessment for 2022 was performed at the level of the principles (based on the analysis of the detected strengths and deficiencies, at the level of the components (based on an analysis of the results at principle level) and at the level of the internal control system as a whole (based on an analysis of the results at component level).

- Fraud prevention and detection

An anti-fraud strategy has been in place at EFCA since 2014, and was subsequently updated. The actions defined are being implemented and they focus on reducing the fraud risks identified in the EFCA risk assessment.

The last update was adopted by the Administrative Board in 2022, most of the actions are of a continuous nature with a special focus on awareness raising on ethics and integrity and on the implementation and monitoring of adequate policies for the prevention and management of conflict of interests. EFCA makes available to all staff, through the intranet comprehensive information and practical guides regarding ethics and staff conduct.

At EFCA the risk of fraud overall can be considered low or very low, and it is mostly linked with ethical behaviour. Since the creation of the agency and during 2022 there was no indication (internal or external) of any fraud case.

3.2 CONCLUSIONS OF ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEMS

As described in the previous point and based on the most relevant key indicators, control results, and the latest internal surveys performed, the assessment concluded that, overall, the internal control system is present (compliance) and functioning (effectiveness).

Component / Principles / Assessment		
I. Control Environment	Category 1- Principles are present and functioning well	Category 1 – The component is present and functioning well
II. Risk Assessment	Category 1- Principles are present and functioning well	Category 1 – The component is present and functioning well
III. Control Activities	Category 1 – Principles are present and functioning well	Category 1 – The component is present and functioning well
IV. Information and Communication	Category 1- Principles are present and functioning well	Category 1 – The component is present and functioning well
V. Monitoring Activities	Category 1- Principles are present and functioning well	Category 1 – The component is present and functioning well
OVERALL ASSESSMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL SYSTEM		
Are all components operating together in an integrated manner? (this assesses globally the combination of the assessments of the internal control components – Category 1/2/3 or 4)		Category 1 – The internal control system is present and functioning
Is the overall internal control system effective? Category 1. Minor- Yes Category 2. Moderate- Yes Category 3. Major- Partially Category 4. Critical- No		↓ YES

In conclusion, EFCA has assessed the effectiveness, efficiency and economy of the control system and reached a positive conclusion. Management has reasonable assurance that, overall, suitable controls are in place and working as intended; risks are being appropriately monitored and mitigated. No significant control weaknesses were reported.

3.3 STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL COORDINATOR IN CHARGE OF RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL



 Ref. Ares(2023)2080084 - 22/03/2023



Statement of the Internal Control Coordinator in charge of risk management and internal control

I, the undersigned,

In my capacity as Internal Control Coordinator in charge of risk management and internal control, I declare that in accordance with EFCA's Internal Control Framework, I have reported my advice and recommendations on the overall state of internal control in Agency to the Executive Director.

I hereby certify that the information provided in the present Annual Report and its annexes is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate, reliable and complete.

Done at Vigo on 22 March 2023

SIGNED

Paulo Castro
Internal Control Coordinator

PART IV. MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

This part of the report reviews the assessment of the elements contained in this report and draws conclusions supporting the Declaration of Assurance of the Executive Director and whether or not it should be qualified with reservations.

For the expenditure of 2022, the Authorising Officers by Delegation signed a Declaration of Assurance to the Authorising Officer, similar to the one signed by the Authorising Officer, for the area for which they have been delegated responsibility. No reservations were raised by the Authorising Officers by Delegation.

4.1 REVIEW OF THE ELEMENTS SUPPORTING ASSURANCE

The Executive Director has relied on the following elements of assurance:

- the declarations of assurance from the Authorising Officers by Delegation;
- the positive assessment of the EFCA's Internal Control system and the implementation of the adopted Internal Control Framework;
- the statement of the Internal Control Coordinator;
- the Accounting Officer's certification of the provisional accounts;
- the management of risks which are being appropriately monitored and mitigated;
- the absence of overdue or long-standing audit recommendations;
- the absence of vital observations from the European Parliament;
- the positive Statement of Assurance issued by ECA in 2022 for the financial year 2021 on the true and fair view of the EFCA 2021 Annual Accounts and on the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions;
- the low impact of quantitative and qualitative nature of the identified exceptions;
- the qualitative and quantitative materiality criteria established by the Agency (Annex IX);
- the progress made during the year in regularly monitoring performance and overseeing the on-going action plans for all necessary improvements and reinforcements;
- the resources allocated to trainings in relation to the implementation of the Financial Regulation, Ethics and Integrity and Fraud prevention;
- the EFCA anti-fraud strategy and Conflict of Interests policy as adopted by the EFCA.

4.2 RESERVATIONS

The content of this report stems from the results of management monitoring controls and the systematic analysis by the internal and external auditors and other assurance providers of the evidence available. This approach provides sufficient guarantees of the exhaustiveness and reliability of the reported information and results in a complete coverage of the budget and resources delegated to the Executive Director and assigned to the activities described herein, including those within the framework of the Programming Document as approved by the Administrative Board.

Taking into account all the elements reviewed below, the absence of any significant weakness and the materiality criteria as described in Annex IX, it can be positively concluded that the Executive Director has reasonable assurance and has no reasons to introduce any reservation for the year 2022.

In conclusion, for 2022 nothing opposes to the signing the Declaration of Assurance.

PART V. DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE



Ref: Ares(2023)2205631 - 27/03/2023
With qualified electronic signature(s)

Executive Director



Declaration of Assurance

I, the undersigned, Executive Director of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA),

In my capacity as authorising officer,

Declare that the information contained in this report gives a true and fair view¹.

State that I have reasonable assurance that the resources assigned to the activities described in this report have been used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management, and that the control procedures put in place give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of the underlying transactions.

This reasonable assurance is based on my own judgement and on the information at my disposal, inter alia:

- *the declarations of assurance from the Authorizing Officers by Delegation;*
- *the results of the annual review of the internal control system;*
- *the statement issued by the Internal Control Coordinator;*
- *the results and follow-up of ex-post audits, evaluations and controls;*
- *the work of the Internal Audit Service and the absence of overdue or long-standing of recommendations;*
- *the lessons learnt from the reports of the Court of Auditors for years prior to the year of this declaration;*
- *the lessons learnt from the discharge reports of the Discharge authority for years prior to the year of this declaration.*

Confirm that I am not aware of anything not reported here which could harm the interests of the agency.

Done at Vigo on 27 March 2023

Qualified electronic signature by:

SUSAN STEELE

Date: 2023-03-27 16:26:08 +02:00

Susan STEELE
Executive Director

¹ True and fair in this context means a reliable, complete and correct view on the state of affairs in the Agency.

ANNEXES

ANNEX I: CORE BUSINESS STATISTICS

BALTIC SEA JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 08/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	Baltic Sea JDP 2022
Reporting period	01 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	DE, DK, EE, FI, LT, LV, PL, SE
Operational area	Union waters of ICES areas 27.3.b,c,d

	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
Coordination Centre in EFCA (CC)	Baltic Sea	EE	1	5
		LV	1	15
		LT	2	24
		FI	1	5
		PL	1	5
		DE	1	4

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea		No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Committed Patrols (patrol sea days)	Other Patrols (sea days with events)		No Exchanges*	No Exchanges*
DE	430	9			
DK	159	38	5		2
EE	3	1	11	1	1
FI	28	12		6	3
LT	28		6	12	12
LV	25	1		8	5
PL	87			8	2
SE	49	14	87		1
EFCA	39				
Total	848	75	109	35	26

* One exchange is equivalent to 1 inspector for a period of up to 5 days.

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT																
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator												
				DE	DK	EE	FI	LT	LV	PL	SE	EFCA	Total			
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported		27	46		1				310		384		
	Land		Sightings reported		8									8		
	Sea		Sightings reported	468	69				7	2			59		605	
		Total no. of suspected infringements										1		1		
Inspections	Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	437	218	255	301	112	521	762	163			2769		
			No. of inspections with suspected infringements	3	7	11	15	2	4	18	9				69	
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.7	3.2	4.3	5.0	1.8	0.8	2.4	5.5				2.5	
			Total no. of suspected infringements	4	9	11	15	2	4	22	9					76
			Total no. of inspections of targets	104	8	12	8	4	70	10	9					225
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements			2	3				5					10
		Transport	No. of inspections					17								17
		Business	No. of inspections				23									23
		Other Trap	No. of inspections									1				1
	Other Fishing Gear	No. of inspections									26				26	
	Sea	Vessel	No. of Inspections	125	58	9	92	53	92	150	30	13			622	
			No. of inspections with suspected infringements	3	1						5	1	1			11
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	2.4	1.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.3	7.7				1.8
			Total no. of suspected infringements	3	1						5	1	1			11
			Total no. of inspections of targets	33	4	3		2	3		1	2				48
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	3	1											
		Other Trap	No. of inspections				11					46				57
		Other Fishing Gear	No. of Inspections		12		135					48				195
No. of inspections with suspected infringements				12		3					2				17	
% of inspections with suspected infringements			100.0		2.2					4.2				8.7		
Total no. of suspected infringements			12		3					2				17		

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES

Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered									
			DE	DK	EE	FI	LT	LV	PL	SE	Total	
Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	430	203	257	304	150	470	795	160	2769	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements	3	7	10	16	3	3	23	4	69	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.7	3.5	3.9	5.3	2.0	0.6	2.9	2.5	2.5	
		Total no. of suspected infringements	4	9	10	16	3	3	27	4	76	
		Total no. of inspections of targets	98	11	9	9	25	51	16	6	225	
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements			1	4			3	2	10	
	Transport	No. of Inspections			3		9	5			17	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			0.0		0.0	0.0			0.0	
	Other Trap	No. of Inspections								1	1	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements								0.0	0.0	
	Other Fishing Gear	No. of Inspections								26	26	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements								0.0	0.0	
	Sea	Vessel	No. of Inspections	115	63	9	97	56	88	167	27	622
			No. of inspections with suspected infringements	1	3		1			5	1	11
% of inspections with suspected infringements			0.9	4.8	0.0	1.0	0.0	0.0	3.0	3.7	1.8	
Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections			1	3		1			5	1	11	
Total no. of suspected infringements - Sightings						1					1	
Total no. of suspected infringements			1	3		2			5	1	12	
Total no. of inspections of targets			31	6	2	3	5	1			48	
Inspections of targets with suspected infringements			1	3							4	
Other Fishing Gear		No. of Inspections		12		135				48	195	
		No. of inspections with		12		3				2	17	

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT											
		suspected infringements									
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		100.0		2.2				4.2	8.7
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections		12		3				2	17
		Total no. of suspected infringements		12		3				2	17
	Other Trap	No. of Inspections				11				46	57
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				0.0				0.0	0.0

D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	5	5%
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	2	2%
	Catch retain on board, land, store or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	2	2%
	Exceeding bycatch limits	1	1%
	Non compliant gear	1	1%
	Absence or non-conformity with fishing gear/ device identification	25	24%
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	2	2%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the departure declaration	1	1%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of catch declaration	16	15%
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	35	33%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	7	7%
Other types of non-compliance	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	2	2%
	Absence or incorrect weighing of catches at landing	1	1%
	Marketing without mandatory first sale	1	1%
	Other SI not included in other categories	4	4%
Total		105	100%

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

Baltic Sea



- 22 23 24
- 25 26 27
- 28 29 30
- 31 32

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misrecording	Use of illegal gear	Fishing in closed areas, closed seasons	Exceeding bag limits, illegal selling, non-compliance with EU rules
Otter trawls ≥105 mm DEMERSAL SPECIES					
Danish seines ≥105 mm DEMERSAL SPECIES					
Otter trawls ≥105 mm DEMERSAL SPECIES					
Otter trawls, pair trawls ≥32 and <90 mm HERRING – Sprat					
Otter trawls, pair trawls ≥16 and <32 mm SPRAT – Herring					
Otter trawls, pair trawls ≥16 and <105 mm HERRING – Sprat					
Gillnets ≥157 mm SALMON					

Main target species in UPPERCASE

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Baltic Sea



- 22 23 24
- 25 26 27
- 28 29 30
- 31 32

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misrecording	Use of illegal gear	Fishing in closed areas, closed seasons	Exceeding bag limits, illegal selling, non-compliance with EU rules
FIX (nat. rules) SALMON					
Gillnets ≥110 mm, longlines DEMERSAL SPECIES					
Gillnets ≥110 mm, longlines DEMERSAL SPECIES					
Gillnets ≥32 and <110 mm, traps HERRING					
Recreational Fisheries COD					
Eel fisheries EEL					

Main target species in UPPERCASE

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

NORTH SEA JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 08/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	North Sea JDP 2022
Reporting period	1 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	BE, DE, DK, FR, IE, NL, SE.
Operational area	Union waters of ICES areas 27.3.a and 27.4

Coordination Centre in EFCA (CC)	Campaign	Member States	No. of Experts	Man-days
	North Sea	NL*	1	207

* SNE

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea		No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Committed Patrols (patrol sea days)	Other Patrols (sea days with events)		No Exchanges*	No Exchanges*
BE	33		43		
DE	187	14		2	
DK	198	105	1	2	
NL	138		1	7	
SE	41	3	126	6	
EFCA	45				
Total	642	122	171	17	0

* One exchange is equivalent to 1 inspector for a period of up to 5 days.

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT										
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator						
				BE	DE	DK	NL	SE	EFCA	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported	197		5	820			1049
			No. of inspections with suspected infringement	2						2
	Sea		Sightings reported		460	394	19		39	912
Inspections	Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	13	94	834	179	370		1490
			No. of inspections with suspected infringement	1	3	36	22	11		73
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	7.7	3.2	4.3	12.3	3.0		4.9
			Total no. of suspected infringements	1	3	48	23	12		87
			Total no. of inspections of targets	3	17	182	46	15		263
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements		2	9	5	1		17
	Sea	Vessel	No. of Inspections	52	58	184	183	48	26	551
			No. of inspections with suspected infringement	6	11	20	17	1		55
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	11.5	19.0	10.9	9.3	2.1	0.0	10.0
			Total no. of suspected infringements	6	11	33	18	1		69
			Total no. of inspections of targets	4	29	46	57	2	15	153
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	2	4	10	3			19
			No. of Inspections				2		2	2

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT										
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator						
				BE	DE	DK	NL	SE	EFCA	Total
		Other Fishing Gear	No. of inspections with suspected infringement				1		1	1
			% of inspections with suspected infringements				50.0		50.0	50.0
			Total no. of suspected infringements				1		1	1

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES											
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered								
			BE	DE	DK	FR	UK	NL	NO	SE	Total
Air	Vessel	Total no. of suspected infringements - Sightings							2		2
		Total no. of suspected infringements							2		2
Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	32	102	764	3	35	171	29	354	1490
		No. of inspections with suspected infringement	3	7	26		7	17	1	12	73
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	9.4	6.9	3.4	0.0	20.0	9.9	3.5	3.4	4.9
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections	3	7	33		7	22	1	14	87
		Total no. of suspected infringements	3	7	33		7	22	1	14	87
		Total no. of inspections of targets	5	32	153	2		58		13	263
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements		5	6			5		1	17
Sea	Vessel	No. of Inspections	23	28	172	5	21	253		49	551
		No. of inspections with suspected infringement	1	4	7		1	42			55
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	4.4	14.3	4.17	0.0	4.8	16.6		0.0	10.0
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections	1	4	9		1	54			69
		Total no. of suspected infringements	1	4	9		1	54			69
		Total no. of inspections of targets	2	15	33			100		3	153
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements		1	1			17			19
	Other Fishing Gear	No. of Inspections								2	2
		No. of inspections with suspected infringement								1	1
		% of inspections with suspected infringements								50.0	50.0
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections								1	1
		Total no. of suspected infringements								1	1

D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with the Landing Obligation and associated misreporting	Illegal discard of species subject to LO	3	2%
	Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported catch of fish below minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	1	1%
	Marketing for direct human consumption of undersize fish subject to LO	4	3%
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorization / licence	2	1%
	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	10	6%
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	1	1%
	Non compliant gear	29	18%
	Prohibited or unauthorized fishing method	2	1%
	Catch retain on board, land, store or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	1	1%
	Exceeding bycatch limits	1	1%
	Catch not stowaged according to rules	3	2%
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	5	3%
	Not equipped or not operational AIS	14	9%
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	2	1%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of fishing operation declaration	3	2%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of catch declaration	3	2%
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	16	10%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	16	10%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the landing declaration	1	1%
	Absence or incorrect catch certificate for import-export	1	1%
	Other SI related with fishing vessel recording and reporting obligations operations	17	11%
Other types of non-compliance	Obstruction to work of inspectors	3	2%
	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	11	7%
	Entrance, landing or making use of other services in a non-designated port or in unauthorized place	3	2%
	Other SI related with post harvesting operations at sea or land based operations	2	1%
	Other SI related with authorisations and certification requirements	3	2%
	Other SI not included in other categories	2	1%
Total		159	100%

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

Note that the risk assessment of the pelagic fisheries targeting blue whiting, mackerel, horse mackerel and herring is conducted jointly with North Sea and Western Waters JDPs.



North Sea - Demersal



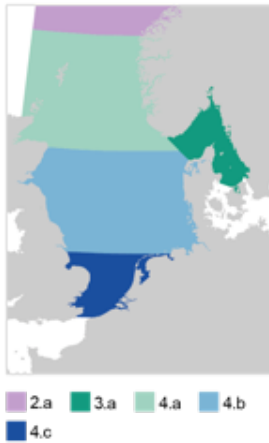
2.a 3.a 4.a 4.b
4.c

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear	Non-compliance with other technical measures	Unlicensed vessels
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 120 mm SAITHE, HAKE – Anglerfish, Cod, Haddock, Norway lobster, Plaice, Whiting					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 100 and < 120 mm COD – Anglerfish, Hake, Haddock, Norway lobster, Plaice, Saithe, Whiting					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 80 and < 100 mm NORWAY LOBSTER, PLAICE – Cod, Haddock, Hake, Whiting					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 120 mm PLAICE, HADDOCK, HAKE, COD – Norway lobster, Sole, Saithe, Whiting					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 90 and < 120 mm NORWAY LOBSTER, PLAICE – Cod, Hake, Haddock, Sole, Saithe, Whiting					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 70 and < 90 mm NORWAY LOBSTER – Cod					
Otter trawls/Seines ≥ 35 and < 70 mm NORTHERN PRAWN – Cod					

Main target species in UPPERCASE

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

North Sea - Demersal



Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear	Non-compliance with other technical measures	Unlicensed vessels
Beam trawls ≥ 120 mm PLAICE – Cod, sole					
Beam trawls ≥ 80 and < 120 mm SOLE – Plaice					
Gillnets ≥ 120 mm COD – Anglerfish, plaice, hake, sole					
Gillnets ≥ 90 and < 120 mm SOLE – Plaice					
Gillnets < 90 mm COD – Plaice, sole					
Trammel nets SOLE – Cod, plaice					
Longlines HAKE – Cod, haddock, hake, saithe					

Main target species in UPPERCASE

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

North Sea - Demersal



2.a 3.a 4.a 4.b
4.c

Gear – Mesh size	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear	Non-compliance with other technical measures	Unlicensed vessels
------------------	------------------------	--------------	---------------------	--	--------------------

Eel fisheries
Eel



Main target species in UPPERCASE

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

North Sea - Pelagic fisheries



Blue whiting

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set) and Gillnets (drift)			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High

North Sea - Pelagic fisheries



- 2.a
- 3.a
- 4.a
- 4.b
- 4.c

Mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Polyvalent - Lines			

Herring

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Sardine

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium

North Sea - Pelagic fisheries



2a 3a 4a 4b
4c

Industrial fisheries exploiting sandeel, sprat and Norway pout

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
------	------------------------	--------------	---------------------

Trawl 16-31 mm (OTM, PTM, OTB, PTB)



Trawl < 16mm (OTM, PTM, OTB, PTB)



Level of risk: ■ Medium

WESTERN WATERS JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 08/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	Western Waters JDP 2022
Reporting period	01 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	BE, DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT
Operational area	Union waters of ICES subareas 27.6, 27.7, 27.8, 27.9 and 27.10, and CECAF divisions 34.1.1, 34.1.2 and 34.2.0.

Coordination Centre in EFCA (CC)	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
	Western Waters	IE	4	20

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea		No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Committed Patrols (patrol sea days)	Other Patrols (sea days with events)		No Exchanges*	No Exchanges*
BE	1		1	1	2
DE	13			1	
ES	28	90	61	16	
FR	54	1	3	2	1
IE	122	30	22	21	6
LT					2
NL	17				
PL				3	1
PT		17		9	
EFCA	84	4	16		
Total	319	142	103	53	12

* One exchange is equivalent to 1 inspector for a period of up to 5 days.

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT														
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator										
				BE	DE	DK	ES	FR	IE	NL	PT	EFCA	Total	
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported	6			236	73	121			55	491	
			Total no. of suspected infringements				15						15	
	Sea		Sightings reported		23		6		175	3		79	286	
			Total no. of suspected infringements									1	1	
Inspections	Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	68		1	1435	720	734	8	65		3031	
			No. of inspections with suspected infringements	10			113	46	7		13		189	
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	14.7		0.0	7.9	6.4	1.0	0.0	20.0		6.2	
			Total no. of suspected infringements	12			143	52	7		15		229	
			Total no. of inspections of targets	1			104	15	35				155	
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements				8	2					10	
		Transport	No. of Inspections				28							28
			No of inspections with suspected infringements				2							2
			% of inspections with suspected infringements				7.1							7.1
			Total no. of suspected infringements				3							3
		Business	No. of Inspections				14					38		52
			No of inspections with suspected infringements				3							3
	% of inspections with suspected infringements					21.43					0.00		5.77	
	Total no. of suspected infringements					3							3	
	Sea	Vessel	No of Inspections		9		201	119	124	12	18	40	523	
			No. of inspections with suspected infringements				18	6	4			7	35	
			% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.0		9.0	5.0	3.2	0.0	0.0	17.5	6.7	
			Total no. of suspected infringements				20	9	6			8	43	
			Total no. of inspections of targets		2		32	3	6			5	48	
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements				1	1				2	4	

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES														
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered											
			BE	DE	ES	FR	UK	IE	LT	NL	NO	PT	Total	
Air	Vessel	Total no. of suspected infringements			15								15	
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Sightings			15								15	
Land	Vessel	No. of Inspections	162	2	1373	713	99	531	1	26	1	123	3031	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringement	15		100	41	1	6		4		22	189	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	9.3	0.0	7.3	5.8	1.0	1.1	0.0	15.4	0.0	17.9	6.2	
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections	17		123	48	1	6		4		30	229	
		Total no. of suspected infringements	17		123	48	1	6		4		30	229	
		Total no. of inspections of targets	5		93	15		31				11	155	
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	1		7	1						1	10	
	Transport	No. of Inspections			25			3					28	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements			2								2	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			8.0			0.0					7.1	
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections			3								3	
		Total no. of suspected infringements			3								3	
	Business	No. of Inspections			25			3					28	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements			2								2	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			8.0			0.0					7.1	
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections			3								3	
		Total no. of suspected infringements			3								3	
	Sea	Vessel	No. of Inspections	17	3	298	89	18	54	1	11		32	523

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES													
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered										
			BE	DE	ES	FR	UK	IE	LT	NL	NO	PT	Total
		No. of inspections with suspected infringement	2		16	6	1	8				2	35
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	11.8	0.0	5.4	6.7	5.6	14.8	0.0	0.0		6.3	6.7
		Total no. of suspected infringements - Inspections	5		16	8	1	11				2	43
		Total no. of suspected infringements – Sightings						1					1
		Total no. of suspected infringements	5		16	8	1	12				2	44
		Total no. of inspections of targets	2	1	25	2		9				9	48
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	1					1				2	4

D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with the Landing Obligation and associated misreporting	Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported catch of fish below minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	3	1%
	Marketing for direct human consumption of undersize fish subject to LO	2	1%
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorization / licence	11	4%
	Catch retained on board, landed, stored or transported fish that should have been discarded at sea	7	2%
	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	8	3%
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	2	1%
	Fishing without a quota or after attainment of catch limit	9	3%
	Non compliant gear	21	7%
	Absence or non-conformity with fishing gear/ device identification	2	1%
	Catch not stowaged according to rules	2	1%
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	2	1%
	Not equipped or not operational AIS	5	2%
	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	5	2%

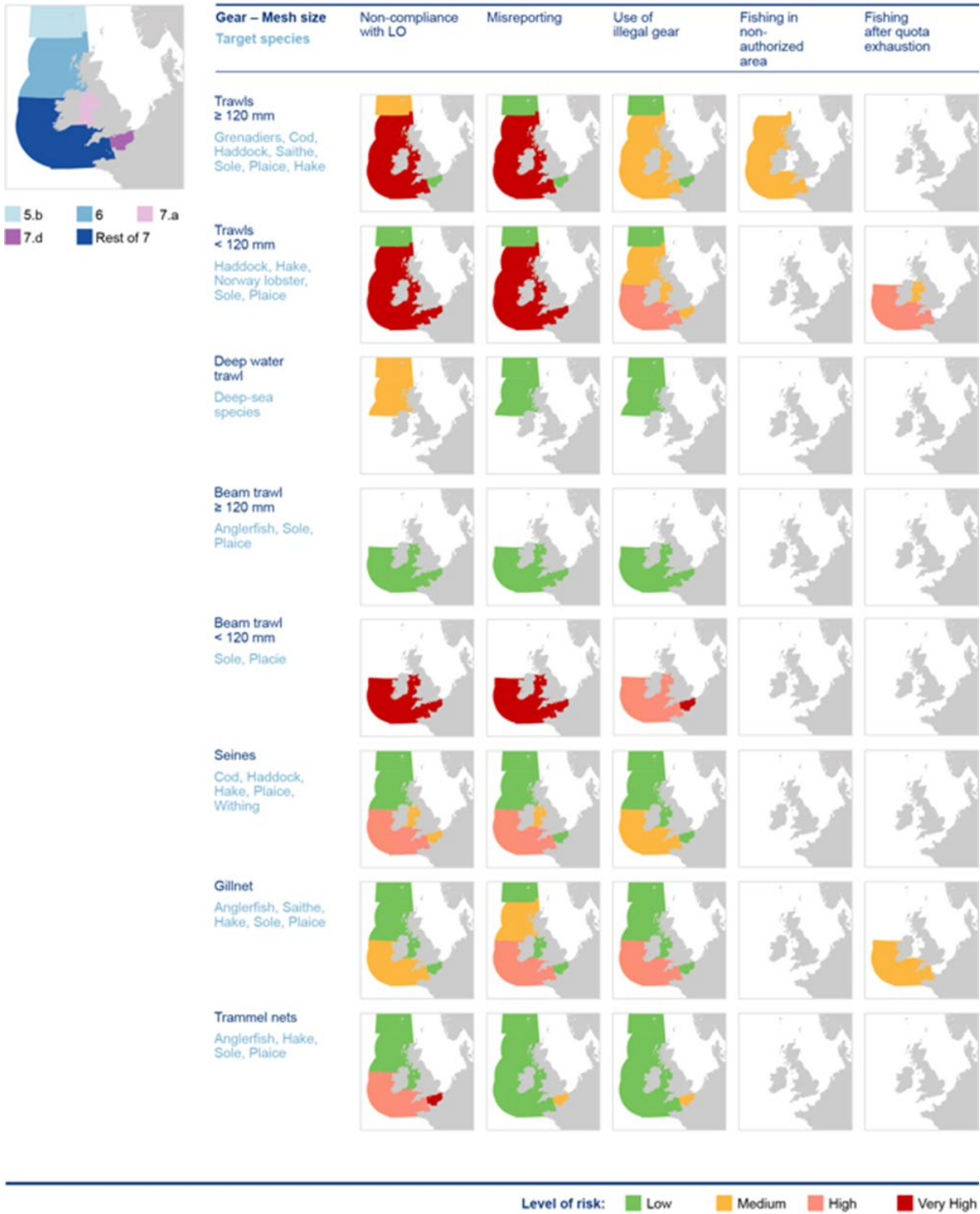
D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not onboard or not updated paper logbook	1	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of fishing operation declaration	1	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of catch declaration	20	7%
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	88	30%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time, submitted incorrect of COE or COX	2	1%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	21	7%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the landing declaration	6	2%
	Absence or incorrect transport documentation	5	2%
	Absence or Incorrect stowage plan	2	1%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of transshipment declaration	2	1%
	Other SI related with fishing vessel recording and reporting obligations operations	27	9%
Other types of non-compliance	Vessel not (or incorrectly) registered in a flag state or missing registration documentation	1	0%
	Obstruction to work of inspectors	2	1%
	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	6	2%
	Destroying evidence, interfering with evidence, concealing evidence	7	2%
	Absence or incorrect weighing of catches at landing	9	3%
	Absence or incorrect labelling/information impairing to track the origin of the fishery product	3	1%
	Other SI related with post harvesting operations at sea or land based operations	1	0%
	Other SI related with authorisations and certification requirements	2	1%
	Other SI not included in other categories	8	3%
Total		293	100%

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

Note that the risk assessment of the pelagic fisheries targeting blue whiting, mackerel, horse mackerel and herring is conducted jointly for Western Waters and North Sea JDPs.



North Western Waters - Demersal fisheries



North Western Waters - Demersal fisheries



5.b 6 7.a
7.d Rest of 7

Gear – Mesh size	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear	Fishing in non-authorized area	Fishing after quota exhaustion
Target species					
Lines					
Hake					
Pots and Traps					
Norway Lobster					
Eel fisheries					
Eel					

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

South Western Waters - Demersal fisheries



8c Rest of 8 9
10 CECAF

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Fishing in non-authorized areas	Use of illegal gear
Bottom trawls ≥ 100 mm Anglerfish, Hake				
Bottom trawls 70 - 100 mm Hake, Norway lobster				
Bottom trawls targets mixed pelagic / demersal 55 - 70 mm Hake, Blue whiting, Mackerel, Horse Mackerel, Norway lobster				
Midwater trawls Hake				
Beam trawls 70 - 100 mm Anglerfish, Sole				
Seines Hake				
Gill and trammel nets ≥ 170 mm Anglerfish, Hake				

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

South Western Waters - Demersal fisheries



8c Rest of 8 9
10 CECAF

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Fishing in non-authorized areas	Use of illegal gear
Gill and trammel nets 100 - 169 mm Anglerfish, Hake, Sole				
Gill and trammel nets 80 - 99 mm Anglerfish, Hake, Sole				
Longlines targeting demersal Hake				
Hooks and Lines targeting GFB and ALF Alfonsinos, Greater forkbeard				
Longlines (Targeting BSF) Black scabbardfish				
Lines (Targeting SBR) Red seabream				
Artisanal gears Hake				

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

South Western Waters - Demersal fisheries



8c Rest of 8 9
10 CECAF

Gear – Mesh size	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Fishing in non-authorized areas	Use of illegal gear
Target species				

Eel fisheries
Eel



Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Anchovy

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and pair trawl			
Polyvalent - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set), and Gillnets (drift)			
Polyvalent lines			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Herring

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Horse mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and pair trawl			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Horse mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Polyvalent - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set), and Gillnets (drift)			
Polyvalent - Lines			

Blue whiting

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



Blue whiting

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Polyvalent - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set), and Gillnets (drift)			
Polyvalent - Lines			

Mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Mackerel

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and pair trawl			
Polyvalent - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set), and Gillnets (drift)			
Polyvalent - Lines			

Sardine

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Freezer Trawls - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Sardine

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
RSW tank vessel and Polyvalent - Mid water and mid water pair trawl			
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and pair trawl			
RSW tank vessel - Purse seine			
Polyvalent - Purse seine			
Gillnets anchored (set), and Gillnets (drift)			
Polyvalent lines			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Western waters - Pelagic fisheries



- 5.b
- Rest of 7
- 10
- 6
- 8
- CECAF
- 7.d
- 9

Industrial fisheries exploiting sandeel, sprat and Norway pout

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting
Trawl 16-31 mm (OTM, PTM, OTB, PTB)		

Albacore

Gear	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Use of illegal gear
Midwater trawls targeting albacore			
Bait boats, Pelagic Trolling and poles and lines targeting albacore			
Pelagic longlines targeting albacore			

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

NAFO JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 08/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	NAFO JDP 2022
Reporting period	01 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	CY, DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SE
Operational area	NAFO Regulatory Area

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel	Exchange of Inspectors			
	Days at sea	Joint Teams at Sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	Committed Patrols (patrol sea days)	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
DE	13		25		
ES	35		84		
EE		47			
LT		20			
LV		22			
PT	18		44		
EFCA		64			
Total	66	153*	153	0	0

*Corresponding to 6 exchanges.

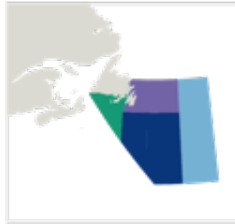
B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT							
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator			
				DE	ES	PT	Total
Surveillance	Sea		Sightings reported	8	14	16	38
Inspections	Land	Vessel	Number of Inspections		38	16	54
			Number of inspections with suspected infringement			5	5
			% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.0	31.3	9.3
			Total number of suspected infringements			13	13
	Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	5	15	10	30
			Number of inspections with suspected infringement			1	1
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.0	0.0	10.0	3.3
			Total number of suspected infringements			1	1

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES										
Type Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered							
			CA	ES	EE	FO	JP	PT	RU	Total
Land	Vessel	Number of Inspections		25	4			19	6	54
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements			1			4		5
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.0	25.0			21.1	0.0	9.3
		Total number of suspected infringements - Inspections			4			9		13
		Total number of suspected infringements			4			9		13
Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	2	6	3	4	2	11	2	30
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements						1		1
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	3.3
		Total number of suspected infringements - Inspections						1		1
		Total number of suspected infringements						1		1

D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with	Exceeding bycatch limits	2	14%
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	3	21%
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Absence or incorrect production logbook	1	7%
	Absence or Incorrect stowage plan	2	14%
	Obstruction to work of inspectors	2	14%
Other types of non-compliance	Destroying evidence, interfering with evidence, concealing evidence	1	7%
	Absence or incorrect labelling/information impairing to track the origin of the fishery product	2	14%
	Illegal or unauthorized transshipment operation	1	7%
Total		14	100%

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

NAFO

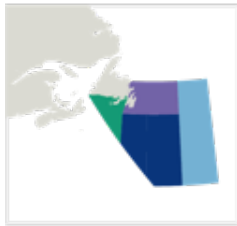


3L 3O
3M 3N

Gear – Mesh size Target species	Species misreporting	Area misreporting	Use of illegal gear	Non-compliance with move-on rules
Otter bottom trawlers 130 mm Redfish, Greenland halibut				
Otter bottom trawlers 130 mm Cod, redfish, Greenland halibut				
Otter bottom trawlers 40 mm Prawn				
Otter bottom trawlers 130 mm Cod, white hake, red, Greenland halibut				
Bottom trawlers 280 mm Skate				
Otter bottom trawlers 130 mm Red, Greenland halibut				
Bottom trawlers 280 mm Skate				
Otter bottom trawlers 60 mm Squid				

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

NAFO



3L 3O
3M 3N

Gear – Mesh size
Target species

Species misreporting

Area misreporting

Use of illegal gear

Non-compliance with move-on rules

Longliners
Cod, white hake



Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

NEAFC JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 08/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	NEAFC JDP 2022
Reporting period	1 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	CY, DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SE
Operational area	NEAFC Regulatory Area

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS				
Member State	Patrol Vessel	Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea	No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	
	Committed Patrols (patrol sea days)		Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
DE	24			33
DK	10			16
EE			16	
IE	4	10		
LT			17	
LV			16	
PT	9	2		
SE		4		
Total	47	16	49*	49

*corresponding to 3 exchanges.

B – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT									
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator					
				DE	DK	IE	PT	SE	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported			13	1	19	33
	Sea		Sightings reported	46	6				52
Inspections	Sea	Vessel	No of inspections	13	1				14
			No. inspections with suspected infringements	0	0				0

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES						
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered			
			FR	LT	RU	Total
Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	1	1	12	14
		No. inspections with suspected infringements	0	0	0	0

MEDITERRANEAN JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 10/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	MED-JDP 2022
Reporting period	01 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	CY, ES, FR, GR, HR, IT, MT, PT, SI, EFCA, FRONTEX
Cooperating Third Countries	AL, ME, TN
Operational area	ICES Subareas 27.7, 27.8, 27.9, 27.10 FAO 34.1.2 and FAO 37.1 – 37.2 – 37.3

A - DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS								
MS and Cooperating TC	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft		Exchanges of Inspectors			
	Days at sea		N° of Flights		Joint Teams at sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	Committed Patrols MSC (Patrol sea days)	Other Patrols (Sea days)	Committed Flights MSC	Other flights	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
AL					20			
CY	41	210			19			
ES	81	463	10	222	11	6		
FR	56	6	18		6		10	
EL	37	1622	6		17			
HR	88	110	7	6	58	19	15	19
IT	118	1135	8		98	68	24	15
MT	97	19			70	2		24
ME					20			
PT	10	23	1		96	18		
SI	9	193			9	5	11	10
TN					14			
EFCA	72	33			44	364	8	
FRONTEX		14		69				
Total	609	3828	50	297	482	482	68	68

EFCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT																
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol coordinator												
				CY	ES	FR	EL	HR	IT	MT	PT	SI	EFCA	FRONTEX	Total	
Surveillance	Air	Vessel	Sightings reported		1313	162	14	38	70		1			124	1722	
			Total of suspected infringements		100	17		2							119	
	Land		Sightings reported		185			3	1456			2				1646
			Total of suspected infringements		64				77							141
	Sea		Sightings reported	15	219	6	4	272	123	58	14	706	68	16		1501
			Total of suspected infringements		19			1			1	8	7			36
Inspections	Land	Vessel	Number of inspections	1539	1776	502	5018	218	3874	1803	142	150			15022	
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	47	274		92	32	520		5	14				984
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	3.05	15.43	0.00	1.83	14.68	13.42	0.00	3.52	9.33				6.55
			Total no. of suspected infringements	57	387		110	37	558		8	14				1171
			Number of targeted inspections	102	187	91	35	35	173	1222	17	35				1897
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	6	48			3	39			6				102
	Transport	Number of inspections	24	7		402	30	736		7	31				1237	

EFCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT															
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	1	1		7		140			1		150	
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	4.17	14.29		1.74	0.00	19.02			0.00	3.23	12.13	
			Total no. of suspected infringements	1	1		7		147			1		157	
		Business	Number of inspections	403	17		584	269	6303	186	1	404		8167	
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	21	12		9	54	1558		1	40		1695	
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	5.21	70.59		1.54	20.07	24.72	0.00	100.00	9.90		20.75	
			Total no. of suspected infringements	23	13		10	67	1816		1	44		1974	
		Fish Farm	Number of inspections					8						8	
			No of inspections with suspected infringements												0
			% of inspections with suspected infringements					0.00							0.00
			Total no. of suspected infringements												0
		Other	Number of inspections	1071	5		179		6					1261	

EFCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT														
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	87	2		97							186
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	8.12	40.00		54.19							14.75
			Total no. of suspected infringements	114	2		131							247
	Sea	Vessel	Number of inspections	1515	618	67	4646	235	2406	262	27	36	72	9884
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	47	89	3	87	19	305	8	1	1	30	590
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	3.10	14.40	4.48	1.87	8.09	12.68	3.05	3.70	2.78	41.67	5.97
			Total no. of suspected infringements	52	127	3	102	21	344	12	1	1	44	707
			Number of targeted inspections	50	78	20		13	116	26	14	11	13	341
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	3	22	2		4	29			1	2	63
		Fish Farm	Number of inspections		111			19		136	10			276
			No of inspections with suspected infringements		2									2
			% of inspections with suspected infringements		1.80			0.00		0.00	0.00			0.72

EFCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT														
			Total no. of suspected infringements		2									2
	Other		Number of inspections	301			47			7			3	358
		No of inspections with suspected infringements	12			9							3	24
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	3.99			19.15				0.00			100.00	6.70
		Total no. of suspected infringements	12			12							3	27
		Trap		Number of inspections		109				2				
			No of inspections with suspected infringements											0
			% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.00					0.00				0.00
			Total no. of suspected infringements											0
	Other Fishing Gear		Number of inspections						1	11			3	15
		No of inspections with suspected infringements							1				3	4
		% of inspections with suspected infringements							100.00	0.00			100.00	26.67
		Total no. of suspected infringements							1				3	4

EFCA ANNUAL REPORT 2022

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES

Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered																																			
			AL	BE	BG	CY	DE	DK	DZ	EG	ES	FR	GB	GE	EL	HR	HU	IE	IL	IT	JP	LY	LT	MA	MT	NL	PA	PL	PT	RO	RU	SI	SY	TN	TR	UA	UN	Total
Air	Vessel	Total no. of suspected infringements				1				3	103	3				2				1	1														5			119
Land	Business	No. of inspections				403					18				584	269				6302				186				1			404						8167	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				21					12				9	54				1558								1			40						1695	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements				5.21					66.67				1.54	20.07				24.72				0.00				100.00			9.90						20.75	
		Total no. of suspected infringements				23					13				10	67				1816								1			44						1974	
	Fish farms	No. of inspections														8																					8	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements														0																					0	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements														0.00																					0.00	
		Total no. of suspected infringements														0																					0	
	Other	No. of inspections			11	994				1	5		2	4	183		1			6			1						24	2		12				15	1261	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements			1	82					2				98		1			0																2	186	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			9.09	8.25				0.00	40.00		0.00	0.00	53.55		100.00			0.00			0.00						0.00	0.00		0.00				13.33	14.75	
		Total no. of suspected infringements			1	108					2				132		2																			2	247	
	Transport	No. of inspections				24	1				5				411	53				728				2					7			6					1237	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				1					1				7					140											1						150	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements				4.17	0.00				20.00				1.70	0.00				19.23				0.00				0.00			16.67						12.13	
		Total no. of suspected infringements				1					1				7					147											1						157	
	Vessel	No. of inspections		3		1581				11	1	1699	515		4964	215		5	1	3880	6	2		7	1802		23	7	148		150		1			1	15022	
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements		1		46				1		267	1		91	32				524				1				5		14					1	984		
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		33.33		2.91				9.09	0.00	15.72	0.19		1.83	14.88		0.00	0.00	13.51	0.00	0.00		0.00	0.06		0.00	0.00	3.38		9.33		0.00			100.00	6.55	
		Total no. of suspected infringements		2		55				1		442	1		109	37				640				2				8		14					1	1312		
Inspections of Targets					132						177	98			35				185					1217				18		35						1897		
Inspections of Targets with suspected infringements					6						47				3				40									6								102		
	Fish farm	No. of inspections								111					19										136				10							276		

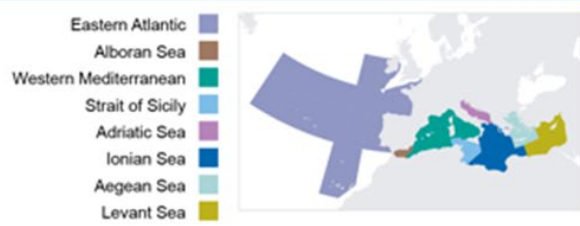
D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with the Landing Obligation and associated misreporting	Marketing for direct human consumption of undersize fish subject to LO	21	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported of discards declaration	8	0%
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorization / licence	100	2%
	Fishing without a quota or after attainment of catch limit	84	2%
	Exceeding bycatch limits	8	0%
	Fishing without respecting the Effort Control Regime	17	0%
	Fishing in closed area/period/depth	329	7%
	Fishing of prohibited species /stock	11	0%
	Prohibited or unauthorized fishing method	82	2%
	Non-compliant gear	256	6%
	Absence or non-conformity with fishing gear/ device identification	48	1%
	Catch retain on board, land, store or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	38	1%
	Catch not stowed according to rules	8	0%
	Marketing of illegal fishery product	15	0%
	Retain on board, land, store or commercialise a fish product in a not permitted presentation	15	0%
	Other SI related with catch and effort restrictions	4	0%
	Other SI related with fishing seasons, closed areas or fishing prohibition	2	0%
	Falsified or concealed vessel's markings, identity or registration, failure to correctly mark a vessel	11	0%
	Illegal propulsion engine power, tampering of the engine	12	0%
	Engine power certificate not available, not valid or falsified	1	0%
	Illegal handling equipment on board	1	0%
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	32	1%
Not equipped or not operational AIS	16	0%	
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Not equipped or not operational e-logbook	6	0%
	Not onboard or not updated paper logbook	38	1%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of fishing operation declaration	14	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the departure declaration	20	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of catch declaration	50	1%

	Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported of catch of fish above minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	1	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported catch of fish below minimum legal size/weight in the catch declaration	3	0%
	Difference between catch reported and landing exceeding the legal margin of tolerance	109	2%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported of discards declaration	1	0%
	Not notified, not notified on time, incorrect notification of entry or exit in/from zone	6	0%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time, submitted incorrect of COE or COX	2	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time of end of fishing declaration	1	0%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	22	0%
	Declaration of arrival; Not recorded, misrecorded or not reported	23	1%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the landing declaration	20	0%
	Absence or incorrect production logbook	9	0%
	Absence or incorrect sales note or take-over declaration	14	0%
	Absence or incorrect transport documentation	17	0%
	Video not recorded or not compliant with minimum standards of transfer/caging/release video recording rules	13	0%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the transfer/caging/release video recording	3	0%
	Other SI related with fishing vessel recording and reporting obligations operations	84	2%
Other types of non-compliance	Obstruction to work of inspectors	29	1%
	Failure to facilitate safe access of inspectors	6	0%
	Destroying evidence, interfering with evidence, concealing evidence	4	0%
	Illegal transfer operation	1	0%
	Illegal or unauthorized transshipment operation	2	0%
	Entrance and/or landing without prior authorisation (Landing Authorization)	6	0%
	Entrance, landing or making use of other services in a non-designated port or in unauthorized place	4	0%
	Absence or incorrect weighing of catches at landing	4	0%
	Absence or incorrect labelling/information impairing to track the origin of the fishery product	1973	43%
	Marketing without mandatory first sale	20	0%
	Other SI related with post harvesting operations at sea or land based operations	63	1%
	Other SI not included in other categories	896	20%
	Total	4583	100%

Note: SI - Suspected Infringements

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

Eastern Atlantic* and Mediterranean Sea
Risk of non-compliance



Gear-Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Non-compliance with quota, bycatch and effort limit	Non-compliance with temporal/spatial closures	Non-compliance with technical and management rules
Bottom trawls	Strait of Sicily	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Hake	Very High	High		High	Very High
	Ionian Sea	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Blue and Red shrimp	Very High	High		Medium	Very High
	Aegean Sea	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp.	High	Medium		Medium	Medium
	Western Med	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp.	Very High	Very High	High	High	High
	Adriatic	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp., Norway lobster	Very High	High	Medium	High	High
	Levant Sea	Deep-sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp., Norway lobster	High	Medium		Medium	High
Midwater trawls and pair trawls	Mediterranean Sea without Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	Medium	Medium	Low	Low	Medium
	Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Midwater trawls and pair trawls	Eastern Atlantic	Bluefin tuna	Low	Medium	Medium		Low
Purse seine	Mediterranean Sea without Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	High	High	Medium		Medium
	Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	High	Very High	High	Medium	Medium
Purse seine (Catching vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High	Medium	Medium	Medium
Purse seine (Farms)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High		Medium	Medium
Purse seine (Auxiliary vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High			
Purse seine (towing vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High		Medium	Medium
Bottom Long Lines, hand-liners	Alboran Sea	Seabream	Medium	High	High	Medium	High
	Mediterranean without Alboran Sea	Hake, Red seabream	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium	Medium
Long Lines, hand-liners, trolling boats, bait boats	Mediterranean Sea	Mediterranean albacore, Bluefin tuna, Mediterranean swordfish	High	High	High	High	High

* Covers only bluefin tuna

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

Eastern Atlantic* and Mediterranean Sea
Risk of non-compliance



Gear-Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Non-compliance with quota, bycatch and effort limit	Non-compliance with temporal/spatial closures	Non-compliance with technical and management rules
Longliners and Bait boats	Eastern Atlantic	Bluefin tuna	■	■	■	■	■
Trammel nets and gill nets	Western Mediterranean	Hake, Mullus spp., Seabreams, Sole	■	■	■	■	■
	Adriatic	Hake, Mullus spp., Seabreams, Sole	■	■		■	■
	Strait of Sicily, Ionian Sea, Aegean Sea and Levant Sea	Hake, Mullus spp., Seabreams	■	■		■	■
Fixed traps	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		■	■		■
Pots and traps	Mediterranean Sea	Various crustaceans	■	■		■	■
Mechanised dredges	Mediterranean Sea	Various bivalves	■	■	■	■	■
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	Mediterranean albacore, Bluefin tuna, Mediterranean swordfish		■	■	■	■
Surrounding net without purse line	Mediterranean Sea	Dolphinfish		■		■	■
Divers	Mediterranean Sea	Red coral		■	■	■	■

* Covers only bluefin tuna

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

BLACK SEA JDP

Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 10/02/2023)

Joint Deployment Plan	Black Sea JDP 2022
Reporting period	1 January to 31 December 2022
Participation	BG, RO, EFCA, FRONTEX
Operational area	FAO 37.4.2

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS							
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors			
	Days at sea			Joint Teams at Sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	Committed Patrols (Patrol sea days)	Other Patrols (Sea days)	No of Flights	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
BG	61			8	2	26	33
RO	84			2	8	30	26
Efca						3	
Frontex		42	17				
Total	145	42	17	10	10	59	59

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED OUT							
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol coordinator			
				BG	RO	FRONTEX	Total
Surveillance	Air	Vessel	Sightings reported				0
			Total of suspected infringements				0
	Sea		Sightings reported	34	130	75	239
			Total of suspected infringements				0
Inspections	Land	Vessel	Number of inspections	995	356		1351
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	5	1		6

			% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.50	0.28		0.44
			Total no. of suspected infringements	6	1		7
			Number of targeted inspections	943	220		1163
			Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	4			4
		Transport	Number of inspections		45		45
			No of inspections with suspected infringements				0
			% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.00		0.00
			Total no. of suspected infringements				0
		Business	Number of inspections	131	124		255
			No of inspections with suspected infringements	1	2		3
			% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.76	1.61		1.18
			Total no. of suspected infringements	1	2		3
		Sea	Vessel	Number of inspections	60	49	
	No of inspections with suspected infringements			3			3
	% of inspections with suspected infringements			5.00	0.00		2.75
	Total no. of suspected infringements			3			3
	Number of targeted inspections			37	26		63
	Inspections of targets with suspected infringements			1			1

C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES					
Type Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered		
			BG	RO	Total
Land	Business	Number of inspections	131	124	255
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	1	2	3
		% of inspections with infringements	0.76	1.61	1.18
		Total number of suspected infringements	1	2	3
	Transport	Number of inspections		45	45
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements			0
		% of inspections with infringements		0.00	0.00
		Total number of suspected infringements			0
	Vessel	Number of inspections	995	356	1351
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	5	1	6
		% of inspections with infringements	0.50	0.28	0.44
		Total number of suspected infringements	6	1	7
		Inspections of targets	943	220	1163
		Inspections of targets with suspected infringements	4		4
	Sea	Vessel	Number of inspections	60	49
Number of inspections with suspected infringements			3		3
% of inspections with infringements			5.00	0.00	2.75
Total number of suspected infringements			3		3
Inspections of targets			37	26	63
Inspections of targets with suspected infringements			1		1

D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Non-compliance with conservation measures	Fishing without valid authorization / licence	3	23%
	Catch retain on board, land, store or transport of fish below MCRS not subject to LO	1	8%
	Not equipped or not operational VMS	1	8%
Non-compliance with the recording and reporting obligations	Absence or incorrect sales note or take-over declaration	1	8%
	Not recorded, misrecorded, not reported or not reported in due time the landing declaration	4	31%
	Not submitted, not submitted on time or submitted incorrectly the PNO	1	8%
Other types of non-compliance	Obstruction to work of inspectors	1	8%
	Absence or incorrect labelling/information impairing to track the origin of the fishery product	1	8%
Total		13	100%

Note: SI - Suspected Infringements

Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

Black Sea



EU Waters of the Black Sea

Gear – Mesh size	Non-compliance with LO	Misreporting	Non-compliance with spatial / temporal closures	Fishing without licence and authorisation	Use of illegal gear	IUU fishing activities
Target species						
Mid-water otter trawls						
Sprat						
Bottom set gillnets						
Turbot						

Level of risk: ■ Low ■ Medium ■ High ■ Very High

TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN 2022

Area	Action	Date(s)	Place	No of participants	Satisf. % (good/very good)
Med. Black Sea	Last Haul Procedures	23/02	online	7	100%
	Italy - National training	16-18/03	online	15	100%
	Slovenia - National training	12-14/04	Koper	4	100%
	Last Haul Procedures Training for French inspectors	21/04	online	8	100%
	France – BFT campaign/JDP 2022	28-29/04	Paris	13	100%
	EFCA Integrated Maritime Services - Cyprus	28-29/04	online	8	100%
	Croatia - National training	02-05/05	Zagreb	50	100%
	Malta- National training	10-11/05	online	21	100%
	BFT Workshop	16/05	online	30	100%
	BFT Workshop	19/05	online	36	100%
	Black Sea Regional Workshop	25-26/05	Burgas	25	100%
	Cyprus - National training	8-9/06	online	6	100%
	Adriatic Workshop	19/07	online	31	100%
	Strait of Sicily legal framework	13/09	online	11	100%
	Italy JDP/Legislation/Last Haul	14-15/09	online	16	100%
	MED SWO MED ALB Workshop	07/10	online	36	100%
	Italy - National training	12-13/10	online	11	100%
	Romania - National training	23-24 / 11	Bucharest	88	100%
	Greece – National training-Sighting reports	17/11	online	71	100%
	Greece – National training-LO	22/11	online	111	100%
Greece – National training-LO	23/11	online	120	100%	
Greece – National training-LO	24/11	online	74	100%	
Croatia – National training	01-02/12	Malinska	25	100%	
NAFO-NEAFC	Training for NAFO inspectors (group 1 & 2)	30-31/3 25-26/4	online	34	98%
	Training for NEAFC inspectors	8-9/2	online	35	100%
	Seminar on NEAFC Port State Control	2-3/3	online	24	100%
Western Waters/ North Sea/Baltic Sea	WW JDP Training for Union Inspectors	26-27/10	online	22	84%
	NS JDP Training for Union Inspectors	18-19/10	Vigo	13	82%
	BS JDP Training for Union Inspectors	23-24/11	online	33	79%
	Training for national inspectors in France	28-29/9	Bordeaux and Lorient	52	n/a
	Training for national inspectors in Portugal	20/10	Lisbon	10	100%
	Beginners training for Union inspectors	6/10	online	27	88%
Landlocked	-	-	-	-	-
All MS	IUU Newcomers training	22-24/03	online	12	95%
	IUU Advanced level training	5-7/07	online	23	100%
	IUU Plenary seminar	15/12	online	36	n/a
	Joint EFCA-EMSA workshop on fisheries control and safety rules applicable to fishing vessels	21-23/06	Vigo (ES)	30	88%
	SAR awareness session for the non-SAR communities (EFCA-EMSA and Frontex) - online	28-29/11	online	60	100%
	EFCA support to Frontex Training. Training for Standing Corps – Basic training	29-30/08	Avila (ES)	160	n/a
	EFCA support to Frontex Training European Coast Guard Function Officer – advanced training	5-6/10	Almada (PT)	160	n/a
	EFCA support to Frontex Training European Coast Guard Function Officer – advanced training	13/05	Practica di Mare (IT)	12	n/a
	EFCA support to Frontex Training European Coast Guard Function Officer – advanced training	01/09	Practica di Mare (IT)	12	n/a
	EFCA support to Frontex Training European Coast Guard Function Officer – advanced training	13/10	Practica di Mare (IT)	12	n/a
	EFCA support to Frontex Training European Coast Guard Function Officer – advanced training	17/11	Practica di Mare (IT)	12	n/a
Subtotal EU inspectors/officials		43 events		1596	97,5%
Non-EU	PESCAO National training on inspection (Mauritania/Nouadhibou))	07-09/02	online	20	100%
	PESCAO National training on inspection (Mauritania/Nouakchott)	22-24/02	online	20	100%

	EFCA support to ISMI regional seminar on fisheries inspection	21-25/03	Abidjan (CI)	18	n/a
	PESCAO national training on inspection (Côte d'Ivoire)	28-31/03	Abidjan (CI)	20	100%
	PESCAO national training for FMC operators (Guinea)	04-07/04	online	9	n/a
	PESCAO national training on inspection (Guinea Bissau)	09-12/05	Bissau (GW)	20	100%
	EFCA support to ISMI regional seminar on criminal regime of offenses committed at sea	16-20/05	Abidjan (CI)	23	n/a
	PESCAO national training on inspection (Sierra Leone)	03-06/10	Freetown (SL)	17	80%
	EFCA support to ISMI online seminar on the fight against illegal trafficking	08/11	online	17	n/a
	Regional training for trainers of PESCAO pool of trainers	15-18/11	Lomé (TG)	19	80%
Subtotal non-EU inspectors/officials		10 events		183	93%
MS + non-EU countries + EU org.	Registered active users to the EFCA e-learning platform (on 31/12/2022)			1.188	86%
TOTAL		No of events: 53		2967	97%

COAST GUARD COMMON REPORT OF THE ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN



Tripartite Working Arrangement – TWA

Annual Report 2022

(Implementation of the Annual Strategic Plan 2022)

Horizontal	
To further promote the interagency cooperation with national authorities on coast guard functions at EU and international level	
Objectives	Outcomes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To hold the annual joint Annual European Coast Guard Event (AECGE) under the coordination of Frontex (as chair of the TWA), in line with the experience gained at the previous annual events, while enhancing interaction between participants. 2) To ensure the joint participation of the agencies in European and international maritime events with coast guard relevance. 3) To produce a set of communication tools (brochures, videos etc.) promoting EU inter-agency Cooperation. 4) To coordinate the cooperation with regional Coast Guard Functions Fora. 	<p>The interagency cooperation on coast guard functions was promoted at the EU and international levels via:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Annual European Coast Guard Event was held on 31 May-1 June in Warsaw (PL) under Frontex coordination. Approximately 120 participants attended from EU MS, EFTA, SAC and EU bodies and institutions. Representatives of EFCA, EMSA and Frontex facilitated the discussions with the participants, consulting their needs and gathering feedback on the activities developed under the Annual Strategic Plan; 2) The Agencies participated in several coast guard related events including in a High level session on “Maritime Security: The role of the EU agencies in promotion of maritime security and safety” organised by the European Commission at the European Maritime Day in Ravenna (IT) on 19-20 May; 3) Regarding communication with the general public, the leaflet presenting the European cooperation on coast guard functions was updated, produced and distributed at the AECGE. During the event, a video on the European cooperation on coast guard functions was broadcast. The leaflet was translated in 20 languages and is available through the Agencies’ respective websites. 4) EFCA, EMSA and Frontex participated in all the relevant Coast Guard related Fora activities and events. <p>In the framework of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF), two workshops were co-organised by the Agencies with the relevant Chairmanship, with the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ECGFF-EMSA workshop on “RPAS for Maritime Surveillance”, 15-16 February in Lisbon (PT); ○ ECGFF-Frontex workshop on “Multipurpose Maritime Operations –

	<p>Best Practices”, 6-7 April in Dubrovnik (HR).</p> <p>ECGFF-EFCA workshop was organised within the first year of the Croatian Chairmanship in November 2021.</p> <p>Additionally, EFCA and EMSA took part to the Coastex exercise organised during the ECGFF Plenary chaired by Croatia on 5-7 September in Split.</p> <p>Finally, the Agencies participated in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Mediterranean Coast Guard Function Forum in Naples (IT), 28-30 September; - the North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum in Cartagena (ESP), 17-20 October; - the Coast Guard Global Summit held online on 29 November.
--	--

Information sharing

Project: A
Maintenance/dissemination of the Maritime Data Catalogue and fostering the sharing of different datatypes across Coast Guard Function / User Communities

Objectives	Outcomes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Ensure the relevance of the Maritime Data Catalogue and associated datasheets by maintaining its quality and incorporating updates/additions as appropriate, following feedback from the Member States and EU Agencies gathered in 2021. 2) Create an interactive online version of the Maritime Data Catalogue, including assessing the preparation of links to the points of contact for requesting access to data. 3) Assess the feasibility of publishing a public version of the Maritime Data Catalogue. 4) Share the Maritime Data Catalogue with the CISE Transition project. 5) Hold a dedicated session at the (Inter-Agency) Annual European Coast Guard Event/relevant event with Member States which fosters awareness and utilisation of the different datasets available via the different Agencies. 6) Consider potential interagency participation with Member States within, for example, the framework of the annual ECGFF exercise (either tabletop or at sea) to foster “hands on” understanding of the operational usage of different information sources. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Two new (EMSA) data sets identified for inclusion namely, EMSA THETIS EU Animal Welfare and THETIS MRV. Work underway to update the Catalogue in 2023. 2) Following Steering Committee agreement on scope of TWA Portal, TSC1 finalised user requirements for interactive version of the Maritime Data Catalogue. Requirements shared with the “EFCA Project” for implementation. 3) Feedback from Member States at the Annual European Coast Guard Event (AECGE) 2022 did not indicate support for a public version. Possible follow-up pending launch of interactive Maritime Data Catalogue. 4) Maritime Data Catalogue shared with CISE Transition project. 5) Dedicated session held with Member States on the Maritime Data Catalogue and its utilisation during the AECGE2022, with feedback gathered to be integrated in 2023. 6) No suitable event was identified.

Surveillance and communication services

Project: B
Development of a roadmap to implement satellite-based services identified by the Member States in support of Coast Guard Functions

Objectives	Outcomes
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Organise a workshop to discuss with Member States the prioritisation of potential improvements and high-level user requirements of earth observation/satellite-based services identified in the 2021 questionnaire. 2) Prepare a report on the priorities of Member States and propose a roadmap for potential implementation of the requirements identified. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Workshop held on 29 November 2022. Final report completed. 2) Report on Roadmap of Requirement Implementation delivered.

Project: C**Strengthen sharing of data from surveillance assets between EFCA, FRONTEX and EMSA**

Objectives	Outcomes
<p>Assess the existing surveillance data portfolio and its exploitation to identify new requirements, synergies and redundancies related to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Share manned aircraft/RPAS and other video streams/data centre capabilities among Agencies and with MS aerial operations. 2) Integrate AIS collected during all Agency airborne and vessel-based surveillance missions into EMSA systems for consumption by end users of the 3 Agencies' services. 	<p>Assessment Report delivered, based on the Maritime Data Catalogue and the results of Project D, covering the potential integration of AIS data collected by the 3 Agencies.</p>

Project: D**Mapping of information exchange standards between different Coast Guard Communities**

Objectives	Outcomes
<p>Based on the datasets described in the Maritime Data Catalogue and exchanged in EU level systems including CISE, EUROSUR (including Specific Situational Pictures), FIS, IMS and SSN and in an effort to avoid duplication to establish and maintain maritime awareness pictures, TSC1 will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify and map standards for maritime information exchange. 2) Identify commonalities and variations between standards. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Report on Mapping of information exchange standards between different Coast Guard Communities Mapping Standards delivered. 2) Identification of commonalities and variations delivered as part of the Report described in point 1.

Capacity building**Project: E****Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast guard Functions**

Objectives	Outcomes
<p>Further develop and update the Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast guard Functions (the "Handbook") as a valuable document and online portal for the Member States authorities.</p>	<p>The work on the Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast guard Functions (the "Handbook") and the related online platform continued in 2022 with support from the EFCA Project "Implementation of the results of the Coast Guard qualifications Network and the</p>

<p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Develop and maintain as needed the content of the Handbook, in coordination with the European Commission. 2. Cooperate with Member States on the updating of the individual country factsheets. 3. Make accessible to Member States an electronic version of the Handbook through an online platform. 	<p>Practical Handbook on European cooperation on coast guard functions⁷⁶ (Coast Guard Project) to be implemented in close cooperation with EMSA and Frontex. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A total of 48 Points of Contact from 21 coastal Member States as well as Norway and Iceland were nominated to follow up the work of the Handbook; • A total of 17 Member States have already verified fully or partially the content of their Member State factsheet; • An online platform has been developed. <p>The Handbook and a beta version of the online platform were presented during the 2022 Annual European Coast Guard Event (AECGE). A dedicated AECGE break out session showed that overall there was an appreciation for the initiatives of the CG Handbook and the complementary website.</p>
<p>Project: F Cross-sector training and capacity building</p>	
<p>Objectives</p>	<p>Outcomes</p>
<p>1) Offer joint cross-sectoral training to Member State national authorities:</p> <p>Task: To develop or implement as relevant joint cross-sector training for items such as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Search and Rescue 2. Fishing vessels safety/fisheries control rules 3. Maritime Surveillance related topics <p>2) To foster a coast guard exchange programme and to promote the Coast Guard Sectoral Qualifications Framework (SQF).</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To define, after feasibility analysis, a staff exchange programme for Member States authorities on cross-sectoral training activities including training and on the job exchanges. 2. To raise awareness and promote the exchange of experience on the implementation of the voluntary Coast Guard SQF at national and at EU level. <p>3) To update the mapping of Training activities in Third Countries offered by each Agency.</p>	<p>1) Joint cross-sectoral training was organised for Member State national authorities. These training sessions were organised either online or in person and were evaluated as very good or excellent by the participants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime Surveillance: An online session was held on 4-5 May 2022. The session covered topics related to Maritime Surveillance activities, tools and systems used within the Member States and EU Agencies. A total of 77 participants from 21 Member States and Norway participated. • Fishing Vessel Safety and Fisheries control rules: An in-person session was held in Vigo on 21-23 June 2022 and included as practical element a visit to a fishing vessel. • Search and Rescue awareness for the non-SAR community: The awareness session was organised online on 28-29 November 2022 with more than 60 participants from 14 Member States. <p>2) The following activities were completed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 60 Points of Contact from 14 Member States were nominated; • The draft Terms of Reference of the Exchange Programme were prepared; The activities of an exchange programme and Sectoral Qualifications Framework (SQF), were promoted during the 2022 Annual Coast Guard Event. <p>3) Training activities organised by the Agencies in 3rd countries were mapped. The following training activities were organised through dedicated projects per specific geographical area: EU enlargement countries (EMSA, Frontex), Black Sea or Caspian Sea</p>

⁷⁶ Contribution Agreement attributed to EFCA through Commission Implementing Decision of 4.6.2021 on the financing of the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund and the adoption of the work programme for 2021, C(2021) 3870 final.

	(EMSA and Frontex), Middle East and North Africa (EFCA, EMSA and Frontex) and West Africa (EFCA).
--	---

Risk Analysis	
Project: G	
Cross-sector risk analysis	
Objectives	Outcomes
<p>1) Follow up of the survey to identify potential support to Member States authorities carrying out coast guard functions on cross-sector risk analysis/assessments needs:</p> <p>Tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assessment of Member States' needs raised through 2021 dedicated survey. 2. Following result point 1, to develop potential related cross sectorial risk analysis/assessment methodologies to be used in different European sea basins and deliver a common report for specific areas and/or sea basins in coordination with TSC3 MMO project. 	<p>1) The survey conducted in 2021 showed that three different areas of possible future activities could be developed: 1) Sharing of data and information regarding risk and threats, 2) Development of methodologies on information/risk assessment products, and 3) Training, Capacity Building and Awareness sessions on risk assessment. The following activities were implemented in 2022:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A joint document was drafted describing the risk assessment frameworks and the relevant support to Member States provided by each Agency. This document includes an overview of data and products available through the agencies and a comparative analysis of the risk methodologies and an experimental combination of risk assessment products. <p>2) A joint mapping of risk related events and a new methodology on how to link those events was explored. However, due to the very different nature of data sets combined, it was considered necessary to further discuss the development of such methodology to avoid any possible misinterpretations of results.</p>

Capacity sharing	
Project: H	
Multipurpose Maritime Operations	
Objectives	Outcomes

<p>To implement the MMO(s) agreed by TWA Steering Committee in the European sea basin, upon MS's or Agencies request and following the generic modalities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Keep updated the generic modalities and prepare specific modalities for multipurpose maritime operations (MMO) implemented by the EU agencies established by the Steering committee. 2) Identify potential areas and periods of interest for the implementation of MMO, taking into consideration the availability of multipurpose capacities of the three Agencies, in those areas in such periods, and considering MSs' needs through a dedicated consultation. 3) Implement a MMO in the Black Sea in accordance with the general modalities for multipurpose maritime operations (MMO) based on the decision of the Steering committee. 4) Assess European Coast Guard Functions Officer's support provided in the frame of MMOs and possible way forward. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Generic Modalities were updated and version 2.0 was endorsed by the Steering Committee in July 2022. Specific modalities for MMO Black Sea 2022 were endorsed. 2) Taking into account Member States needs for 2023, the Adriatic Sea, Black Sea and the Central and Northern Baltic Sea were identified as potential areas for MMOs. 3) MMO Black Sea 2022 took place between the 10th of August and the 30th of November, hosted by Bulgaria and Romania. 6 national Coast Guard Functions authorities were involved as well as EFCA, EMSA and Frontex communities. Specific modalities were endorsed by the TWA Steering Committee detailing support provided by each agency. 4) The assessment was performed showing that the current framework for the ECGFO to act within Frontex's operational activities has a positive development. ECGFO can be considered a viable operational coordination asset for Frontex when working with EFCA and EMSA, without prejudice to the Agencies mandates.
---	--

Project: I
Mapping of the Agencies' assets deployment in support of Member States

Objectives	Outcomes
<p>Develop and update a mapping of the agencies' assets deployment in the MSs or for the benefit of operational activities coordinated by agencies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Each Agency to provide regularly updated information of their assets deployed in EU sea basins. 	<p>The project aims at having an overall picture of agencies owned/leased multipurpose assets to support Member States. In 2022, the agencies have agreed on the assets and general information to be shared within this project. A table has been put in place to provide a monthly update shared between the Agencies</p>

ACTIVITY REPORT EFCA CHARTERED VESSELS AND LIGHT RPAS - 2022

1. Introduction

The European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) chartered the offshore patrol vessel (OPV) Lundy Sentinel since January 2018 and until mid-December 2022 to perform fisheries control and inspection in EU and international waters as a primary task, being also available when requested to support national authorities in the implementation of other coast guard functions. After receiving additional funds in the context of the cooperation agreement with the United Kingdom, for fisheries control and inspection in the waters adjoining the UK, in September 2021 and until March 2022, EFCA chartered a second vessel, the OPV Aegis, through the Service Level Agreement (SLA) with the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). Lastly, following the award of a FWC for the chartering of three offshore fisheries patrol vessels in July 2022, EFCA took delivery of the first vessel in December 2022.

In addition to the OPVs, in September 2022, EFCA awarded a Specific Contract for aerial surveillance services for fisheries control. The process was done under the inter-institutional framework service contract for Surveillance Aircraft Services for Border & Coast Guard Functions.

The current report presents a summary of the activities performed.

2. Legal basis

According to Articles 9 and 10 of the EFCA founding regulation,⁷⁷ the **Agency may acquire, rent or charter the equipment that is necessary for the implementation of the joint deployment plans.** Pursuant to Article 8 of the same regulation, the Agency shall support national authorities in carrying out Coast Guard functions by, among other things, sharing capacity by planning and implementing multipurpose operations and by sharing assets and other capabilities, to the extent that those activities are coordinated by those agencies and are agreed to by the competent authorities of the Member States concerned.

Both vessels were therefore chartered for fisheries inspection and control as a primary task but being also able to serve as a multipurpose platform, in coherence with the mandate of EFCA to support the European coast guard initiative and provide added value to the national authorities in charge of coast guard functions.

3. Chartered vessels

- a) Technical specifications and capacity to support coast guard functions

All three OPVs chartered by EFCA (Figure 1) in 2022 were cost-effective platforms, favouring the performance of long endurance patrols over higher operational speed, which is compensated through the equipped fast boarding crafts. The vessels were capable of providing multiple services, such as search and rescue and pollution response, in cooperation with Member States authorities and/or Frontex and EMSA. The boarding crafts ensured that the majority of boarding scenarios required for fisheries control are covered. Table 1 presents the main technical specifications of the vessels.

⁷⁷ Regulation (EU) No 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council



Figure 1: OPV Lundy Sentinel and OPV Aegis.

Table 1: Technical specifications of OPV Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel.

	OPV Lundy Sentinel	OPV Aegis	OPV Ocean Sentinel
Vessel type	Emergency Rescue & Response Vessel	Offshore Support Vessel	Emergency Rescue & Response Vessel
Year construction	2015	2012	2018
Flag	Portuguese	Greek	Portuguese
Length Overall	61 m	59 m	62 m
Beam	15 m	15 m	15 m
Max draft	5.014 m	5.064 m	4,6 m
Autonomy (with full bankers)	60 days	60 days	60 days
Cruising speed	10 kn	10 kn	10 kn
Max. Speed	14 kn	14.4 kn	13 kn
Boarding equipment	FRB Palfinger 7 m, DC Palfinger, RHIB 10 m	RHIB of 7.5 m, AVON SR 6.5	RHIB Narwhal DC Palfinger
Crew	12	12	12

b) Specific functionalities

State of the art navigation and communication equipment

The satellite communication (SatCom) of the vessels allowed permanent Internet access to fisheries control surveillance systems on board (IMS, JaDE, FISHNET, Copernicus acquisitions, etc.). As such, the OPVs can be considered as a 'mobile office of EFCA'.

In addition, EFCA provided satellite phones in order to ensure that at any moment there was connectivity with the EFCA deployed personnel (EFCA officers and Member States inspectors) as well as ensuring there were means to communicate information via a secured and confidential channel.

Special winching area for helicopter and RPAS operations

The OPVs had a special winching area which was also proven to be suitable for Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) launching and operations. A winching area is paramount for performing long-range patrols and is advantageous in case of emergencies to carry out medical evacuation (MEDEVAC) injured or sick persons. During the chartered periods, the OPV Lundy Sentinel participated in helicopter drills while operating inside the designated patrol areas.



MEDEVAC in process in cooperation with IT CG, 2022 MED JDP.

Making significant progress, in the context of inter-agency cooperation, since 1 September 2019, an RPAS and a pilot were deployed on board the OPV Lundy Sentinel. EFCA has been testing the use of a light RPAS as a tool for enhancing fisheries surveillance and control as well as the safety and security of boarding. EMSA provided the RPAS service and associated SatCom for Lundy Sentinel free of charge. A RPAS and a pilot were also deployed onboard Aegis.

Readiness for environmental protection and specific oil pollution response capacity - Vessel of opportunity

As an outcome of the inter-agency cooperation, OPV Lundy Sentinel was equipped since May 2019 with a trawl net system, installed in a container to be used (deployed) for heavy oil recovery and since July 2019 with dispersant (5 tons) to be used for situations of when there is a light oil detected at the

sea surface. As a vessel being part of the EMSA network of standby vessels for pollution response, OPV Aegis was also equipped with the respective equipment to be deployed in specific pollution events.

After the expiration of the Lundy Sentinel FWC, in mid-December, this pollution response equipment was redelivered to EMSA.

Readiness for Search and Rescue

The OPVs could assist with Search and Rescue operations, as they disposed, *inter alia*, medical supplies and equipment related to SAR.

4. Chartered aircraft

The aerial asset is a DA62 aircraft which can reach the surveillance area located at a distance of more than 151NM from the base airport and can perform a total minimum of 5 hours of flight with 1 additional person. It has a minimum average patrolling speed of 100 Kts and it is equipped with a combination of sensors, like, electro-optical infrared camera, maritime Surveillance Radar, AIS Receiver and GPS.

Table 2: Information from the 2022 deployment

Fixed Wing Aircraft (FWA)	DA62
Period	09 Nov. – 06 Dec. 2022
Base airport	Cork (IR)
N^{er} of Sightings	53
Aircraft flight track distance (NM)	10,463
Data Streaming (hours)	65:39
Flight hours	84:12

5. Summary of operational activities

Operational performance

For the year 2022, the activity of the vessels can be analysed through Table 2. The ratio of inspections per day varies between areas, as it is very much dependent on weather conditions, available targets and seasonal fishing in some areas. In general, the ratio of suspected infringements in some areas was relatively higher than the general JDP ratio. This is the advantage of using a European platform driven by the JDP TJDG and with a multinational inspection team on board. It has been noted that the OPV may have a deterrent effect on non-compliance; some fishermen appear to leave the area upon the arrival of the OPV in a fishing area.

Table 3: Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel's number of days at sea, number of inspections and number of suspected infringements (SI) by sea basin for 2022 with related %.

Year 2022	Days at sea	Number of sightings	Number of inspections	Number of SI	(%) of inspections per day	(%) of inspections with SI
Aegis						
Western Waters	17	31	5	1	30%	20%
Quarantine / transit	23					
Total (Aegis)	40					
Lundy Sentinel						
Mediterranean and Black Sea	90	66	64	46	71%	72%
NAFO	0	0	0	0		
NEAFC	0	0	0	0		
North Sea	45	39	26	0	57%	0%
Western Waters	79	75	35	7	44%	20%
Baltic Sea	44	59	13	2	30%	15%
Quarantine / Transit	44					
Total (Lundy Sentinel)	302					
Ocean Sentinel						
Western Waters	10	5	5	2	50%	40%
Quarantine / transit	14					
Total (Ocean Sentinel)	24					
Overall total (all Vessels)	366					

The OPVs added capacity to the control means of the Member States, beyond the territorial waters of the Member States. In addition, fisheries control operations in general provide an outstanding first-hand insight into the status of compliance in fisheries and offers the capacity to address them through the SG and TJDG, and to facilitate a 'fine tuning' of the annual risk assessments.

EFCA OPV Aegis was operational 40 days at sea, with a total of performed 31 sightings, 5 inspections and 1 suspected infringement detected. Due to the limited specific contract, which was valid till the end of March 2022, as well as, unfortunately there was a COVID-19 positive case at the end of January aboard affecting EFCA's deployed personnel and owing to the fact that the crew afterwards followed by the main technical failure of the vessel, AEGIS operational performance in 2022 was limited.

It is important to note that OPV Lundy Sentinel was also having the medical personnel deployed for the mission in the MED JDP. The medical service was provided on board Lundy Sentinel from 21 July to 30 September 2022.

There were two interventions done in 2022. One intervention took place on 29 July on board a EU fishing vessel providing assistance to the injured crew members, while on 23 August a MS inspector deployed on board of OPV needed medical assistance.

Remotely Piloted Aircraft System

A Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS) was operating on board OPV Lundy Sentinel since September 2018 to support maritime surveillance and fisheries control and inspection. The system was a light quadcopter (2.3 kg, battery powered) and the deployment of this system from on board the OPV was considered as an experience profiting also Member States inspectors on board. The endurance of the RPAS was limited to around 35 minutes and the working range is 2,5 Nm (4,5 km) from the target. The RPAS sensors were proven to be able to provide good image and video footage quality.

As regards EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel there were 232 operational days with RPAS pilot onboard. During Patrol No 1 contractor had an accident with the RPAS (ditch on 3 February) leading to no injuries. The patrol ended on 5 February 2022 in Gdynia, and so the pilot was onboard, but without delivering any service. Similar situation in Patrol No 6, with a ditch on 24 May with the patrol ending on 3 June. Another unforeseen event took place on 24 March and led to the urgent debarkation of the pilot due to illness; the operational days and the days onboard are coincident.

As regards OPV Aegis there were 17 operational days with RPAS pilot onboard.

Table 4 - Number of RPAS flights by patrol dates and geographical area.

2022		
14/01 - 05/02/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Baltic Sea	10 Flights, 8 during Insp 2 Training
14/01 – 03/02/2022 AEGIS	Western Waters	9 Flights, 7 during Insp 2 Training
07/02 - 21/02/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Baltic Sea	2 Flights, 1 During Insp 1 Surveillance
23/02 - 11/03/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Baltic Sea North Sea from 01 March	BS 3 Flights 3 During Insp NS 8 Flights 7 During Insp 1 Surveillance
13/03 - 31/03/2022 Lundy Sentinel	North Sea and Western Waters	11 Flights, 10 During Insp 01 Training
20/04 - 11/05/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Western Waters	12 Flights 3 During Insp 9 Surveillance
13/05 - 03/06/2022 Lundy Sentinel	NEAFC WW ICATT	12 Flights 11 During Insp 1 Test Flight
16/07 - 31/07/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Western Waters and Central Mediterranean Sea	18 Flights 11 During Insp 06 Surveillance 1 Test Flight
02/08 - 11/08/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Central Mediterranean Sea	15 Flights 13 During Insp 01 Surveillance 1 Test Flight
13/08 - 26/08/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Central Mediterranean Sea	15 Flights 15 During Insp
28/08 - 09/09/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Central Mediterranean Sea	19 Flights 9 During Insp 5 Surveillance 1 Test Flight 4 During Coastex
11/09 - 30/09/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Central and Western Mediterranean Sea SWW	8 Flights 7 During Insp 1 test
02/10 – 16/10/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Western Waters	5 Flights 4 During Insp 1 Surveillance
18/10 - 01/11/2022 Lundy Sentinel	North Sea	4 Flights 3 During Insp 1 test
03/11 - 20/11/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Western Waters	1 Flights 1 During Insp
22/11 - 14/12/2022 Lundy Sentinel	Western Waters	3 Flights 3 During Insp

The core task of the RPAS is to support pre-boarding phase, through enabling checks of the security and safety conditions for the inspection team before the actual boarding, during boarding and when leaving the inspected vessel. Other tasks are related to fisheries control, e.g. observing behaviour on-board that might suggest potential infringements such as: discarding, use of illegal gear and identification of fishing activity in prohibited areas or during closure season. Furthermore, the RPAS video is also reviewed by the boarding team and the master of the vessel in order to perform a post boarding assessment to facilitate the continued improvement of procedures.

Exchange of inspectors

The OPV has also provided a platform for the exchange of inspectors between Member States. Table 4 indicates the number of inspectors deployed on board the OPVs in 2020 by Member State and third countries.

Table 5 - Number of inspectors from Member States on board Lundy Sentinel, Aegis and Ocean Sentinel

	Lundy Sentinel	AEGIS	Ocean Sentinel	Total
Member States				
Belgium	0	0	0	0
Bulgaria	0	0	0	0
Croatia	4	0	0	4
Cyprus	0	0	0	0
Denmark	1	0	0	1
Estonia	0	0	0	0
Finland	4	0	0	4
France	0	0	0	0
Germany	1	0	0	1
Greece	0	0	0	0
Ireland	4	2	0	6
Italy	4	0	0	4
Latvia	2	0	0	2
Lithuania	2	0	0	2
Malta	6	0	0	6
Netherlands	3	0	0	3
Poland	2	0	0	2
Romania	0	0	0	0
Portugal	3	0	3	6
Spain	4	0	0	4
Sweden	2	0	0	2

Table 6 - Number of third country observers or inspectors on board Lundy Sentinel

Third Countries	2022
Albania	2
Montenegro	2
Tunisia	1
Total	5

The availability of the OPVs for the deployment of various MS inspectors contributed to the standardisation of inspection methods, information sharing and the promotion of best practices (e.g., the use of check lists, the use of the electronic mesh gauges, performing the last haul inspections).

The EFCA is carefully following the performance of the OPVs; following each patrol a performance report is produced by the EFCA Liaison Officer on board (LOB), which is submitted to EFCA and analysed. In addition, MS representatives have an opportunity to submit their observations on the performance of the OPV. No significant issues have been reported. Safety, security and other related elements were duly addressed by EFCA and discussed with the ship owners.

6. Conclusion

Considering the above-mentioned technical and operational performance elements it can be concluded that the EFCA chartered OPVs and aircrafts are efficient and performing well.

The OPVs have proven to be important platforms for the exchange of experience and are serving as a testbed for emerging technologies (such as the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems) for fisheries control. Also, the OPVs provide permanent availability and access to fisheries control surveillance systems on board (such as the Integrated Maritime Service for fisheries and Copernicus acquisitions), and opportunity for MS inspectors to increase their experience in their use. All of which demonstrate the significant added value of the OPVs.

ANNEX II: STATISTICS ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Description	Result/ Figures of the period	
	2022	2021
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations (C1)	99.4%	99.1%
Budget implementation % of payment appropriations (C1)	57.8%	74.5%
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations excluding salaries (chapters 11 and 12) (C1)	104.0%	100.7%
Implementation of carried over appropriations (C8)	91.6%	82.9%
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations (C1, R0, C4)	87.2%	96.4%
Budget implementation % of payment appropriations (C1, C8, R0, C4)	56.2%	74.0%
Payment delay	2%	0.8%

Budget Implementation (C1)

STAFF EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2022	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
1.1	Staff in active employment	10,443,000	-801,120	9,641,880	9,638,645	100%	9,641,880	9,552,113	99%	86,533	1%
1.2	Expenditure related to recruitment	350,000	-108,500	241,500	234,240	97%	241,500	233,608	97%	632,09	0%
1.3	Administrative missions and duty travel	70,000	-40,500	29,500	29,321	99%	29,500	21,147	72%	8,175	28%
1.4	Socio-medical infrastructure, training	175,000	-11,000	164,000	159,253	97%	164,000	107,153	65%	52,100	32%
1.7	Reception and representation expenses	2,000	0	2,000	1,496	75%	2,000	1,248	62%	248	12%
TOTAL TITLE I		11,040,000	-961,120	10,078,880	10,062,956	100%	10,078,880	9,915,269	98%	147,687	1%

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2022	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
2	Rental of building and associated costs	415,000	-35,180	379,820	379,509	100%	379,820	277,433	73%	102,077	27%
2.1	Data processing expenditure and associated costs	810,000	142,900	952,900	952,571	100%	952,900	651,871	68%	300,700	32%
2.2	Movable property and associated costs	110,000	861,500	971,500	970,153	100%	971,500	33,248	3%	936,904	96%
2.3	Current administrative expenditure	35,000	14,400	49,400	49,398	100%	49,400	30,554	62%	18,843	38%
2.5	Meeting expenses	75,000	26,700	101,700	101,694	100%	101,700	96,408	95%	5,286	5%
2.6	Supplementary Services	345,000	78,300	423,300	423,170	100%	423,300	252,634	60%	170,535	40%
2.7	General Info/Communications	90,000	77,500	167,500	167,497	100%	167,500	101,447	61%	66,050	39%
TOTAL TITLE II		1,880,000	1,166,120	3,046,120	3,043,991	100%	3,046,120	1,443,596	47%	1,600,396	53%

OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2022	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
30	Support and Infrastructure Operational Systems	700,000	-70,000	630,000	626,476	99%	630,000	250,538	40%	375,938	60%
31	Effective coordination of joint fisheries control operations	680,000	-13,000	667,000	587,565	88%	667,000	417,032	63%	170,534	26%
32	Support of MCS activities	1,330,000	-347,000	983,000	979,265	100%	983,000	340,082	35%	639,182	65%
33	Support the EU in the implementation of the external dimension of the CFP	150,000	-15,000	135,000	67,691	50%	135,000	40,460	30%	27,231	20%
34	EU Cooperation in Coast Guard	13,560,000	240,000	13,800,000	13,799,297	100%	13,800,000	4,545,890	33%	9,253,407	67%
TOTAL TITLE III		16,420,000	-205,000	16,215,000	16,060,294	99%	16,215,000	5,594,002	34%	10,466,292	65%

Description	Budget 2022	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
TOTAL BUDGET	29,340,000	0	29,340,000	29,167,242	99%	29,340,000	16,952,866	58%	12,214,375	42%

Budget Implementation (C8)

STAFF EXPENDITURE

Chapter	Description	Carry forward 2021-2022	Paid	Cancelled	% paid
1.1	Staff in active employment	70,730	47,648	23,082	67%
1.2	Expenditure related to recruitment	1,950	929	1,021	48%
1.3	Administrative missions and duty travel	2,441	2,291	150	94%
1.4	Socio-medical infrastructure, training	102,029	90,889	11,140	89%
	TOTAL TITLE I	177,151	141,757	35,393	80%

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE

Chapter	Description	Carry forward 2021-2022	Paid	Cancelled	% paid
2.0	Rental of building and associated costs	37,666	35,619	2,047	95%
2.1	Data processing expenditure and associated costs	305,618	302,252	3,366	99%
2.2	Movable property and associated costs	38,656	38,476	180	100%
2.3	Current administrative expenditure	16,679	15,866	812	95%
2.6	Supplementary Services	126,214	121,322	4,892	96%
2.7	General Info/Communications	62,821	62,815	6	100%
	TOTAL TITLE II	587,653	576,349	11,304	98%

OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE

Chapter	Description	Carry forward 2021-2022	Paid	Cancelled	% paid
30	ICT Support and Infrastructure Operational	123,270	99,311	23,958	81%
31	JDP's, Operational plans and Pilot Projects	79,878	51,782	28,096	65%
32	Risk assessment and Data Analysis	480,592	456,212	24,380	95%
33	International dimension: compliance with international provisions	1,307	1,287	20	98%
34	Coast Guard and Capacity Building	3,713,333	3,401,152	312,181	92%
	TOTAL TITLE III	4,398,380	4,009,744	388,636	91%

	Description	Carry forward 2021-2022	Paid	Cancelled	% paid
	TOTAL BUDGET	5,163,183	4,727,850	435,333	92%

Table Budget outturn and cancellation of appropriations

Budget outturn	2020	2021	2022
Revenue actually received (+)	17,696,710	21,530,538	35,099,386
Payments made (-)	-14,079,299	-16,183,202	-18,175,799
Carry-over of appropriations (-)	-3,283,568	-5,806,790	-17,262,846
Cancellation of appropriations carried over (+)	154,635	464,705	435,333
Adjustment for carry over of assigned revenue appropriations from previous year (+)	113,013	564,264	643,607
Exchange rate differences (+/-)	-361	-6848	-9,558.66
Adjustment for negative balance from previous year (-)			
Total	601,130	562,667	730,122

Budget outturn justification

The budget outturn has increased in respect of 2021 outturn, mainly due to the lower implementation of 2020 carried over appropriations (C8 fund source).

The revenue and carry over figures in 2022 include the funds received for 3 contribution agreements and 2 ad-hoc grants with an implementation period running between 2022 and 2027 (R0 fund source).

Cancellation of commitment appropriations

The unused commitment appropriations in 2022 represent 0.5% of the total commitment appropriations of 2022. This includes all the fund sources with commitment appropriations (C1, C4 and R0).

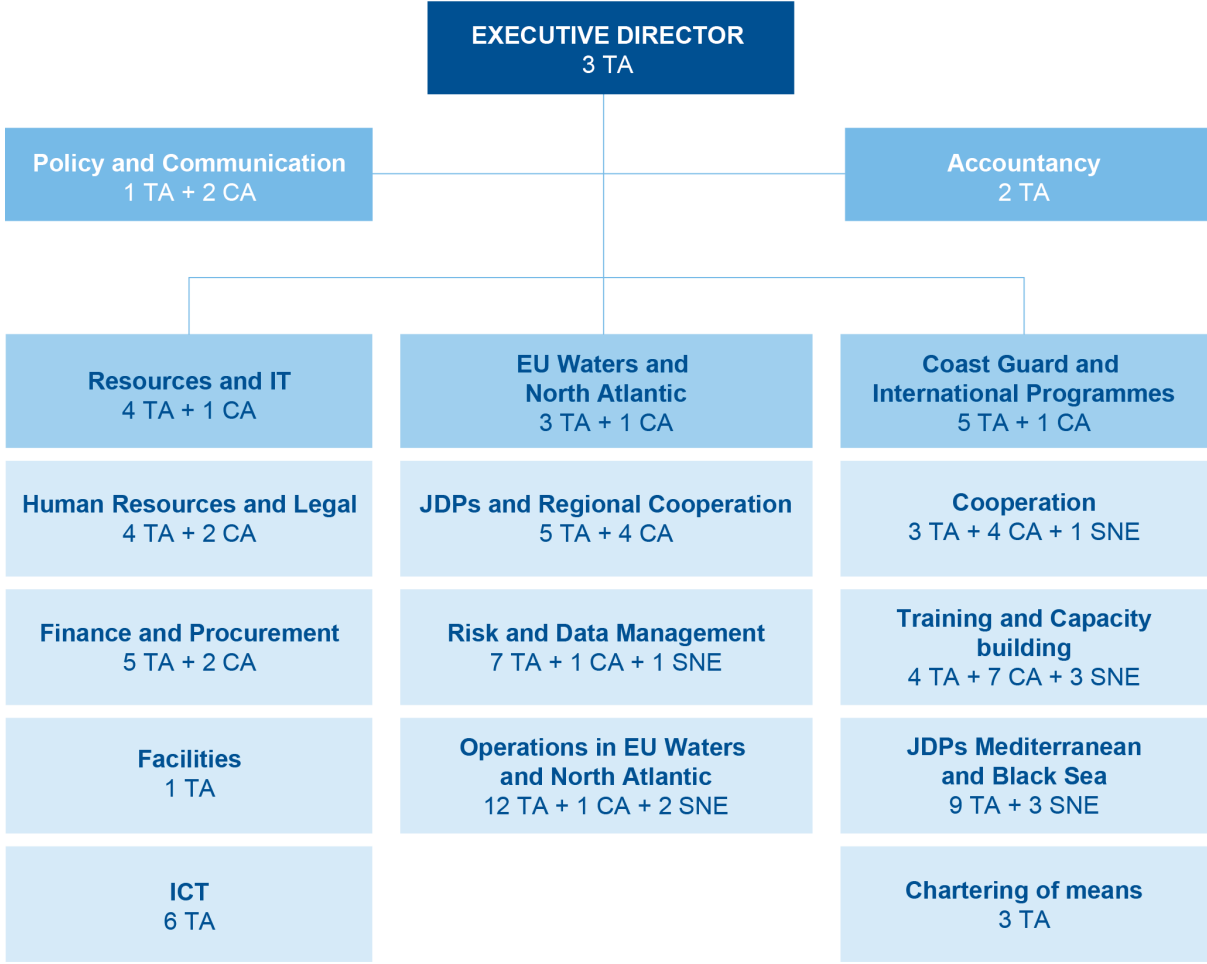
Cancellation of payment appropriations and payment appropriations carried over

The total cancellation of payment appropriations in 2022 was 1.4%. This includes the fresh credit of 2022, the assigned revenue 2022 and amounts carried forward from 2021.

In respect to cancellation of the C1 payment appropriations, in 2022 EFCA executed 99.4% of its budget and did not consume 0.6% of the payment appropriations.

The appropriations entered as R0 and not used in 2022 have been automatically carried forward for its use in 2022.

ANNEX III: ORGANISATION CHART



ANNEX IV: ESTABLISHMENT PLAN AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT

Category	2022			
	Authorised under the EU Budget		Filled as of 31/12/2022 ⁷⁸	
	Officials	TA	Officials	TA
AD 16				
AD 15		1		1
AD 14		2		2
AD 13		1		1
AD 12		2		2
AD 11		3		3
AD 10		8		8
AD 9		5		5
AD 8		11		11
AD 7		9		8
AD 6				
AD 5				
TOTAL AD		42		41
AST 11				
AST 10		6		6
AST 9		3		3
AST 8		3		3
AST 7		7		7
AST 6		2		2
AST 5		7		7
AST 4		7		5
AST 3				
AST 2				
AST 1				
TOTAL AST		35		33
TOTAL AST/SC				
TOTAL		77		74

⁷⁸ This includes job offers sent before 31 December 2022.

Information on the entry levels for each type of post

Key functions (examples)	Type of contract (official, TA or CA)	Function group, grade of recruitment (or bottom of the brackets if published in brackets)	Indication whether the function is dedicated to administrative support or operational or neutral
Operational			
Head of Department, Deputy Director, etc.	Not applicable		
Head of Unit (level 2)	TA	AD9	Operational
Head of Sector (level 3)	TA	AD7	Operational
Senior Officer	TA	AD7	Operational
Officer, Specialist	TA	AD6	Operational
Officer	TA	AD5	Operational
Senior Assistant	TA, CA	AST10-11, FG III	Operational
Assistant	TA, CA	AST1, FG II	Operational
Assistant to the Director	TA	AST4	Operational
Support			
Head of Administration (level 2)	TA	AD11	Support
Head of Sector (level 3)	TA	AD7	Support
Senior Officer	TA	AD7	Support
Officer, Specialist	TA	AD6	Support
Officer	TA	AD5	Support
Senior Assistant	TA, CA	AST10-11, FG III	Support
Assistant	TA, CA	AST1, FG II	Support
Head of Human Resources	Not applicable		
Head of Finance	Not applicable		
Head of Communication	Not applicable		
Head of IT	Not applicable		
Webmaster- Editor	Not applicable		
Secretary	Not applicable		
Mail Clerk	Not applicable		
Data Protection Officer	TA, CA	AD/ AST 6, FG IV	Support
Accounting Officer	TA	AD9	Neutral
Internal Auditor	Not applicable		

Human resources by job type

EFCA carried out a benchmarking exercise following the Methodology for agencies job screening. The analysis was made for the situation of 2021 and 2022. The results are displayed in the table below and allow a comparative view on the allocation of human resources (measured by working time) into predefined types of activities.

Job Type (sub) category	2021	2022
Administrative support and Coordination	24.8%	23.91%
Administrative Support	22.0%	20.53%
Coordination	2.8%	3.38%
Operational	66.0%	67.43%
Top level Operational Coordination	2.2%	2.62%
Programme management & Implementation	49.4%	49.11%
Evaluation & Impact assessment	4.0%	6.44%
General Operational	10.4%	9.26%
Neutral	9.2%	8.66%
Finance/Control	9.2%	8.66%
Linguistics	0%	0%
Total	100%	100%

ANNEX V: HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES BY ACTIVITY

ACTIVITIES	2022 implementation			2023			2024		
	TA	CA & SNE (FTE)	Budget allocated	TA	CA & SNE (FTE)	Budget allocated	TA	CA & SNE (FTE)	Budget allocated
Operational coordination	34.63	9.2	5,808,914	27.8	5.2	6,621,007	27.8	5.2	6,727,928
Assistance to cooperation	15.95	4.5	4,664,428	12.6	6.2	4,969,022	12.6	6.2	5,049,266
International dimension	4.92	0.8	907,293	5.8	0.2	1,377,019	5.8	0.2	1,399,256
EU cooperation in Coast Guard	10.08	0.8	17,786,607	8.8	0.2	17,130,907	8.8	0.2	17,407,550
TOTAL	65.6	15.4	29,167,242	54.9	11.6	30,097,954	54.9	11.6	30,584,000

ANNEX VI: CONTRIBUTION, GRANT AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT. FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

	General information					Financial and HR impacts				
	Signature date	Total Amount	Duration	Counterpart	Short description		2022	2023	2024	2025
Grant Agreements										
1. PESCAO - Commission Decision C(2017)2951	28/04/2017	2,585,000	5 years		Improved regional fisheries governance in the region through better coordination of national fisheries policies	Amount	1,117,797	p.m	p.m	p.m
			(2018-2022)			No CA	4	4		
						No SNE	2	2		
2. Cooperation with Algeria					Cooperation with Algeria	Amount	235,400	764,600	p.m	p.m
						No CA	1	1	1	
						No SNE	1	1	1	
Contribution Agreements										
1. Virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (e-fishmed)	15/12/2021	1,000,000	3 years		Virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection (e-Fishmed)	Amount	1,000,000	p.m	p.m	p.m
			(2022-2025)			No CA	2.3	2.3	2.3	2.3
						No SNE				
2. Coastguard qualifications network and the CGF handbook	08/12/2021	2,437,500	5 years		Coastguard qualifications network and the CGF handbook	Amount	2,437,500	p.m	p.m	p.m
			(2022-2027)			No CA	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7
						No SNE				
3. Study on the weighing process of fisheries products	06/12/2021	837,100	2 years		Study on the weighing process of fisheries products	Amount	837,100	p.m	p.m	p.m
			(2022-2024)			No CA	4	4	4	4
						No SNE				
Service level Agreements										
							p.m	p.m	p.m	p.m
						Amount				
						No CA				
						No SNE				
TOTALS										
						Amount	5,627,797	764,600	p.m	p.m
						No CA	15	15	11	10
						No SNE	3	3	1	-

ANNEX VII: ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT

1. EFCA environmental management strategy

In 2019, EFCA adopted its Environment Policy (ED Decision 2019/02) with the objective of

- Obtaining the EMAS certification
- Decrease the EFCA impact on the environment
- Develop and implement an internal and external environmental communication strategy

while maintaining its overall core business efficiency.

2. Agency's project for an environmental management system

EFCA is currently working towards the obtention of the EMAS (Eco-Management and Audit Scheme) Certification that will be the cornerstone for all improvement actions.

3. Environmental aspects, indicators, actions, and targets

EFCA activities have both direct and indirect impacts on the environment. Under the future EMS and in the scope of the EMAS certification, EFCA will monitor the following indicators:

- Energy efficiency: total direct energy use, including renewable energy use;
- Material efficiency: annual mass-flow of different materials used;
- Water: total annual water consumption;
- Waste: total annual generation of waste, including hazardous waste;
- Emissions: total annual emission of greenhouse gases and total annual air emission.

EFCA is already has taken actions to reduce its environmental impact:

- Green procurement: in most of the procurement procedures launched, at least one criterion is focusing on the efficient environmental behaviour of the potential tenderers. Furthermore, all Open Call for Tender procedures are launched via the e-tendering system of the EU institutions, permitting the reception of electronic offers and saving thousands of printed pages each year.
- Electricity consumption: Energy saving measures and environmental controls were put in place. Despite the increase in office occupancy (return -to -office) there has been a 12,49% reduction in energy consumption for EFCA headquarters.
- Paper consumption: The campaign to maintain paperless office operation on going and successful.
- Systematic separation of residues: all "domestic" residues are separated and treated accordingly by the contractor in charge. The same applies to the electrical and electronic material and equipment that the Agency is decommissioning. A specialized contractor oversees the retirement, scrapping and separation of the materials proceeding from these residues, and, where possible, gives a second life to the declassified electrical and electronic equipment.

Each year targets the improvement on one of the indicators listed above.

4. Communication

The Environmental results of the EFCA will be communicated internally via intranet and to the stakeholders via the Annual Report.

5. Other Aspects

Offsetting of CO2 emissions: Emissions related to operational activities at sea (emissions of the EFCA chartered FPV/MPV) and to mission flights travel may be compensated by the adhesion to a carbon-offsetting scheme, still to be defined.

Collaboration with other Agencies and Institutions: EMAS, ISO 14001, environmental initiatives, are few of the various subjects on which the EFCA is collaborating with other Agencies and Institutions in the framework of the Greening Network and of the GIME.



ANNEX VIII: ANNUAL ACCOUNTS⁷⁹

BALANCE SHEET 31 December 2022	31/12/2022 (provisional)	31/12/2021 (final)	Variation
ASSETS			
NON- CURRENT ASSETS	382.008	324.864	57.144
Intangible assets	5.826	11.562	-5.736
Property, plant and equipment	376.182	313.302	62.880
CURRENT ASSETS	19.076.027	7.316.092	11.759.935
Short-term pre-financing	161.912	363.559	-201.647
Short-term receivables	913.190	562.360	350.830
Cash and cash equivalents	18.000.925	6.390.173	11.610.752
TOTAL ASSETS	19.458.035	7.640.956	11.817.079
LIABILITIES			0
NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES	2.435.601	0	2.435.601
CURRENT LIABILITIES	4.481.359	2.206.820	2.274.539
Provisions for risks and charges	0	0	0
Accounts payable	1.191.314	1.115.855	75.459
Other financial liabilities	1.120.716	528.298	592.418
Accounts payable with EC	2.169.329	562.667	1.606.662
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6.916.960	2.206.820	4.710.140
TOTAL NET ASSETS	12.541.075	5.434.136	7.106.939
Accumulated surplus/deficit	5.434.136	2.866.296	2.567.840
Result of the Year	7.106.939	2.567.840	4.539.099

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (SFP)	2022 (provisional)	2021 (final)	Variation
REVENUES			
Revenues from EU subsidy	29.245.069	20.437.333	8.807.736
Other non-exchange operating revenue	525.379	593.567	-68.188
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE	29.770.448	21.030.900	8.739.548
EXPENSES			0
Operational expenses	<u>-8.576.818</u>	<u>-7.536.357</u>	<u>-1.040.461</u>
Administrative expenses	<u>-14.087.027</u>	<u>-10.925.309</u>	<u>-3.161.718</u>
All Staff expenses	-10.695.534	-8.587.152	-2.108.382
Fixed assets related expenses	-142.609	-173.529	30.920
Other administrative expenses	-3.247.363	-2.160.575	-1.086.788
Net foreign exchange result	-1.521	-4.053	2.532
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	-22.663.845	-18.461.666	-4.202.179
Interest Income	1.477	99	1.378
Other Financial expenses	-1.141	-1.493	352
TOTAL FINANCIAL RESULT	336	-1.394	1.730
SFP – Result of the Year	7.106.939	2.567.840	4.539.099

⁷⁹ The information presented above is an extract of the EFCA 2022 Provisional Annual Accounts which are still subject to audit by the External auditors. It is thus possible that amounts included in these tables may have to be adjusted.

ANNEX IX: MATERIALITY CRITERIA

According to current EC guidelines and reporting instructions as well as best practices, a reservation should be included in the annual declaration of assurance in the context of the annual activity reporting on the basis of the materiality criteria.

Even if no reservation has been issued, the Agency should explain the materiality criteria that are applicable in its operations.

On the basis of the materiality criteria, the Authorising Officer is enabled to determine significant deficiencies that would lead to a formal reservation in the declaration of assurance.

The types of possible weaknesses that are considered include:

- Significant occurrence of errors in the underlying transactions (legality and regularity) detected during the controls or supervision exercises;
- Significant control system weaknesses;
- Insufficient audit coverage and/or inadequate information from internal control systems;
- Critical issues outlined by the European Court of Auditors, the Internal Audit Service and the European Anti-Fraud Office (Office européen de lutte antifraude – OLAF);
- Significant reputational events.

Materiality includes qualitative and quantitative criteria.

From a qualitative point of view, significance of a weakness is judged on the basis of:

- Nature and scope of the weakness;
- Duration of the weakness;
- Existence of satisfactory compensatory measures (mitigating controls);
- Existence of probably effective corrective actions (action plans).

From a quantitative point of view, a weakness is considered material and could lead to reservation if the financial impact or risk of loss is greater than 1% of the total budget (excepting salaries) or if it implies a significant reputational risk.

The materiality level is subject to a yearly review.

ANNEX X: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KPI'S

Executive Director KPI's		
KPIs in Relation to Operational Objectives		
• <i>To provide evidence of the Agency performance</i>		
Deliverable	Target	Achieved
Timely submission of the draft AWP (SPD)	100%	100%
Percentage of completion of the activities of the AWP	> 80%	95.4%
Timely achievement of objectives of the AWP	> 80%	95.4%
KPIs in Relation to Management of Financial and Human Resources		
<i>b) To provide evidence of the swift, timely and full use of the financial resources allocated by the budgetary authorities</i>		
Deliverable	Target	Achieved
Rate (%) of implementation of Commitment Appropriations	>95%	99.4%
Rate (%) of cancellation of Payment Appropriations	<5%	1.4%
Rate (%) of outturn (Total payments in year N and carry-forwards to Year N+1, as a % of the total EU funding and fee income, where applicable, received in Year N)	<5%	1.0%
Rate (%) of payments executed within the legal/contractual deadlines	> 98%	97.5%
<i>c) To provide evidence of timely improvements in the adequacy and effectiveness of internal control systems</i>		
Deliverable	Target	Achieved
Rate (%) of external and accepted internal audit recommendations implemented within agreed deadlines	100%	100%
<i>d) To provide evidence of the level of staff wellbeing</i>		
Deliverable	Target	Achieved
Average vacancy rate (% of authorised posts of the annual establishment plan which are vacant at the end of the year, including job offers sent before 31st December)	≤ 5%	4%
Annual average number of days of short-term sick leave per staff member (excluding week ends and public holidays)	<6	4.2
Number of complaints under Article 90 (2) SR with a positive outcome per 100 staff members	≤ 5	0

ANNEX XI: LIST OF THE MOST RELEVANT ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AAC	Aquaculture Advisory Council
AB	Administrative Board
ABAC	Accrual Based Accounting
ABB	Activity Based Budgeting
ABM	Automatic Behaviour Monitoring
ABMS	Activity Based Management System
AC	Advisory Council
ACTREP	Activity Report
AD	Action Document
AD	Administrator (Staff)
ADDs	Acoustic Deterrent Devices
AENOR	Spanish Association for Standardization and Certification
AGM	Advanced Gateway to your Meetings
AIS	Automatic Identification Systems
ARES	Advanced Records System
ARVI	Cooperativa de Armadores de Pesca del Puerto de Vigo
ASP	Annual Strategic Plan
AST	Assistant (Staff)
ATLAS	Sysper module to facilitate the ABB and also to facilitate the yearly job screening exercise
ATS	Sysper module for stand by duty time management
AWP	Annual Work Programme
BALTFISH	Baltic Sea Control Expert Group
BAPT	Budget Programming and execution automation project
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
BFT	Bluefin Tuna
BIS	Black Sea
BMS	Below Minimum Size
BS	Baltic Sea
BSAC	Baltic Sea Advisory Council
C8	Carried over appropriations fund source type
CA	Contract Agent
CATCH IT	EU-wide database for seafood import catch documentation
CC	Coordination Centre
CCTV	Closed-circuit television
CECAF	Fisheries Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic
CECIS	Common Emergency Communication Information System
CEG	Control Expert Group
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy
CG	Coast Guard
CGGS	Coast Guard Global Summit
CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment
CMS	Copernicus Maritime Surveillance Service
COM	Communication from European Commission
DPO	Data Protection Officer
eBCD	Electronic Bluefin Catch Document Programme
eBCD TWG	Technical Working Group for the Electronic Bluefin Catch Document Programme
EC	European Commission
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECGFA-NET	European Coast Guard Functions Academy Network Project
ECGFF	European Coast Guard Function Forum
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
eCV	Sysper module for the staff to enter their Electronic Curriculum
ED	Executive Director
EDA	European Defence Agency
EDG	Editorial Drafting Group

EDPS	European Data Protection Supervisor
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EFCA	European Fisheries Control Agency
EFCA IMS	EFCA Integrated Maritime Service
EIR	Electronic Inspection Report
e-ISR	Electronic Inspection & Surveillance Report
EMAS	EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMFAF	European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund
EMPACT	European multidisciplinary platform against criminal threats
EMS	Environmental Management Strategy
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
EO	Earth Observation
EP	European Parliament
ERS	Electronic Recording and Reporting System
ESA	European Space Agency
EU	European Union
EUAN	European Agencies' Network
EUCG	European Coast Guard
EUDPR	Data Protection Regulation applicable to Union institutions, bodies, offices and agencies (OJ L 295, 21.11.2018)
EUIPO	European Union Intellectual Property Office
EUMOFA	European Market Observatory for fisheries and aquaculture
EUMSS	European Union Maritime Security Strategy
EUROJUST	European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation
EUROPOL	European Union Agency for Law Enforcement Cooperation
EUSPA	European Union Agency for the Space Programme
EU-UK TCA	EU and UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement
EVAL	Sysper module for the appraisal of staff
F4E	Fusion for Energy
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FAQs	Frequently Asked Questions
FCWC	Fisheries Committee of the West Central Gulf of Guinea
FFR	Framework Financial Regulation
FIUUFRA	Fighting Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fisheries Fishing Regional Academy
FLUX	Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange
FMC	Fisheries Monitoring Centre
FPV	Fisheries Patrol Vessel
FR	Financial Regulation
FRA	Fisheries Restricted Area
FRONTEX	European Border and Coast Guard Agency
FSA	Frontex Surveillance Airplanes
FTE	Full-time equivalent
FWA	Fixed Wing Aircraft
GANo	Grand African Nemo
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean
GIME	Groupe interinstitutionnel de Management environnemental
GIP	General Implementation Provisions
GNR/PT	Guarda Nacional Republicana Portugal
GOVSATCOM	European Union Governmental Satellite Communications
HR	Human Resources
IAS	Internal Audit Service
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tuna
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICF	Internal Control Framework
ICT (also IT)	Information and Communication Technology
IMS	Integrated Maritime System (former MARSURV)
INTERPOL	The International Criminal Police Organization
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing

ISMI	Institut de Sécurité Maritime Interrégional
ISMS	Information Security Management System
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
ITSC	Information Technology Steering Committee
JAD	Joint Action Day
JaDE	Joint deployment plan Activity Database
JDP	Joint Deployment Plan
JPG	Japan Coast Guard
JRC	Joint Research Centre
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LCK	Legal Commitment Kernel
LDAC	Long Distance Advisory Council
LH	Last haul
LO	Landing Obligation
LOB	Liaison Officer on board
LRIT	Long-Range Identification and Tracking
LSC	Legal Size Catch
MCRS	Minimum Conservation Reference Size
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance
MCSWG	Monitoring Control and Surveillance Working Group
MDA	Maritime Domain Awareness
MED	Mediterranean
MedAC	Mediterranean Advisory Council
MED-OSMoSIS	Mediterranean Governance for Strategic Maritime Surveillance and Safety Issues
MIPS	Mission Processing System
MMO	Multipurpose Maritime Operation
MOC	Maritime Coordination Centre
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MPV	Multipurpose Patrol Vessel
MRCC	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre
MS	Member State
MSC	Mediterranean specific campaigns
MWP	Multiannual Work Programme
NACGF	North Atlantic Coast Guard Forum
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Operation
NAFO CEM	NAFO Control and Enforcement Measures
NEAFC	Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission
NS	North Sea
NSAC	North Sea Advisory Council
NWWAC	North Western Waters Advisory Council
OA	Operational Action
OJ	Official Journal
OLAF	European Anti-Fraud Office/Office européen de lutte antifraude
OPV	Offshore Patrol Vessel
PAD	Public Access to Documents
PARA	Post-Activity Risk Assessment
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
PE21	Phoenix Express 2021
PECMAC	Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance
PELAC	Pelagic Advisory Council
PDN	Performance Development Network
PPMT	Public Procurement Management Tool
PRO	Sysper module for the reclassification of staff
PWG	Permanent Working Group
QES	Qualified Electronic Signature
R0	Assigned revenue appropriations fund source type
RA	Regulatory Area
REM	Remote Electronic Monitoring
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization

RPAS	Remotely Piloted Aircraft System
RSW	Refrigerated Sea Water
RTC	Real time closure
SAP	Systems Applications and Products
SAR	Search and Rescue
SatCen	European Union Satellite Centre
SatCom	Satellite communication
SCIP	Specific Control and Inspection Programme
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SFC	Specialised Fisheries Committee
SG	Steering Group
SGTEE	Steering Group on Training and Exchange of Experience
SI	Suspected infringements
SITREP	Situation Report
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNE	Seconded National Expert
SPD	Single Programming Document
SQF	Sectoral Qualification Framework
SQFCGF	Sectoral Qualifications Framework for Coast Guard Functions
SRFC	Subregional Fisheries Commission
STACTIC	Standing Committee on International Control
SUMMA	Financial system of the Commission
SWO	Swordfish
SWW	South West Waters
TA	Temporary Agent
TCA	Trade and Cooperation Agreement
TJDG	Technical Joint Deployment Group
TMR	Technical Measures Regulations
ToR	Terms of Reference
TSC2	Technical Subcommittee No2
TWA	Tripartite Working Arrangement
UN	Unknown
UNE/EN	Spanish Association for Standardization/European Standard
VAC	Vacancies
VCN	Virtual Coordination Network
VDS	Vessel Detection Service
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
VOO	Vessel of Opportunity
WG	Working Group
WW	Western Waters

ANNEX XII: LIST OF ISO COUNTRY CODES

Albania	AL	Ivory Coast/ Côte d'Ivoire	IC
Algeria	DZ	Japan	JP
Belgium	BE	Latvia	LV
Benin	BJ	Lebanon	LB
Bosnia and Herzegovina	BA	Liberia	LR
Bulgaria	BG	Libya	LY
Cabo Verde/Cape Verde	CV	Lithuania	LT
Canada	CA	Malta	MT
China	CN	Mauritania	MR
Congo	CG	Montenegro	ME
Croatia	HR	Morocco	MA
Cyprus	CY	Netherlands	NL
Czech Republic	CZ	Nigeria	NG
Denmark	DK	Norway	NO
Ecuador	EC	Panama	PA
Egypt	EG	Poland	PL
Estonia	EE	Portugal	PT
Faroe Islands	FO	Philippines (the)	PH
Finland	FI	Romania	RO
France	FR	Russian Federation	RU
Gambia	GM	Senegal	SN
Georgia	GE	Serbia	SR
Germany	DE	Sierra Leone	SL
Ghana	GH	Slovenia	SI
Greece	EL	Spain	ES
Greenland	GL	Sweden	SE
Guinea	GN	Syrian Arab Republic	SY
Guinea Bissau	GW	Togo	TG
Iceland	IS	Tunisia	TN
Iran	IR	Turkey	TR
Ireland	IE	Ukraine	UA
Italy	IT	United Kingdom	UK