



**DECISION No 20-W-1**  
**OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD**  
**OF THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY**  
**of 22.04.2020**  
**concerning the Annual Report of EFCA for year 2019**

## THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY

Having regard to Regulation (EU) 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 March 2019 on the European Fisheries Control Agency<sup>1</sup> (hereinafter referred to as "EFCA"), and in particular Article 32(2)(b) thereof,

Having regard to AB Decision No 19-W-5 of 29 August 2019 concerning the Financial Regulation of the European Fisheries Control Agency, and in particular Article 48 thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the Executive Director of EFCA,

### **Whereas:**

- (1) The Administrative Board shall adopt, by 30 April each year, the general report of EFCA for the previous year.
- (2) The Agency shall undertake an annual assessment of the effectiveness of each joint deployment plan, as well as an analysis, on the basis of available evidence, of the existence of a risk that fishing activities are not compliant with applicable control measures.
- (3) The authorising officer shall report to the Administrative Board on the performance of his/her duties in the form of an annual activity report and the Administrative Board shall send to the budgetary authority and the Court of Auditors an analysis and an assessment of the authorising officer's report on the previous financial year that shall be included in the annual report of EFCA.
- (4) The Administrative Board shall forward the report to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Court of Auditors and the Member States and the report shall also be made public,

HAS DECIDED AS FOLLOWS:

### *Article 1*

The Annual Report of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2019 attached in the Annex is herewith adopted.

### *Article 2*

This report shall be forwarded to the European Parliament, the Council, the Commission, the Commission Internal Audit Service, the Court of Auditors and the Member States. This report shall also be made public on the Agency's website.

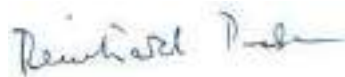
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<sup>1</sup> OJ L 83, 25.3.2019, p. 18.

*Article 3*

This decision shall take effect on the day of its adoption.

Done at Vigo on 22.04.2020

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Reinhard Priebe', is positioned above the printed name and title.

Reinhard Priebe  
Chair of the Administrative Board

## ANNEX

### **Annual Report of EFCA for year 2019**



# **EUROPEAN FISHERIES CONTROL AGENCY**

## **ANNUAL REPORT 2019**



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)<sup>1</sup>, Article 48 of the Financial Regulation (FR) of the European Fisheries Control Agency<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Official Journal (OJ) L 83, 25.3.2019, p. 18.

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



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## FOREWORD BY THE CHAIR OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD

This Annual Report describes the activities the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) has undertaken in 2019 supporting the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) and contributing to the European Coast Guard cooperation. The effective implementation of the CFP is a necessary condition for having healthy and sustainable oceans, at the heart of the EU New Green Deal. The contribution of EFCA to the European Coast Guard cooperation is important in the framework of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy.

In 2019, through the coordination of six joint deployment plans (JDPs), the legal and operational vehicles through which the Agency organises coordination and cooperation between national control and inspection activities, EFCA contributed to a culture of compliance and to the establishment of a level playing field, where all the operators are treated in the same way. This intense inspection activity saw an increase following the decision of the European Commission to widen the scope of the fisheries covered by the Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP). It was carried out without additional EFCA resources.

Moreover, EFCA contributed to the effective and uniform application of the CFP by assisting Member States Control Expert Groups, in relevant areas such as risk assessment, compliance evaluation and the implementation of the provisions of the Landing Obligation.

With regard to the international dimension of the CFP, EFCA has assisted the European Union in combatting illegal fishing and in cooperating with third countries and international organisations, including regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs), to strengthen compliance with conservation measures. In addition, through the provision of technical assistance to the five-year EU funded development project PESCAO, EFCA is contributing to the fight against illegal fishing in West Africa.

EFCA has played a key role in the areas of the Coast Guard Cooperation of Capacity Building and Risk Assessment. The important concept of Multipurpose Maritime Operations was tested in a drill and EFCA's chartered vessel has fully developed its multipurpose capacity, showing very practically the synergies the cooperation provides. In the areas of Surveillance and Communication services, Capacity Sharing and Sharing of information, EFCA has provided a supportive role.

Last but not least, I would like to thank all institutions and partners that helped EFCA to achieve its objectives. Thanks to our common effort, EFCA has fully delivered the work programme for the year 2019.



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Executive Summary by the Executive Director

In 2019, the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) implemented 99% of the Annual Work Program (AWP) adopted by the Administrative Board in the framework of the [Single Programming Document \(SPD\)](#). Implementation was aligned with a coherent budget execution of 99.9%.

The agency supported the Member States and the Commission in the implementation of the Control regime of the CFP through the coordination of the Joint Deployments Plans, the development of specific projects related to assessment of compliance with the landing obligation and new technologies such as Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) and the implementation of capacity building operations in the framework of the international dimension. The European Cooperation on Coast Guard functions, formalised by a tripartite working arrangement with EMSA and Frontex, enhanced EFCA's capacity to contribute to an effective and uniform implementation of the CFP. During 2019, the agency extended operational cooperation with EUROPOL and EUROJUST in the framework of the European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats, which include illegal fishing activities.

These achievements were possible due to the strong commitment of the EFCA staff, and highlight the value of the significant efficiency gains allowed by e-administration.

Highlights of EFCA's performance within its mandate include:

- By December 2018, the new Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP) Commission Implementing Decision introduced some new areas and species. Subsequently it was necessary to widen the scope of the Joint Deployment Plans which apply to all species subject to the landing obligation and which cover the fishing activities of the Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic, the Black Sea, Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters of the Eastern Atlantic. EFCA effectively implemented, in cooperation with the Member States, these wider scope JDPs with the same resources as the previous year.

Through the 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 enhancement of the potential of national enforcement services to apply the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy in a uniform and effective manner. In 2019, the cooperative efforts led to 32 381 coordinated inspections, an increase in comparison to 2018 (26,922), and to 1 487 suspected infringements detected, an increase in comparison to 2018 (714). Those figures show that proper inspections and their follow-up remain a crucial tool to ensure compliance with the rules of the CFP.

Following the JDPs 2018 – Cost Assessment Report, the overall cost evaluation for implementing JDPs in 2018 rose to €78,287,000 with an increase, compared to 2017, of +11%. In general, the increase in costs in 2018 was for the North Sea (NS) and the Mediterranean Sea (MS).

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.

EFCA contributed to the work of the Member States Regional Control Expert Groups (CEGs), focussing on the implementation of the Landing Obligation, in particular on the Risk Assessment and Compliance evaluation. In response to a joint request from the North Sea (Scheveningen) and North Western Waters Regional Control Expert Groups, EFCA finalised the compliance evaluation exercise focused on the landing obligation and certain key species. The evaluation was performed over the period 2015-2017 for mackerel fisheries and over 2016-2017 for North



Sea fisheries targeting cod, plaice and sole and for North-western waters (NWW) fisheries targeting haddock, hake and whiting. Similarly, in response to a request from the Baltic Sea Control Expert Group (BALTFISH), EFCA commenced a compliance evaluation exercise on the landing obligation in the Baltic Sea in 2017 and 2018. Moreover, during the second half of 2019, EFCA worked with CEGs (NS, NWW and SWW) on the development of a REM pilot project template.

During 2019 EFCA prepared, in cooperation with the Commission and Member States, for the potential impact of a no-deal Brexit on the relevant JDPs.

- In the international dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy, EFCA provided very effective assistance to the Commission to cooperate with third countries, such as Norway mainly concerning shared stocks in the North Sea, and other Coastal States, within the framework of the Coastal States MCS working groups. EFCA also assisted the Commission in the cooperation with international organisations dealing with fisheries such as Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (namely, NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT and GFCM), to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.
- In accordance with the MEDFISH4EVER Declaration, EFCA continued to cooperate with third countries in the Mediterranean to effectively promote a level playing field in the area. The JDP control activities in the Strait of Sicily were implemented in cooperation with Algeria, Tunisia and Libya. In the Black Sea, EFCA led an initiative in the framework of the interagency cooperation, in order to support Bulgarian and Romanian authorities in their fisheries control activities.

In the fight against IUU activities, EFCA assisted the European Commission with the analysis of 378 catch certificates and 122 processing statements for six third countries.

In the framework of the five-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, in a coordinated manner, using the experience gained in the EU context. A report was drafted on the review of the SRFC and the FCWC member countries' national legal frameworks related to fisheries control and enforcement.

Moreover, in the framework of PESCAO, EFCA organised three national trainings on fisheries control and inspection in the Republic of Guinea, Nigeria and The Gambia and two sub-regional courses for FMC operators were organised in Cabo Verde (for Cabo Verde and Guinea Bissau), and one in Abidjan, for Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania, Côte d'Ivoire, Benin and Togo. In addition, the SRFC organised three joint control campaigns during 2019, and EFCA supported all of them.

- EFCA used the framework of the JDPs to enhance the standardisation of inspections, in particular, last haul observation procedures during inspection at sea in all EU JDP areas. The publication of specific technical guidelines is another important milestone in EFCA's work for standardisation. Particularly, in 2019 EFCA finalised and published guidelines on Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) and, in collaboration with Member States, on risk assessment and compliance indicators.

To level the playing field, the secondment of EU inspectors to multinational inspection teams contributed to the standardisation of inspection procedures among Member States. EFCA continued the update of training materials to be used by Member States, aiming to contribute to the creation and implementation of a Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF) for the EU coast guard functions, including for fisheries control and inspection. This work included the update of the EFCA e-learning platform. Three Core Curricula e-learning courses were further translated making them more accessible. As a result, more than 1000 staff from EU and non EU countries are now registered in the EFCA e-learning platform.



- 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.

The cooperation with the two agencies further developed in the area of capacity building with EFCA coordinating the overall drafting process of the Practical Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions. Moreover, EFCA has led the process to coordinate the follow-up by the three agencies of the European Coast Guard Functions Academies Network. In the field of Risk Assessment, the three agencies developed their own risk analysis frameworks within their mandate.

- Enhanced capacity sharing with EMSA enabled the EFCA chartered Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) Lundy Sentinel to be upgraded for multipurpose missions; to carry pollution response equipment as well as a Remotely Piloted Aircraft System (RPAS). The RPAS enables boarding assessments, surveillance during boarding and post boarding analysis to be carried out remotely, thereby benefiting fisheries inspections and control. This concept can apply to other coast guard functions.
- In the framework of cooperation with the Coast Guard Fora, EFCA supported the third workshop of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF) on "Multipurpose Maritime Operations" (MMO) held in Catania, Sicily, Italy from 3 to 5 June 2019. The workshop welcomed around 90 delegates from 16 Member States, EMSA and Frontex. EFCA's Lundy Sentinel also participated in an exercise at sea called Coastex19, which tested the concept of MMO.
- EFCA contributed to the implementation of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy Action Plan through its normal activity and reported regularly on the relevant activities performed for each action.
- European law enforcement and fisheries control authorities enhanced their cooperation in combating illegal fishing activities following the organisation of a Joint Action Day (JAD) on 25 September 2019, in the framework of EMPACT (European Multidisciplinary Platform against Criminal Threats). The leader of this particular JAD was Portugal with EFCA as co-leader, teaming up EU Agencies (Europol, Eurojust and Frontex) and Member States Cyprus, Croatia, Estonia, Latvia, Malta, Italy, Portugal, Spain, law enforcement and fisheries control communities. The main objective for EFCA was to ensure the involvement of fisheries authorities in cases related with fisheries control, followed by the Law enforcement authorities, and to promote cooperation and coordination between all the competent authorities.
- EFCA's chartered OPV was operational for 308 days and provided a robust platform for fisheries inspections leading to a total of 247 inspections and 136 suspected infringements detected. The EFCA chartered OPV contributed to the implementation of JDPs in the EU sea basins by adding capacity to fisheries control operations outside the territorial waters of Member States and providing a platform to deploy multinational Member State inspection teams. This promoted transparency and a level playing field 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. Besides fisheries control tasks, EFCA's OPV was made available for multipurpose tasks in the framework of European cooperation on coast guard functions, such as search and rescue, maritime border control and pollution response operations, in cooperation with Member State authorities, Frontex and EMSA.
- EFCA's information systems enabled the collection of data from each Member State providing details of their fishing vessels, catches and other such information. Overall, EFCA was sent Electronic Reporting System-logbook data from 4564 vessels in 15 Member States and Vessel



Monitoring System (VMS) data from different vessels, throughout all Member States. The volume of VMS messages received by the EFCA VMS was 39.2 million messages.

- The intensive and long-lasting cooperation between EMSA and EFCA in integrated maritime awareness resulted in the development of the Integrated Maritime Service (IMS) application dedicated to fisheries control. By the end of 2019, there were 972 credentials issued by EFCA to IMS fisheries control users in Member States and the European Commission. In 2019 EFCA also acquired from EMSA information obtained from the Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS) Service, to support fisheries control operations.
- In 2019, EFCA continued the design of its Data Governance Framework, which will be progressively implemented.
- EFCA was also involved in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE), which aims to integrate existing surveillance systems and make networks interoperable so that data and other information can be exchanged easily through the use of modern technologies.
- Additional e-administration applications enhanced agency efficiency; the first set of basic Sysper modules for Human Resources management was made available to staff on 1 March 2019, the Advanced Gateway to your Meetings (AGM) system was implemented and a feasibility study for a budget programming tool was carried out.
- Through its Communication strategy, EFCA promotes a culture of compliance with the Common Fisheries Policy and fosters the European Union values.
- EFCA continued the implementation of the recommendations issued by the Administrative Board following the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA (period 2012-2016).

I take this opportunity to thank sincerely the EFCA staff for their great intellect, hard work and commitment, which were instrumental for accomplishing such achievements.

The present report is addressed to the Administrative Board of EFCA, the different EU institutions, the EFCA stakeholders and the general public. After the adoption of this Annual Report 2019, a publication with a summarised version will be prepared by EFCA to facilitate the communication with the EU citizens.



## ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD'S ANALYSIS AND ASSESSMENT

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 Agency<sup>3</sup>,

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) 2019-2020 and Annual work programme 2019 adopted by the Administrative Board on 10 October 2018<sup>4</sup>, as amended on 10 January 2019<sup>5</sup>,

Having regard to the comments from the Administrative Board in its meeting on 14 March 2018, the Annual Report 2019 has been streamlined following the structure of the Annual Report 2018. The activities have been grouped following the structure presented on the draft Single Programming document (PD) containing the Multiannual work programme 2020-2024 and the Annual work programme 2020,

Has analysed and assessed the Authorising Officer's (Executive Director's) Annual Report for the financial year 2019. The Administrative Board acknowledges the results achieved by EFCA and notes in particular the following:

1. The Annual Report 2019 provides a faithful and comprehensive account of the work undertaken by EFCA in 2019. It reflects the achievements of EFCA as set out in the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020 and in the Annual work programme 2019 adopted by the Administrative Board on 10 October 2018, and its subsequent amendment.

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 budget has been successfully implemented in 2019 with a 99.9% execution for commitments and 86% for payments.

EFCA received a total budget of €16.7 million, as a contribution from the General EU Budget for 2019, representing a decrease of 0.4% in respect of 2018. In addition, it received an ad-hoc grant for the Improved Regional Fisheries Governance in Western Africa (PESCAO) for a total of €2.5 million in 5 years, which granted EFCA with additional €0.5 million in 2019.

4. EFCA promotes a policy of equal treatment aiming to have an optimal gender balance among its staff, including in the management. On 31 December 2019, the overall percentage of female staff members was 46%. The percentage of female staff members excluding Seconded National Experts (SNEs) was 43%. The percentage of female staff grade AD8 (administrator's function group, grade 8) or higher was 26%.

5. With reference to the operational activities, the following facts and figures were found specifically relevant:

- six Joint Deployment Plans were successfully implemented;

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<sup>3</sup> 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

<sup>4</sup> Administrative Board Decision No 18-II-4 of the Administrative Board of the European Fisheries Control Agency of 10 October 2018 concerning the adoption of the EFCA Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020 and Annual work programme for 2019 and of the Budget and the Establishment plan of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2019

<sup>5</sup> Administrative Board Decision No 19-W-1 of the Administrative Board of the European Fisheries Control Agency of 10 January 2019 amending AB Decision No 18-II-4 of 10 October 2019 concerning the adoption of the EFCA Programming Document (PD) containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020 and the Annual work programme for year 2019 and of the Final Budget and Establishment Plan of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2019





- number of coordinated inspections (at sea and ashore) <sup>6</sup>: 32 381
  - number of suspected infringements detected during coordinated inspections<sup>7</sup>: 1 487
  - the deployment of EFCA's chartered vessel, Lundy Sentinel, provided a robust platform for fisheries inspections leading to total 247 inspections and 136 suspected infringements detected fostering transparency, exchange of knowledge and expertise and a first-hand understanding of fisheries situations in terms of compliance.
  - in collaboration with Member States Control Expert Groups, in support of the CFP and Landing Obligation (LO) implementation, EFCA has finalised an evaluation of compliance with the LO in selected fisheries in the North Sea and North Western Waters, and started a compliance evaluation in the Baltic Sea.
  - the progress made and the work carried out within the framework of cooperation on coast guard functions and the implementation of the Annual Strategic Plan, including the coordination of the drafting process of the practical Coast Guard (CG) handbook and the follow-up of the European Coast Guard Functions Academies Network project
  - 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, and supported the EU Delegations in Accra and Dakar on technical aspects;
  - EFCA organised and contributed to 30 training events; a total of 1,664 officials (EU Member States and third countries) were trained;
  - EFCA developed and published on its e-learning platform interactive modules for Union inspectors in different languages;
  - 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;
  - the availability of collaborative and data exchange tools (e.g. FISHNET).
6. EFCA committed to the application of e-Administration for optimising internal procedures, moving to paperless transaction and enhancing effectiveness.
7. EFCA implements an internal control framework applicable at all levels of management and designed to provide reasonable assurance that operations are effective and efficient and financial reporting complies with applicable laws and regulations
8. The information provided in the Annual Report 2019 gives the Administrative Board reasonable assurance that the resources available to EFCA in 2019 were used for their intended purpose and in accordance with the principles of sound financial management.

[Signed]

Reinhard Priebe

Chair of the Administrative Board

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<sup>6</sup> Provisional data base don the information provided by Member States up to 24 January 2019

<sup>7</sup> Provisional data base don the information provided by Member States up to 24 January 2019



## PART I. ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR

### 1.1 MULTIANNUAL PROGRAMME 2019-2020

In accordance with its Founding Regulation<sup>8</sup>, 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"*.

In this regard, a level playing field and coordination and assistance for better compliance are considered the wider objectives of the Agency by the Administrative Board of EFCA<sup>9</sup>.

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

- the EU priorities, namely 'A new boost for jobs, growth and investment' within the Common Fisheries Policy, and 'Towards a new policy on Migration' through the improvement of co-operation and co-ordination between national bodies and agencies carrying out coast guard functions;
- the implementation of the features of the CFP;
- 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<sup>10</sup>);
- the Roadmap on the follow-up to the Common Approach on EU decentralised agencies;
- the support to the implementation of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS)<sup>11</sup>, where the three Agencies are contributing through the implementation of the European coast guard initiative.

Moreover, in line with the Council conclusions "Towards an ever more sustainable Union by 2030"<sup>12</sup>, the Commission Communication "Next steps for a sustainable European future"<sup>13</sup> and its Reflection Paper 'Towards a Sustainable Europe by 2030'<sup>14</sup> on the follow-up to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, including on the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, and in accord with the European Union Agencies' Network (EUAN)<sup>15</sup>, EFCA closely adheres to the following Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)<sup>16</sup>:

#### 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.

<sup>8</sup> 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.

<sup>9</sup> The Administrative Board of EFCA considering EFCA's Founding Regulation and the Five Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA (2011-2015) issued a recommendation setting up as wider objectives to the Agency "the level playing field and coordination and assistance for better compliance; Recommendation adopted by the Administrative Board of EFCA on 15 March 2012, [http://www.efca.europa.eu/pages/home/docs\\_basicdocs.htm](http://www.efca.europa.eu/pages/home/docs_basicdocs.htm).

<sup>10</sup> COMMISSION DELEGATED REGULATION (EU) 2019/715 of 18 December 2018 on the framework financial regulation for the bodies set up under the TFEU and Euratom Treaty and referred to in Article 70 of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 2018/1046 of the European Parliament and of the Council, OJ L 122, 10.5.2019, p. 1–38

<sup>11</sup> Council conclusions on the revision of the European Union Maritime Security Strategy (EUMSS) Action Plan (26 June 2018), doc.10494/18

<sup>12</sup> 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>

<sup>13</sup> 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>

<sup>14</sup> European Commission, Reflection Paper Towards a sustainable Europe By 2030 [https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/commission/publications/reflection-paper-towards-sustainable-europe-2030_en)

<sup>15</sup> 2019-2020 Work Programme of the Network of EU Agencies, [https://euagencies.eu/sites/default/files/euan\\_wp\\_2019\\_2020\\_0.pdf](https://euagencies.eu/sites/default/files/euan_wp_2019_2020_0.pdf)

<sup>16</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>





#### 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 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.

In line with the comments from the Administrative Board in its meeting on 14 March 2018<sup>17</sup>, for ease of reading, the activities have been grouped following the structure presented on the Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2020-2024 and the Annual work programme 2020 (hereinafter SPD 2020).

#### ❖ Coordination and cooperation with Member States

EFCA is the European body responsible for organising operational coordination of fisheries control activities by Member States and providing assistance in that area to the Member States and the Commission.

The main methods for EFCA to assist Member States in the implementation of the control measures linked with the Common Fisheries Policy, through coordination of their efforts and promotion of cooperation, are:

- The Joint Deployment Plans<sup>18</sup>, established for fisheries/areas that are considered a priority by the European Commission and the Member States concerned. They can be referred to as:
  - EU waters to which a Specific Control and Inspection Programme<sup>19</sup> adopted by the Commission in concert with the Member States applies, or
  - International waters under the competence of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO), where EFCA is requested to coordinate the implementation of the European obligations under international control and inspection programmes.
- The PACT approach (Partnership, Accountability (compliance), Cooperation and Transparency) promotes EFCA's assistance to the Member States in accordance with Articles 7 and 16 of EFCA's Founding Regulation after a request from one or more Member States
- EFCA's assistance to Member States pursuant to Article 7 of EFCA's Founding Regulation, including through cooperation with the Member States Control Expert Groups to ensure a high level of uniform and effective fulfilment of Member States obligations under the rules of the common fisheries policy.

<sup>17</sup> Minutes of the Administrative Board meeting held on 14 March 2018, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/minutes>

<sup>18</sup> See Part 1.2.1 Operational activities.

<sup>19</sup> See Part 1.2.1 Operational activities.



## ❖ Evolution of Joint Deployment Plans

In accordance with the Multiannual Work Programme, the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA (2012-2016)<sup>20</sup> and the related recommendations issued by the Administrative Board, JDPs are implemented as year-round joint operations covering a wide range of 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 a 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 MS in accordance with the SCIP requirements. The JDP strategic planning for 2019 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 2019. This collaboration was accomplished thanks to the exchange of VMS and Electronic Reporting System data, and also 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.

The last haul inspections (LH) 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 2019 is presented in the map below.

### Last haul inspections conducted in 2019

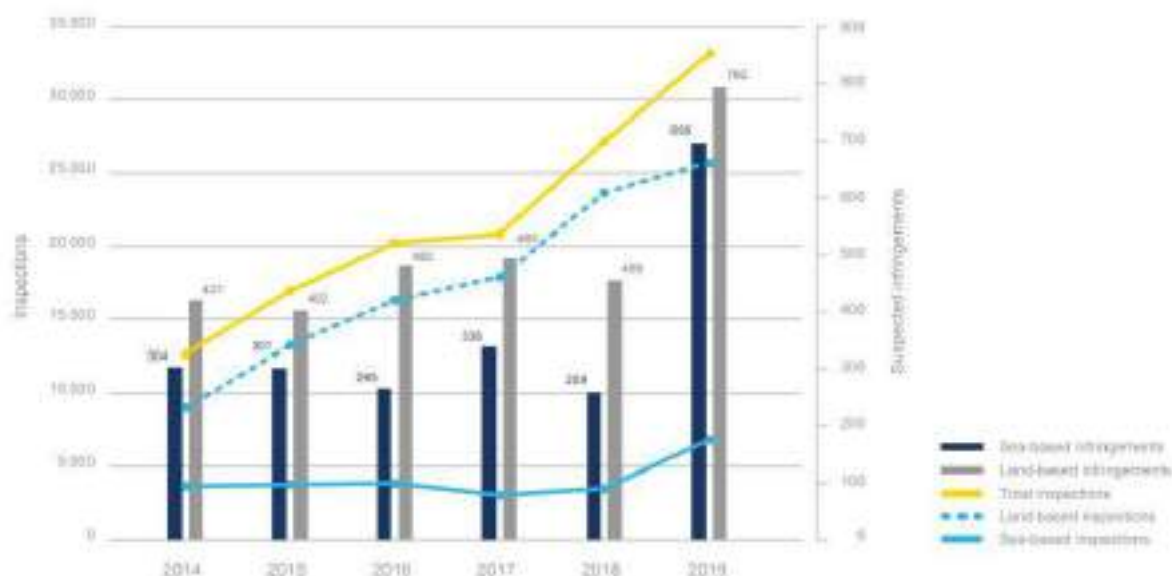


<sup>20</sup> [https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/library?f%5B0%5D=field\\_library\\_type%3A69](https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/library?f%5B0%5D=field_library_type%3A69)



As regards the graph “JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution” reported in 2019 for all JDPs, there was an increase of around 20% in the total number of inspections. The MED JDP<sup>21</sup> contributed the most to this increase, due to the wider scope of this SCIP, where new fisheries are covered since 2019, together with the Black Sea JDP as 2019 was the first year of implementation.

### JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution\*



JDPs	Inspections		Inspections with at least one suspected infringement	
	2018	2019*	2018	2019*
NORTH SEA	14 439	13 656	185	112
BALTIC SEA	4 162	4 286	65	111
NAFO & NEAFC	60	67	6	6
WESTERN WATERS	2 699	2 901	164	129
MEDITERRANEAN SEA	5 562	9 327	214	787
BLACK SEA		2 144		21
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>26 922</b>	<b>32 381</b>	<b>634</b>	<b>1 166</b>

As regards the “**Ratio of suspected infringements by inspection in the different JDP areas**”, increase of suspected infringement rate in the MED JDP, compared with previous year can be noted, partly because several new fisheries were added to this JDP. The suspected infringement rate for the BS JDP<sup>22</sup>, NS JDP<sup>23</sup>, WW JDP<sup>24</sup>, and NAFO and NEAFC JDP<sup>25</sup> is slightly different compared to the suspected infringement rate identified in 2018, but are within the same magnitude.

<sup>21</sup> Mediterranean JDP (it also covers BFT in the Eastern Atlantic).

<sup>22</sup> Baltic Sea JDP.

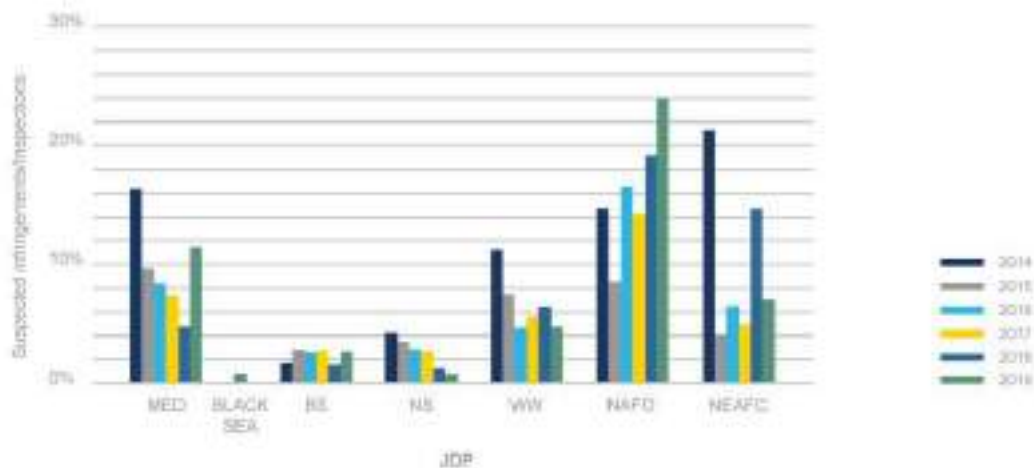
<sup>23</sup> North Sea JDP.

<sup>24</sup> Western Waters JDP.

<sup>25</sup> Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation and Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission JDP.



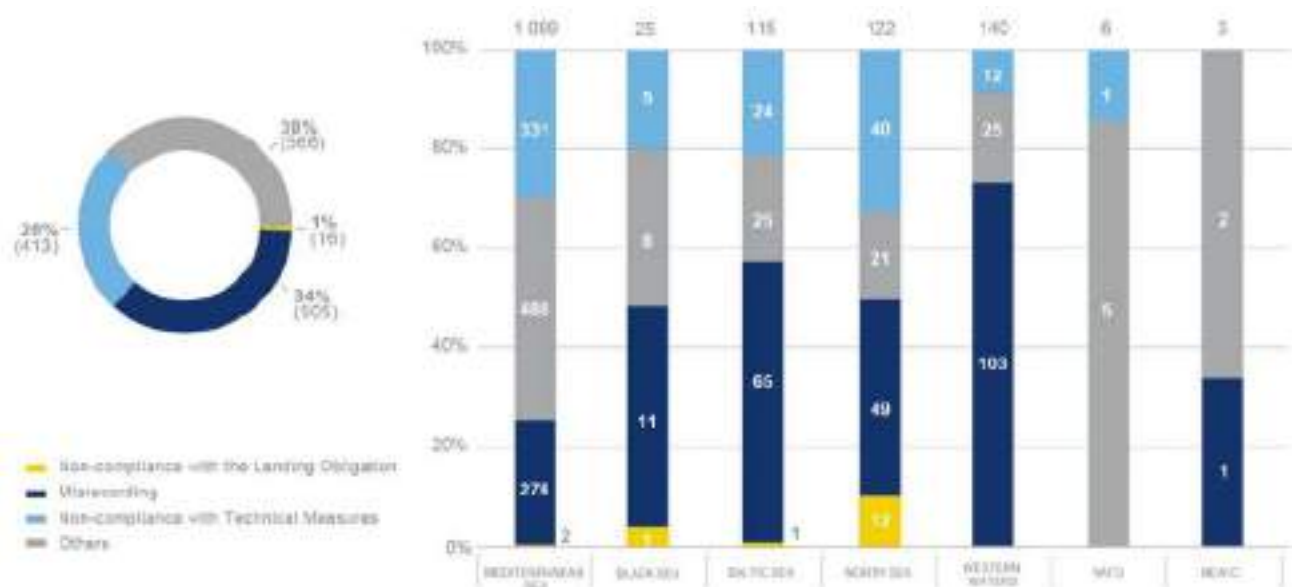
### Ratio of suspected infringements by inspection in the different JDP areas\*



\*Data available on 24 January 2020. Additional data may be received later from Member States.

A detailed analysis by type of the most significant suspected infringements found in 2019, provided below, confirms that misreporting of catches and cases related with technical measures remain the most common non-compliance issues. These are generally considered to be the main threats together with possible non-compliance with the requirements of the landing obligation, which were however very difficult to be detected. The category “Others” encompasses a very diverse suspected infringements type that are not related with the previous categories. In 2019, the suspected infringements related with misrecording were more than 40% of the total number of detected suspected infringements in the Baltic Sea, Black Sea, North Sea and Western Waters JDPs. Details of the suspected infringement are presented Annex IV for each JDP.

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



\*Data available on 24 January 2020. Additional data may be received later from Member States.



## ❖ Strategic multiannual objectives

The table below presents EFCA's **strategic multiannual objectives**<sup>26</sup> and the progress made towards their fulfilment.

STRATEGIC MULTIANNUAL OBJECTIVES	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	STATE OF PLAY END 2019 <sup>27</sup>		TARGET BY 2024
1. To evaluate and to contribute to enhancing the level of compliance by JDP, and propose measures for improvement in cooperation with Member States and COM <sup>28</sup>	Evolution of compliance levels	NS	6%↓	Compliance levels evaluated by JDP
		BS	3%→	
		NAFO & NEAFC	NAFO 24%↑ NEAFC 7%↓	
		WW	7%↑	
		MED	14%↓	
		Black Sea	7%	
2. Standardised methodology used for inspection activities	Standard inspection methodologies adopted	6		One methodology per JDP
3. Cooperation provided to fight against IUU fishing at international level	Support provided by EFCA on request of the European Commission at international level	100%		100%
4. Contribute to achieve a Level Playing Field through Capacity Building tools	Number of officials trained by EFCA, including by e-learning	1664		1000 (per year)
5. Support to National authorities in coast guard functions	Number of JDPs with multipurpose operations organised	3		5
6. Improve EFCA working practices	Number of Administrative Board recommendations following the Five-year independent external evaluation of EFCA (2012-2016) implemented or ongoing <sup>29</sup>	10 <sup>30</sup>		10 out of 11 <sup>31</sup> (2021)

<sup>26</sup> Information on the Strategic multiannual objectives 2019-2020 is provided under Annex I.

<sup>27</sup> Data available on 24 January 2020.

<sup>28</sup> Values presented correspond to the infringement ratio of sea inspections in 2019. The symbols “→”, “↓”, and “↑” denote an equal, a decrease or an increase respectively, of the infringement ratio of sea inspection in 2019 in relation to the average infringement ratio of sea inspections in 2014-2018.

<sup>29</sup> Five-Year Independent External Evaluation Report of EFCA and the Administrative Board recommendations: <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

<sup>30</sup> Due to their ongoing nature, the recommendations are continuously implemented.

<sup>31</sup> Performance indicator and target to be updated in 2022 when the new recommendations might be adopted.



## 1.2 ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2019

In line with the Framework Financial Regulation and EFCA's Financial Regulation provisions on annual and multiannual programming, the Annual work programme 2019 has been the third annual programme adopted following the Commission guidelines and template for the programming document<sup>32</sup>.

Following the comments from the Administrative Board in its meeting on 14 March 2018, the Annual Report 2019 has been streamlined. It mirrors the structure of the SPD 2020 and embeds the requirements laid down in the Commission guidelines and template for the Consolidated Annual Activity Report.

The correspondence between the annual objectives in 2019 and 2020 is presented under Annex II. Detailed information related to 2019 execution in terms of multiannual and annual performance indicator results, budget and activity based management system (ABMS) execution, and staff is provided under Annexes I, III, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX and XIV.

In line with the aforementioned approach, the reporting of the operational activities has been grouped into four areas in accordance with the SPD 2020 structure, and the correspondence with the Annual work programme 2019 is presented below:

Annual Work Programme 2019	Annual Report 2019 (SPD 2020)		
1.1. Coordination	1. JDPs, Operational Plans and Pilot projects	Operational Activities	ABMS
1.2. Planning and evaluation	2. Risk assessment and data analysis		
1.3. Assistance and expertise	3. International dimension: compliance with international provisions		
	4. Coast Guard and Capacity building		

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

### 1.2.1 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

#### ❖ Introduction

EFCA operational activities are the corner stone of the Agency. They are constructed based on the Specific Control and Inspection Programme Decision and International Control and Inspection Programmes, and implemented on an annual basis in the form of Joint Deployment Plans, in all the EU waters and International waters of the Mediterranean and North Atlantic, as regards the fisheries that are considered a priority by the European Commission and Member States.

<sup>32</sup> <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/3/2014/EN/3-2014-9641-EN-F1-1-ANNEX-1.PDF> and <https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/3/2014/EN/3-2014-9641-EN-F1-1.PDF>



### WHAT IS A SCIP?

The Specific Control and Inspection Programme is a Commission Implementing Decision that has a legal basis in Article 95 of the Control Regulation, and that provides the legal basis for the Joint Deployment Plans. For the fisheries that are covered by the SCIP, 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 SCIP and JDPs for 2019 applied to the areas identified in the Annexes of the Commission Implementing Decision 2018/1986 of 13 December 2018:

- Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic<sup>33</sup>
- Black Sea
- Baltic Sea
- North Sea
- Western Waters of the Eastern Atlantic

In December 2018, the European Commission adopted a new SCIP<sup>34</sup>, common to all areas. A common specific control and inspection programme allows a simplified adoption and ensures a more holistic and consistent implementation of control activities at Union level. Although based on common elements applicable to all areas, the new SCIP contains annexes with regional components and details. In parallel, EFCA drafted new JDP Decisions for all the different regions. Importantly, the new SCIP Decisions introduced some new areas and fisheries, i.e.:

- Fisheries in the Mediterranean Sea subject to management measures in the scope of the GFCM.
- Black Sea fisheries.
- Recreational fisheries for cod in the Western Baltic Sea.
- Demersal fisheries in the Western Waters of the Eastern Atlantic.
- Fisheries for eel in the Union waters (excluding rivers and inland waters).
- All fisheries for species under the landing obligation in all EU waters.

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<sup>33</sup> Only Bluefin tuna fisheries (BFT) in the Eastern Atlantic.

<sup>34</sup> 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).





## 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:

#### Planning:

The planning of the deployment of fisheries control means at sea, in the air and ashore is based on the 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.

#### 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, targeted inspections and collection of inspection 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 in Vigo.

#### 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.

During 2019, specific attention was given to uplift JDP operational performance in the EU and international waters, in close cooperation with Member States, and in some cases with the support of other EU Agencies, third countries and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations.

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

It has to be noted that the Agency was able to offer the sharing of its operational capacity (e.g. Offshore Patrol Vessel Lundy Sentinel) also with other EU Agencies such as EMSA (i.e. cooperation in relation to oil pollution response (Vessel of Opportunity (VOO)) during its operational activities, as well as to receive support from other EU Agencies such as Frontex, related to increased fisheries surveillance, especially in the Mediterranean Sea (e.g. air surveillance).





In line with its mandate, during the JDPs, EFCA was fully committed to promoting the highest common standards amongst all parties involved for control, inspection and surveillance under the Common Fisheries Policy.

### JDP Assessment Reports

In line with its Founding Regulation, EFCA assesses annually the effectiveness of each JDP. The assessment reports prepared in 2019 encompassed all facts and figures of the JDPs, including an analysis of the execution of the Member States commitments of means, inspector exchanges at sea, ashore and in the coordination centre, 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 Actions implemented under the JDPs as part of the mitigation measures.
- Detailed information on specific fisheries control campaigns.
- Trainings and their impact.
- Inspections on vessels that are on the regional target vessels lists, provided by the flag Member States.
- Trends in suspected infringements.

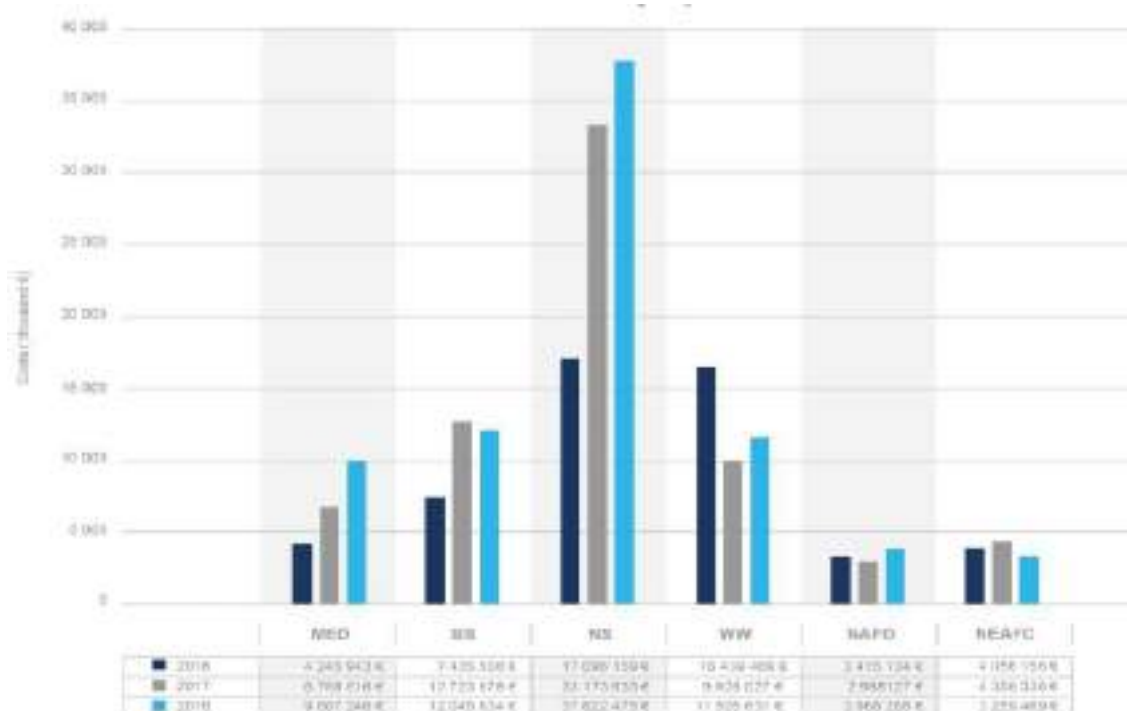
The assessment reports provide conclusions and important recommendations for developing the JDP framework further, or for ensuring continuity where activities already have a desired output and outcome.

The JDP assessment reports for 2019 were provided to the Commission, Member States and the European Parliament.

### Cost Evaluation

In 2019, EFCA conducted the 6th assessment of JDP costs supported in 2018. 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.

**JDP total costs during the period 2016-2018**





### Control effort deployed in the different JDPs for 2016, 2017, 2018





The global cost of the JDPs, considering MS and EFCA cost, has increased from €52,688 k in 2016 to €69,928 k in 2017 (+33%) and to €78,287 k in 2018 (+11%). The main increase in 2018 is for the North Sea and the Mediterranean Sea: around €4,400 k (+12%) and €3,100 k (+32%) respectively, mainly related with an increased effort at sea. An increase of costs of around €1,000 k (+25%) is also estimated for NAFO and of around €1,600 k (14%) for the Western Waters JDP. For the Baltic Sea and NEAFC in 2018 there was a slight decrease of €700 k (-6%) and €1,100 k (-34%) respectively. The control effort of the Baltic Sea, NAFO and NEAFC was similar over the last three years. The control effort increased in the North Sea because of increased effort at sea and in the WW because of increased effort in air-based means.

### 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 2019 no such requests were made as all activities were managed under the JDP scheme.

### Implementation of Joint Deployment Plans





### 1.2.1.1. JOINT DEPLOYMENT PLANS, OPERATIONAL PLANS AND PILOT PROJECTS (OBJECTIVES 1-2)

#### OBJECTIVE 1

#### Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the Commission in EU Waters and North Atlantic

##### Results

1. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the North Sea, Baltic Sea, Western Waters and NAFO / NEAFC areas
2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member states
3. Support to the EU in relation to RFMOs and third countries in the North Atlantic
4. Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation

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

##### North Sea, Baltic Sea and Western Waters areas

In 2019, EFCA continued coordinating three JDPs in EU waters, namely in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters areas. These three JDPs were implemented through joint campaigns in accordance with the plan adopted by the respective Steering Groups (SG). EFCA organised two meetings for each SG and two joint SG meetings. At the latter meetings, common aspects to the three regions were discussed. The agenda of each SG meeting is comprehensive; fixed items include discussion on the JDP assessment at the meeting in May, and discussion on JDP planning for the following year at the meeting in September.

Additional meetings involving the North Sea and the Western Waters SGs were organized by EFCA on BREXIT preparedness. These are not included in the overview below and are further detailed under 4. *Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation.*

##### EFCA Steering Group meetings

<b>14-16 May</b>	Paris, FR	SG meetings: Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters and SG Joint meeting
<b>10-12 September</b>	Vigo, ES	SG meetings: Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters and Joint SG meeting

As in the previous years, the organisational arrangements of the joint campaign coordination were based on the permanent exchange of operational information, coordinated deployment of control assets, planned exchanges of inspectors at sea and in landing ports.

The coordination of the implementation of the control activities was carried out by the respective Technical Joint Deployment Groups (TJDGs) with the involvement of national coordination centers on a day-to-day basis. The TJDGs maintained regular contact through FISHNET conferences for short-term planning of the deployment of control assets to address current risks in fisheries covered by the scope of relevant JDPs.



In 2019, the Member States concerned agreed to temporarily carry out the coordination of control activities from the EFCA premises in Vigo, with the aim of facilitating more effective collaboration of control services during the period of some specific actions.

To ensure that the priority is given to the control of fisheries with the highest risks, as identified in the results of the regional risk analysis, the joint control activities were periodically coordinated in the context of specific actions. In accordance with the risk treatment measures proposed by the respective SG, 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.

The SGs proposed in total 29 specific actions to be implemented in the framework of three JDPs, 7 specific actions in the Baltic Sea area during 49 weeks, 8 in the North Sea area during 58 weeks, and 14 in the Western Waters during 101 weeks. The TJDGs implemented all of the 29 planned specific actions.

The implementation of specific actions 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 some risk treatment measures.

As regards the deployment of control assets for the JDPs in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters areas, it should be highlighted that in general the Member States complied with the commitment as agreed in the respective JDPs decisions. In addition, the Member States continued reporting executed sea days by their patrol vessels and air surveillance flights beyond the agreed minimum commitments for sea and air borne operations. Similarly, as reported in the previous years, the execution of exchanges of inspectors faced some difficulties in North Sea and Western Waters JDPs, as regards the availability of inspectors. The deployment of EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel contributed to the improvement in 2019 of the execution rate for the exchanges of inspectors. Most of the Member States ensured the availability of their inspectors in the joint inspection teams during the Lundy Sentinel missions in the JDPs in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters areas.

The implementation of JDPs follows a risk based approach. For the Baltic Sea JDP, Western Waters JDP, and in the North Sea JDP, the percentage of sea inspections conducted in 2019 on the fleet segments of higher risk level was around or higher than 60%. For the North Sea JDP, there was a fleet segment ranked with medium risk that was subject to considerable inspection effort.

From 27 May to 7 June, EFCA, within the scope of the interagency cooperation with Frontex, was associated to one multipurpose operation "Baltic Tracking" implemented under the umbrella of the Baltic Sea Region Border Control Cooperation (BSRBCC) framework in the Baltic Sea area led by Denmark.

### *Standardisation*

In 2019 EFCA used the framework of the JDPs to enhance the standardisation of inspections, in particular through last haul observation procedures during inspection at sea in all EU JDP areas and the sampling procedure for unsorted pelagic landings in the Baltic Sea area, according to guidelines previously developed by EFCA in collaboration with Baltic Sea Member States. These two standardisation aspects were addressed through the regional training organised for EU inspectors and during relevant specific actions. Also, concerning the last haul observation procedure of sea inspections, EFCA developed updated versions of the forms to record the information. The basic format of the forms are identical in all JDP areas, with additional information adapted to the LO specificities (e.g., species and exemptions) of each area.

The guidelines on [Remote Electronic Monitoring](#) (REM) finalised in 2019 are a step forward in the standardisation of procedures for Member States when implementing REM programmes. Moreover, EFCA finalised the guidelines developed in collaboration with Members States on risk assessment and



on compliance indicators. The guidelines are publically available on the EFCA website. Further details on the updating process of these guidelines are available on section 1.2.1.2.

### *Compliance*

The JDPs are key instruments to collect inspection data to assess compliance. In 2019, EFCA conducted several initiatives mainly related with estimation of compliance with the Landings Obligation and recording of species catches.

## **NAFO-NEAFC**

The European Union continued to be committed to an inspection presence in the NAFO and NEAFC Regulatory Areas, based upon the number of EU fishing vessels operating in these areas. EFCA continued to coordinate the implementation of control operations in the NAFO and NEAFC areas by discussing with the relevant Member States the deployment of control assets, including sea patrols, air surveillance, and NAFO inspectors aboard of patrol vessels and in mixed teams ashore. The participating Member States coordinated efficiently the deployment of their control assets as agreed in the respective JDP decision.

EFCA's coordinators participated in 5 sea-going missions aboard of the patrol vessels of 3 Member States in NAFO and NEAFC areas. In total, EFCA coordinated 116 days of sea missions in NAFO and NEAFC areas directly from Member States patrol vessels. In 2019, Member States decided not to deploy mixed teams for inspections of fishing vessels landing NAFO captures in EU ports. EFCA was required to provide a coordinator to cover one exchange of NEAFC inspectors that was cancelled by one Member State. The availability of NAFO inspectors for sea going mission by Member States continued to be limited in 2019. Two NAFO missions were covered partially either by trainees or inspectors that did not participate to the EFCA training for NAFO inspectors.

### *NAFO mixed team provisions*

Following on from detailed discussions held during the NAFO/NEAFC Steering Group meeting in November 2017, EFCA continue the work on the development of standard procedures and templates to be implemented during the application of mixed team inspections of vessels returning from NAFO.

## **2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States**

The collaboration was additionally enhanced by the establishment of joint coordination teams in the EFCA premises in Vigo. In 2019, there were six joint coordination teams working in EFCA. In total, eleven Member States deployed nineteen experts for 116 man-days. Some experts were deployed in two joint coordination teams working simultaneously. Thirteen experts worked in two joint coordination teams established in the framework of the BS JDP. Four experts worked in three joint team coordinating joint control operations in the framework of the North Sea JDP. There were two joint coordination teams established for Western Waters JDP supported by four MS experts. The feedback received from the appointed experts confirmed that their work in the EFCA Coordination Centre offered better results than when maintaining only regular contact through TJDG conferences in FISHNET without visiting EFCA.

With regards to sharing information on priority targets for inspections, 13 Member States exchanged information on 1,261 fishing vessels as possible targets in 2019. This information was provided to inspection teams working in the framework of the JDPs in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters areas. Based on this information 469 fishing vessels were inspected as targets, and 257 suspected infringements were reported to be found. Both, the number of targeted inspections and reported infringements confirmed that the regional target list improved the effectiveness of the inspections. The infringement ratio for targeted inspections is higher than the infringement ratio for inspections not driven by risk analysis results (5.3% on targets against 1.7% on non-targets).





### **Assistance and expertise to the TJDG for sharing and analysing available information for the coordination and implementation of JDPs**

EFCA continued to provide its assistance and expertise to the TJDG regarding sharing and analysing the available information for the coordination and implementation of joint control operations. In collaboration with the TJDG, EFCA reviewed the procedure regarding the planning of deployment of control assets. It was agreed that the planning exercise should take into account the schedule of specific actions and the priority threats highlighted by the respective steering groups. The procedure facilitated the identification of Member States and their required level of involvement in terms of joint operations. A similar procedure, based on the analysis of risks and priorities, was used with good results for the planning of activities by the EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel.

### **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 continued to organise regional workshops and best practice meetings for Union inspectors, inspectors and Member States staff. In 2019, 47 EU inspectors from 11 MS attended three regional trainings organised for them working in the framework of BS, NS and WW JDP respectively. These trainings focused mainly on the practical implementation of the harmonised last haul procedures in the context of the landing obligation, and tasks to ensure an effective execution of the planned specific actions at inspector's level. Special attention was drawn to the importance of targeted inspections.

EFCA also organised a workshop for NAFO and another for NEAFC inspectors. In total, 53 inspectors from 10 Member States attended in Vigo, ES. The main purpose of these trainings was to review the relevant legislation and prepare inspectors to work in joint and mixed teams. In 2019, EFCA organised also a special briefing with elements of training for inspectors from 2 MS participating in a sea going mission in the NAFO area.

In addition, EFCA assisted in providing a national training session for 17 IE inspectors working in NEAFC area, and organised one workshop for MS staff in PT on the implementation of ACTREP.

## **3. Support to the EU in relation to RFMOs and third countries in the North Atlantic**

### **NAFO – NEAFC technical Support to the European Commission**

During 2019, within the EFCA sphere of competence and drawing upon professional experience, EFCA provided technical support to DG MARE on NAFO matters and attended three meetings; the Editorial Drafting Group (EDG) of the NAFO Control and Enforcement Measures (NAFO CEM) meeting (Montreal, March 2019), the Standing Committee on International Control (STACTIC) intersessional meeting (Lisbon, May 2019) and the 41<sup>st</sup> NAFO Annual Meeting (Bordeaux, September 2019). The role of EFCA was to participate and support the Commission and Member States with regards to formulating and analysing proposals for NAFO CEM amendments.

In the context of the JDP, EFCA continued to contribute to the standardised assessment of risk for NAFO vessels landing in the ports of Member States; performed by the flag Member State or by EFCA for the vessels of other Contracting Parties. In 2019, EFCA finalized the work regarding the post-activity risk assessment criteria, and provided assistance in its implementation when requested by the Member States. EFCA, also developed documents (fact sheets) for each NAFO subdivision, and target species, with information on current legislation in force, average catch composition and status of the exploited stocks.

In collaboration with the Member States, EFCA prepared a template (vessels profile sheet) with key information of vessels operating in the NAFO Regulatory Areas (NAFO RA). The aim of these documents, the fact sheets and the post activity risk assessment is to provide consistent support to assist the inspection of landings.



### *NAFO Inspectors workshop*

In 2019, EU hosted the annual NAFO inspectors' workshop, which this year was extended to all NAFO Contracting Parties (CPs) and attended by the EU (COM, EFCA, DE, EE, ES, LT and PT), Canada, USA, Faroes Islands, Greenland and NAFO Secretariat. The workshop was held in Horta, Faial Island, Azores, PT, from 30 October to 1 November. The agenda was developed bilaterally between EFCA and the competent Canadian authorities, in consultation with active NAFO inspectors and other CPs. In addition to an in-depth discussion on the NAFO Conservation and Enforcement Measures (CEM), some of the most relevant topics addressed were:

- Recent apparent infringement cases
- Observations/warnings given for masters of fishing vessels
- Stowage plans
- Observer reports and their compliance
- Vessel pre-inspection risk assessment at sea and in port
- Use of new inspection technologies
- Harmonised sea and port inspection procedures
- Stowage/density factors
- Joint inspections at sea and participation of control experts in port inspection in another CP
- Compliance Review.

### *NEAFC*

EFCA attended the NEAFC Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance (PECMAC) meetings (first on 24-25 April and another on 17-18 September both in London, UK) and the NEAFC Annual Meeting (12-15 November, in London, UK). In the margins of the NEAFC Annual meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> November, an additional PECMAC meeting was held, also attended by EFCA. The role of EFCA was to participate and support the Commission and Member States with regards to formulating recommendations and analysing proposed NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement amendments and NEAFC Recommendations on management of fisheries resources. This involved assisting the Commission in its preparation for the PECMAC meetings and providing technical support during the meetings. EFCA also coordinated the preparation of the NEAFC Annual Report on control activities, by collating Member States data and presenting the report at the PECMAC spring meeting. The outputs from the PECMAC meetings also fed into the NEAFC JDP, where Member States were informed of changes to the NEAFC Scheme of Control and Enforcement. This is important in order to maintain a level playing field within Europe and deliver a high level of control in European ports and in the Member States Fisheries Monitoring Centres.

In 2019 one of the main objectives through PECMAC was to continue to adopt the basis for an ERS system where contracting parties shall report their ERS directly to the NEAFC Secretariat through Fisheries Language for Universal exchange (FLUX). This is a very important element as the EU shall lead this process and be the first CP to exchange ERS data with the NEAFC Secretariat.

### **Coastal States Monitoring Control and Surveillance Working Group (MCSWG) for pelagic stocks**

EFCA participated in the MCSWG formed under the remit of the Coastal States (CS) mackerel arrangement agreed by the EU, FO and NO, which also counted participation of control experts from IS and GL.

The mandate of the group concerns small pelagic fisheries in the North East Atlantic, with tasks aiming at producing recommendation on measures to improve control of these fisheries to promote a level playing field across Coastal States.

The MCSWG's activity covered 2018 and 2019. In 2019, there were two meetings, the first in Brussels (BE) on 5 - 6 March and a further one in Skagen (DK) on 10-12 September. EFCA provided expertise and support to the EU delegation, also acting as rapporteur in both cases. The final report delivered by





the MCSWG based the dedicated Coastal States Consultation on control measures for pelagic stocks that took place in January 2020.

#### **EU-Norway MCSWG on demersal species and herring in the North Sea and bilateral cooperation**

In the 2018 EU-Norway consultations, the Parties agreed to establish a dedicated MCSWG regarding the joint demersal stocks and herring in the North Sea, with a work plan covering 2019-2020. A first meeting took place on 25-26 June 2019 hosted by the EU and organised by EFCA in Vigo where the parties detailed the practices in both the EU and Norway regarding inspections at sea and ashore, as well as the risk assessment methodologies in place. A report outlining the practices as presented with a section highlighting the similarities / differences was produced as an output.

The tasks of the MCSWG covered exchanges of inspectors through seagoing fact finding missions, including also a mission on board the Norway's PV Bergen where one staff from EFCA and an EU Inspector (BE) were present from 14<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November. The mission allowed the EU to better understand the operational practices at sea from NO, including the participation in boardings at sea as observers. A report has been produced which along with the seminar report shall form the basis for the further work outlined in the TOR of the group.

As part of the EU-Norway bilateral cooperation, a Joint Operational Seminar EU-NO for control practitioners is organised every two years. The 2019 edition was hosted by Norway in Ålesund on 11<sup>th</sup> -14<sup>th</sup> June, with participation of experts also from GL, FO and IS. The seminar focused on the control of landing obligation as the main topic. EFCA's participation supported the EU delegation and contributed to the discussions with operational expertise and presentations on a number of topics, notably on risk assessment, compliance evaluation and new technologies.

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

##### **Compliance Evaluation**

In response to a joint request from the North Sea (Scheveningen) and North Western Waters Control Expert Groups, EFCA finalised the compliance evaluation exercise focused on the landing obligation and certain key species, for the time-series 2015 – 2017. Final drafts were presented to the respective CEGs at a joint meeting in Paris, 27-28 February 2019. The recommendations received at this meeting were addressed by EFCA and a final version circulated and discussed in a dedicated meeting in Vigo, 27-28 June 2019. The final evaluation reports were endorsed by the CEGs in the meeting in Brussels, 28-29 August, and adopted by the Scheveningen and North Western Waters High Level Groups. The High Level Groups endorsed to publish the results of this evaluation in the form of executive summaries on the [EFCA website](#). More details can be found under *Objective 1, Result 4. Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation*.

Similarly, in response to a request from the Baltic Sea Control Expert Group, EFCA initiated a compliance evaluation exercise focused on the landing obligation for the species subject to the landing obligation in the Baltic Sea in 2017 and 2018. The evaluation of compliance being conducted follows a similar exercise as the one previously conducted for the same area for the years 2015 and 2016. The first draft report of this evaluation was presented to the BALTFISH CEG in a meeting in Helsinki on 6-7 November 2019. The methods applied are the same as those previously used for the above mentioned evaluation of the North Sea and Western Waters. More details can be found under Objective 1.4. Assistance to Member States, Regional Bodies and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation.



## Preparing for BREXIT scenarios

The new JDP decisions adopted in December 2018 included a clause on BREXIT stating that the decision continues to apply to the UK, until it ceases to be a Member State of the European Union. Whereas the planning of inspection means normally provides for a minimum commitment of a year from each Member State, the UK's commitment was complemented with a clause for a 'maximum commitment' for the first quarter, taking into account the possibility that the UK would leave the EU by the 29 March.

During 2019, EFCA took actions in cooperation with the Commission and concerned Member States, to actively prepare for the potential impact of a no-deal BREXIT scenario on the joint inspection and surveillance activities, specifically in the regions of the North Sea and the Western Waters. For that purpose, EFCA organised a series of meetings in cooperation with the concerned Member States and the Commission to improve preparedness for scenarios related to a no-deal BREXIT. A risk assessment exercise was conducted where the main threats and areas were identified, and consequently, the adequate mitigation measures needed in terms of inspection effort to address the risk of non-compliance resulting from BREXIT. The scenario analysed also accounted for the UK becoming a third country and the landings of UK vessels into EU ports would fall within the scope of the IUU Regulation.

These contingency measures for a no-deal BREXIT scenario were laid down in an operational plan, which would be added to the JDPs for the North Sea and the Western Waters, by way of an amendment of the JDP decisions.

Towards the end of the year, EFCA also took actions in cooperation with the Commission and Member States to prepare for a possible scenario of BREXIT with a withdrawal agreement in place. EFCA analysed the Withdrawal Agreement, for its potential impact on the work of EFCA in general and the governance of the JDPs in particular, and engaged with the Member States for an exchange of views on this. In the meantime, also the readiness for a no-deal BREXIT scenario remained in place.

Five meetings took place to address possible BREXIT scenarios and respective EFCA preparedness: three meetings in the first quarter of 2019, one in September and a last one in December.

## Support to the regional Control Expert Groups

As in previous years, EFCA provided assistance to the Member States regional Control Expert Groups.

The CEG meetings coordinated by EFCA during 2019 is summarised in the table below:

CEG Meeting	Date	Venue
<b>BALTFISH</b>	17 Jan	Copenhagen
<b>Scheveningen, NWW, SWW and Joint CEG</b>	21-22 Feb	Hamburg
<b>BALTFISH</b>	19 Sep	Gothenburg
<b>Scheveningen, NWW and Joint CEG</b>	30-31 Oct	Utrecht

EFCA cooperated with the CEGs of the main regional bodies created in the framework of regionalisation, such as BALTFISH, Scheveningen, NWW and SWW CEGs.

The areas of cooperation continued to be mainly about the implementation of the LO, in particular:

- **Risk Assessment** was conducted as in previous years both in the JDP and CEGs scope combined (detailed information on the outcome of these exercises is provided under objective 3). The methodology developed by EFCA in collaboration with the Member States has been reviewed and used for these analyses.



- **Compliance evaluation** was finalised for NS and NWW areas for selected species identified by the CEGs. As agreed at the joint CEG meetings, EFCA prepared three separate landing obligation compliance evaluation reports:
  - o Demersal species in the NS (cod, sole and plaice), 2016-2017.
  - o Demersal species in NWW (hake, haddock and whiting), 2016-2017.
  - o Pelagic in both areas (mackerel), 2015-2017.

The reports were presented to the relevant CEGs in June 2019.

Also, in 2019, EFCA prepared a draft compliance evaluation for the Baltic Sea species subject to the landing obligation in 2017 and 2018. EFCA presented the draft to BALTFISH in Helsinki on 6-7 November 2019 and comments received will be incorporated in the final version due by early 2020.

### Remote Electronic Monitoring Technical Working Group

To ensure a level playing field in the LO implementation across EU waters, EFCA, at the request of the CEGs and the Commission, set up a Technical Working Group (TWG) to work on the definition of Remote Electronic Monitoring systems requirements and technical guidelines to monitor the implementation of the LO. The REM Technical Working Group was tasked with developing generic technical guidelines, which could then be applicable to the different fisheries according to the characteristics of the fleets. This group was of a strictly technical nature and did not deal with the questions on whether REM/CCTV (closed circuit television) is an appropriate control tool, or on which vessels these systems need to be installed, or the legal framework for the implementation of these systems.

Through the REM Technical Working Group, a smaller drafting committee of volunteer Member States, supported by an external REM expert contracted by EFCA, was created to work on the draft generic technical guidelines. The work conducted in 2019 is a follow-up of the activities initiated in 2018. During 2019 there was one extra meeting of the drafting committee with the participation of invited experts of REM providers to get some specialised feedback on the final draft of the Technical Guidelines. There was also one final meeting of the plenary REM Technical Working Group to validate the final version before presentation to the EFCA Administrative Board.

Meetings and progress of the REM Technical Working Group during 2019 are summarised in the table below.

Meeting	Date	Place	Outcome
<b>Drafting Committee</b>	7-8 Feb 2019	Hamburg	Revise final draft and get technical feedback from some operators participating in Member States trials
<b>REM Technical Working Group Plenary</b>	20 Mar 2019	Barcelona	Validation of final version for presentation to the EFCA Administrative Board
<b>EFCA Administrative Board</b>	9-10 Apr 2019	Vigo	Presentation of the final version at EFCA Administrative Board Discussion on the way forward

The final version of the “Technical guidelines and specifications for the implementation of REM in EU fisheries” was adopted by the EFCA Administrative Board in a dedicated Seminar on future control challenges on 9 April 2019, and published on the [EFCA website](#) shortly after. The REM Technical Working Group remained dormant since while discussions on the way forward on REM approaches took place in the CEG framework.



## REM regional pilot project

During the second half of 2019 EFCA worked with CEGs (NS, NWW and SWW) on the development of a REM pilot project template. In October 2019 the High Level Group of Scheveningen revised the template and endorsed that the Scheveningen CEG supported by EFCA could continue preparing a joint regional pilot project on REM. On 5 December 2019 EFCA discussed an advance project plan with the CEG, including proposed fisheries to be covered by the project, criteria for the selection of fisheries segments and criteria for the selection of vessels within those segments. This work will be continued in 2020 including the reactivation of the REM Technical Working Group for the coordination of the project design and implementation.

### OBJECTIVE 2

#### Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the Commission in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas

##### Results

1. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea areas
2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States
3. Support to the EU in relation to RFMOs and third countries in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas
4. Assistance to Member States, including to Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in the implementation of the CFP, including the landing obligation

#### 1. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea areas

In 2019 both JDPs were implemented in accordance with the plan adopted by the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Steering Group and Black Sea Steering Group. Since 2019, the Mediterranean Sea JDP has been extended to the new species added (e.g. European hake, deep sea shrimps) and species under landing obligation in the Mediterranean Sea. As regards Black Sea, EFCA established a JDP to implement the new SCIP where applicable to this area. The provisions of the new SCIP for both areas were taken into consideration in the Regional Risk Assessment exercises for 2020.

In order to improve compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness EFCA ensured interaction with Member States on operational matters through permanent exchange of information within the TJDG, including information received from third countries' vessels operating in international waters, and guaranteeing the efficient deployment of control means at the right place and at the right time during the JDP implementation.

The tables below detail the Steering Groups meetings for the Mediterranean and for Black Sea for 2019:

EFCA Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Steering Group meetings	
Date	Place
17 January 2019	Brussels
20 March 2019	Brussels
28 May 2019	Madrid
25 September 2019	Madrid



### EFCA Black Sea Steering Group meetings

Date	Place
17 January 2019	Brussels
24 September 2019	Brussels

A continuous effort has been maintained in order to ensure smooth operational implementation of the respective activities. The coordination of the implementation of the control activities was carried out by the respective TJDG with the close and direct involvement of the respective MS fisheries control authorities. TJDG meetings were arranged by EFCA, and regular contact was ensured via FISHNET video conferences to discuss matters within the scope of the relevant JDPs.

2019 was an intense year for EFCA, due to the increase of the scope of the MED JDP and the new Black Sea JDP. The efforts of EFCA were directed to the transition of Member States from a national control in both areas to a Joint Plan, to ensure that the exchange of data and information were in line with the new JDPs adopted. The results achieved within the scope of both JDPs are presented in Annex IV.

The new Black Sea JDP 2019 has been operational since January 2019, implementing a coordinated programme of inspections at sea and ashore, regarding the fishing activities directed to turbot and sprat in the Black Sea. In 2019 there were 25 suspected infringements reported.

In 2019, the JDP control means for the Black Sea were deployed in accordance with the agreed schedule. Moreover, within the framework of a Multipurpose Maritime Operation (MMO) in the Black Sea, Member States capacity for fisheries surveillance were increased during May and June 2019 in cooperation with Frontex.

The Mediterranean Member States operational effort for fisheries control inside the JDPs increased in 2019, as their seaborne and airborne means were deployed above the commitments agreed in the JDP decision, contributing to ensure a level playing field, a higher inspection rate as well as the coordination and assistance for better compliance.

## 2. Increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States

In 2019 the Mediterranean JDP specific campaigns covered the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection and GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme in the Strait of Sicily. The inspection activities were successfully coordinated from the EFCA premises, with the presence of Member States experts during the specific campaigns such as for bluefin tuna campaign, and third country experts for the Strait of Sicily campaign.

For the second year, in addition to the available seaborne means of the Member States, EFCA added additional capacity with the deployment of its chartered OPV "Lundy Sentinel". The deployment of the Lundy Sentinel started in May and lasted until the end of October with permanent operational presence at sea, thus being able to provide support to specific campaigns (e.g. Bluefin tuna campaign and Strait of Sicily campaign).

### Bluefin tuna campaign

EFCA gave specific attention to the coordination of the Bluefin tuna (BFT) campaign, hosting the TJDG members (experts from ES, FR, IT, GR, CY, MT and HR) from 26 May to 15 July 2019 at EFCA Coordination Centre. A Frontex representative was also present during part of the BFT campaign to foster operational coordination and timely information exchange.

It has to be noted that Member States, as foreseen in the JDP, (ES, FR, IT, MT, HR, GR and CY) also allocated dedicated patrol means for the purpose of the Bluefin tuna campaign contributing to a common effort.



This particular campaign focused mainly on the purse seine fisheries activities, but also took into account other kind of BFT catching and support vessels (e.g. longliners, traps, farms and towing/supporting/auxiliary/processing vessels).

The result of the operational analysis produced by the group of experts using all the available information resulted in daily recommendations, agreed by the TJDG, which were submitted to the relevant control means in the operational area.

The TJDG was also supported with additional sources of information received from Frontex seaborne and airborne assets (sighting forms and mission reports). This additional information was used in order to enhance the situational picture at sea for the purpose of the BFT purse seine campaign.

### **Exchange of inspectors**

To increase a uniform level of inspection activities involving control means, EFCA further promoted and facilitated the cooperation between Member States by creating multinational inspection teams, and facilitating the exchange of inspectors. In 2019 Member States' deployment equated to 761 man/days of secondments (at sea and ashore), of which 526 were aboard the EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel. Additionally, 123 man/days by third country inspectors were hosted aboard the EFCA OPV.

Two Special Mixed Teams (SMT) were deployed during the BFT campaign activities involving the use of stereoscopic cameras to establish the number and weight of the BFT being caged. These SMT with participation of IT, EFCA and MT took place in MT farms for 2 periods:

- 1st period, from 17 to 28 June 2019
- 2nd period, from 15 to 22 July 2019.

### **Operational trainings**

During 2019 the following regional trainings were performed in the context of the MED JDP:

- ICCAT, Bluefin tuna and swordfish training for trainers (2-5 April in Athens, Greece),
- Adriatic small pelagic training (16-17 April in Izola, Slovenia).

All the above mentioned trainings were well received by participants. In addition to the above, EFCA's coordinators also assisted Member States in 11 national trainings in the context of the MED and Black Sea JDP's (3 IT, 2 HR, 2 CY, 1 ES, 1 FR, 1 RO and 1 BG).

## **3. Support to the EU in relation to RFMOs and third countries in the Mediterranean and the Black Seas**

EFCA was active at the international level while supporting the European Commission on various aspects in relation to RFMOs. In accordance with EFCA SPD and at the request of the European Commission, three GFCM Pilot Projects were launched in early 2019 on the basis of GFCM Recommendations adopted in the GFCM 2018 Annual Session, namely:

- Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/4 – Ionian Sea,
- Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/8 – Adriatic Sea, and;
- Recommendation GFCM/42/2018/3 – Levant Sea.

All pilot projects had the same objective; to establish an observation and inspection programme in order to ensure compliance with the conservation and management measures contained in the recommendations.

The pilot projects were built on the lessons-learned/experiences from the pilot project coordinated by EFCA in the Strait of Sicily in 2017 and the subsequent successful adoption of the GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme applicable to that area. The pilot projects are composed of the following main activities:





- Best practice and common interpretation and application of relevant GFCM conservation and management measures;
- Operational activities including exchange of information, and;
- Capacity building and training.

Initial meetings to discuss and launch the pilot projects took place with concerned GFCM Contracting Parties (Albania, Egypt, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Libya, and Turkey), EU Member States (Cyprus, Italy, and Croatia), GFCM Secretariat and the European Commission in Vigo on 5 and 6 February 2019.

A further planning meeting took place with concerned Contracting Parties on 15 July in Tirana, back-to-back with the meetings of the GFCM Compliance Committee and Working Groups for MCS/VMS and IUU. The same Contracting Parties attended these meetings, including in addition Lebanon and Jordan and in the case of EU Member States, Greece.

Operational activities commenced in August and were ongoing throughout September. It is worth mentioning that no other Contracting Party deployed operational means in the context of the pilot projects, leaving EFCA's chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel as the only platform conducting inspections at sea in the Adriatic and Ionian Seas. Inspectors from Albania, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Libya and Montenegro were deployed on board of the Lundy Sentinel with a view to conducting joint inspections in international waters.

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

##### **Strait of Sicily Campaign**

In the framework of the Med JDP, during July and August, EFCA coordinated a campaign dedicated to the control of fishing activities in the framework of the GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme in the Strait of Sicily (more details are provided under objective 4).

For the second year, the GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme was fully implemented by the EU as part of the Mediterranean JDP, in close cooperation with the Member States and the Third Countries concerned. EFCA provided and coordinated the use of the EU inspection asset presence in the area in accordance with the commitments for improving control and cooperation in the MEDFISH4EVER Declaration. EFCA promoted cooperation within the framework of GFCM with third countries by way of implementing operational and capacity building activities. In this regard, third country experts from Algeria, Tunisia and Libya participated in EFCA's Coordination Centre during the coordination of the campaign, and inspectors from Algerian (2), Libya (1) and Tunisia (2) were deployed on board the EFCA chartered OPV "Lundy Sentinel" together with EU fisheries inspectors.

##### **Black Sea Multipurpose Operation**

In the light of the interagency cooperation in the area of capacity sharing, EFCA took an initiative in order to support BG and RO fisheries control authorities in the Black Sea. In this regard, Frontex and EMSA's assets and services were shared in a joint operation in order to increase surveillance and fisheries control capacity in the area. Therefore, EU Agencies and 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.

EFCA approached other GFCM Contracting Parties (Ukraine, Georgia and Turkey) to ensure that technically everything was prepared to host third countries during the operation. However, finally there was no participation of non-EU countries in this action.



The main results of the MMO are summarised as follows:

Maritime assets which took part in MMO:

- BG assets: 7 (2 Coastal Patrol Vessel - CPV, 5 Coastal Patrol Boat - CPB)
- RO assets: 11 (1 OPV, 8 RO CPV, 2 RO CPB)
- Frontex aerial assets: 1 MAS FWA (Multipurpose Aerial Surveillance Fixed Wing Aircraft)

The total vessels of interest observed by BG and RO maritime assets were 1182 (incl. 265 fishing vessels). There was one case reported involving Turkish flagged fishing vessels in RO Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), thus RO took measures and 8 Turkish crewmembers were detained by RO Border and CG authorities.

#### 1.2.1.2. RISK ASSESSMENT AND DATA ANALYSIS (OBJECTIVE 3)

##### ❖ Introduction

EFCA control and monitoring activities are based on tactical and strategic risk assessments to ensure a maximum efficiency of the planning and implementation of the control and monitoring operations and an adequate use of available resources. Appropriate data, information systems and analysis are key elements to support the risk assessment.

OBJECTIVE 3	
Promotion of a risk management based approach and compliance evaluation	
Results	
1.	Improved Risk Management Strategy and identification of possible minimum common standards for national risk assessment systems
2.	Support the implementation of alternative, compliance-based methodologies for evaluating the effectiveness of control and inspection activities
3.	Improvement of EFCA information systems in support of fisheries monitoring and control
4.	Improvement of data management in support of fisheries monitoring and control

#### 1. Improved Risk Management Strategy and identification of possible minimum common standards for national risk assessment systems

EFCA regional risk management based approach is used at three levels during the life cycle of JDPs:

- Strategic planning of JDPs: to facilitate the long-term (yearly) spatial and temporal planning for deployment of control resources and identify the specific objectives of JDPs campaigns.
- Priority risk management: to identify priority fisheries / fleet segments under a specific threat analysis, such as non-compliance with the landing obligation, misrecording, use of illegal gear 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 States<sup>35</sup>, in 2019 Regional Risk Assessment was conducted at fleet segment level for several JDP areas (Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea). Dedicated regional meetings took place and resulted in two main outcomes: a) fleet segments identified with higher risk that should be addressed with priority; and b) a recommended set of possible risk treatment measures to address the identified high risk threats.

On this basis, a series of specific actions addressing priority threats in the most relevant fleet segments and implementing some of the risk treatment measures, was agreed for the 2020 JDPs. In the following tables, the two highest priority risks of non-compliance identified for the different regions and fisheries are presented (a more detailed overview on the priority risks is available in Annex IV). For the pelagic fisheries in the Western Waters and North Sea the highest priority risks are disaggregated by species.



<sup>35</sup> Guidelines on Risk Assessment Methodology on Fisheries Compliance.  
<https://www.efca.europa.eu/sites/default/files/Risk%20Assessment%20Methodology.pdf>





## Western Waters and North Sea - Pelagic: fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

### Herring



#### Gear

Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls

Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
6	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium
3, 8	Medium	Medium
6	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium

LEVEL OF RISK: Medium

## Western Waters and North Sea - Pelagic: fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

### Horse mackerel



#### Gear

Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 Polyvalent - Purse seines  
 Polyvalent - Purse seines  
 Polyvalent - Purse seines

Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
7, 8	Medium	Medium
6	Medium	Medium
7, 8	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium
6	Medium	Medium
7, 8	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium

LEVEL OF RISK: Medium

## Western Waters and North Sea - Pelagic: fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

### Mackerel



#### Gear

Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 Freezer trawlers - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessels and Polyvalent - Midwater trawls and midwater pair trawls  
 Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and bottom pair trawls  
 Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and bottom pair trawls  
 Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and bottom pair trawls  
 Polyvalent - Bottom trawl and bottom pair trawls  
 RSW tank vessel - Purse seines  
 Polyvalent - Purse seines  
 Polyvalent - Purse seines  
 Traps, pots and pound nets

Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
2, 3, 4	Medium	Medium
6	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium
2, 3, 4	Medium	Medium
6	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium
7, 8	Medium	Medium
Rest of 7	Medium	Medium
8	Medium	Medium
9	Medium	Medium
2, 3, 4	Medium	Medium
8	Medium	Medium
8	Medium	Medium
8	Medium	Medium

LEVEL OF RISK: Medium



3







### Black sea: fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Gear	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
Bottom set gillnets (authorised)	TURBOT	●	●	●	●	●	●

EU Member of the Black Sea

LEVEL OF RISK: ● High ● Very high

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

Gear – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Misreporting and/or misrecording	Non-compliance with quota or catch limit
Midwater Trawlers	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY, SARDINE	●	
Purse seines	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY, SARDINE	●	
Purse seines (including auxiliary, support towing vessels and farms)	Mediterranean Sea	BLUEFIN TUNA	●	
Long Lines, hand-lines	Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE, BLUEFIN TUNA, SWORDFISH	●	●
Trammel nets and gill nets	Mediterranean Sea	HAKE, MULLUS spp., SEABREAMS	●	
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE, BLUEFIN TUNA, SWORDFISH	●	●
Eel Fishery	Mediterranean Sea	EEL	●	●
Gear – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with temporal/spatial closures	Non-compliance with minimum size of BPT/MSD
Trawl	Strait of Sicily	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, HAKE	●	
	Ionian and Levant	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, BLUE AND RED SHRIMP	●	
	Mediterranean without Strait of Sicily and Ionian/Levant	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, HAKE, MULLUS spp.	●	
Purse seines	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY, SARDINE	●	
Long Lines, hand-lines	Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE, BLUEFIN TUNA, SWORDFISH	●	●
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE	●	
Eel Fishery	Mediterranean Sea	EEL	●	
Gear – Fishery	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with general technical and management rules	Non-compliance with the LO
Trawl	Strait of Sicily	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, HAKE	●	●
	Ionian and Levant	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, BLUE AND RED SHRIMP		●
	Mediterranean without Strait of Sicily and Ionian/Levant	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP, HAKE, MULLUS spp.	●	●
Purse seines	Mediterranean without Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY, SARDINE		●
	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY, SARDINE	●	●
Long Lines, hand-lines	Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE, BLUEFIN TUNA, SWORDFISH	●	
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea	ALBACORE, BLUEFIN TUNA, SWORDFISH	●	
Eel Fishery	Mediterranean Sea	EEL	●	●

LEVEL OF RISK: ● High ● Very high



### **Minimum common standards for national risk assessment systems**

EFCA organised an annual meeting with Member States risk assessment experts, where possible improvements to the regional risk management and support to the national risk assessment were discussed. In 2019, the meeting took place in Oporto, Portugal, 12-13 November. With the support of an external expert, EFCA discussed an overall framework for minimum common standards and best practices that Member States could consider when performing their national risk assessment. It is expected that this is a work in progress, and as such EFCA committed to define a way forward, considering additional exchanges with Member States to address specific regional needs.

### **NAFO Risk Assessment**

In 2019 EFCA organised two workshops dedicated to risk assessment, 16 January 2019 in Brussels and 29 April 2019 in Vigo. A main outcome of the two meetings was to finalise the individual vessel post-activity risk assessment methodology applied to determine the appropriate strategy for landing inspections. Since May 2019, Member States agreed to use the new methodology and EFCA assisted on the application of the new guidelines when requested by Member States.

In parallel with the vessel post-activity risk assessment methodology, EFCA developed documents to assist Member States when conducting the risk assessment and to improve the knowledge regarding the vessels and the expected catch profile.

EFCA made progress on the development of an approach to risk-based strategic planning for NAFO and presented it to the NAFO/NEAFC Steering Group.

## **2. Support the implementation of alternative, compliance-based methodologies for evaluating the effectiveness of control and inspection activities**

### **Specific Control and Inspection Programmes**

The SCIP makes reference to the requirement for a harmonised methodology for risk assessment, and a methodology to define alternative benchmarks expressed in terms of improved levels of compliance (Art 7 of SCIP). These methodologies were prepared in 2018 by EFCA in cooperation with Member States and finalised in 2019, and are now available on the EFCA website ([Guidelines for Risk Management on Fisheries Compliance](#) and [Guidelines on Indicators to Measure Compliance in Fisheries](#)). Considering the developments, mainly concerning progress on established compliance indicators, the documents should be considered live documents. At the annual meeting with the Member States risk assessment experts, it was considered that the current versions of these documents are a good basis for the work conducted by EFCA and the Member States concerning risk management and defining alternative compliance benchmarks.

### **Further development of compliance indicators**

In 2019 EFCA continued to work on the development of compliance indicators. In particular, the work focused to derive misrecording indicators in the Baltic Sea on i) unsorted pelagics landings, and ii) salmon catches reported as sea trout. In both cases the analyses were based on data collected during dedicated specific actions, either analysed by EFCA following previously agreed methodologies or in collaboration with Member States experts.

## **3. Improvement of EFCA information systems in support of fisheries monitoring and control**

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



The main data received by EFCA from Member States was:

- vessel positions (VMS);
- electronic logbooks (ERS);
- summary of inspection and surveillance reports (*Activity Reports*);
- target vessels.

The data flow from Member States to EFCA was monitored on a daily basis. 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.

EFCA is continuously collecting and analysing the needs of end users and improving its Information Systems accordingly. Two new versions of the system managing control activity reports (JaDE) have been published in 2019.

One of the main improvements has been the standardisation of the data exchange format for *Activity Reports*. The agreed format was discussed with Member States in a dedicated workshop on the 5 February 2019 in Vigo. The implementation period of the new format took longer than expected. By the end of 2019, almost all Member States were using the new format with an adequate transmission of data, but not always on a daily basis.

Regarding Electronic Logbook data, on a daily basis EFCA queried the Member States logbook systems for vessels involved in fisheries under the JDPs. On a monthly basis, EFCA was also in charge of sending data sets to the NAFO secretariat regarding the fishing activity of EU vessels in the regulatory area of that RFMO (Fishing Operation, Catch on Entry, Catch on Exit and Discards reports).

### **Information Systems**

Regarding the information systems used by EFCA users, EFCA was in charge of the collection and analysis of user needs. For this purpose meetings with users were organised regularly. This process triggered the initiation of 3 types of response depending on the case:

- data related issues are solved directly;
- requests for changes to existing systems are analysed and specification are submitted to the system contractor through EFCA;
- requests for new systems are formalised and submitted to the EFCA Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) steering group for approval.

In 2019, the application used by EFCA to manage JDP coordination activities and results (JaDE) was upgraded twice. The data collected during the specific at sea inspections of “last haul” are now managed under JaDE which required fine tuning of the system mainly during the first half of 2019, when historical data was imported to JaDE.

### **Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) for fisheries control**

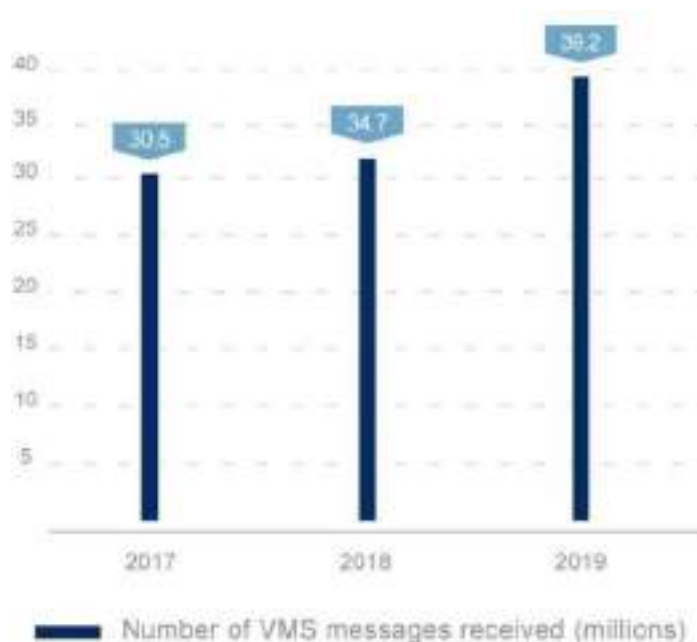
EFCA is also collaborating with EMSA in the provision of services through a web-based application, which integrates maritime data from several sources. This application offers a way to track vessels in real time, through the integration of vessel positions provided by systems such as VMS, Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) or Long Range Identification and Tracking (LRIT).





In 2019 the EFCA IMS application, tailored for the purposes of fisheries surveillance and control for its users, provided a fisheries control specific integrated maritime awareness picture<sup>36</sup>.

**VMS messages received in millions**



**EFCA ERS data 2019<sup>37</sup>**

MESSAGES	VESSELS	MEMBER STATES	JDP
			
<b>1 332 185</b>	<b>4 564</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>5</b>
Total number of Messages pulled from Member States	Total Number of Vessels pulled from Member States	Total Number of Member States connected	Number of JDPs configured

#### 4. Improvement of data management in support of fisheries monitoring and control

##### Data Governance

In 2019, EFCA continued the design of its Data Governance Framework, which will be progressively implemented. This activity addresses the outcomes of the IAS audit carried out in 2017. The objective is to enhance the quality of the data used in the support of the coordination of the JDPs. An external

<sup>36</sup> More details please see Objective 6 - Improve capacities to implement fisheries control and support other coast guard functions

<sup>37</sup> Ongoing for the Black Sea JDP



consulting company was contracted to support the elaboration of EFCA's Data Governance Framework. This framework is made of different components, including (i) principles and policy, (ii) organisation, (iii) processes, (iv) technology and (v) monitoring of compliance with the framework itself.

The implementation of an EFCA data governance framework commenced in 2019, with the adoption of an internal data governance organisation, and the development of standardised data quality monitoring processes. The implementation phase of data governance should be seen as an on-going process with no end date for completion, considering the dynamic aspects of systems and data. Nevertheless, the 2019 tangible objectives, related with organisational aspects and the monitoring of data quality, were achieved.

### Exchange of Inspection and surveillance reports

EFCA is also leading a project aiming for the automatic exchange of Inspection and Surveillance reports (Electronic Inspection Report system - EIR) between EU Member States, Commission and EFCA. A new standard has been finalised for the automatic exchange of inspection and surveillance reports. This has been done at EU level, in collaboration with the Commission and Member States. This standard is based on the FLUX data exchange protocol, and the format to exchange the data is using a global standard (UN/CEFACT). The implementation of this new data exchange system for inspection and surveillance reports will start in 2020 and should be fully operational by 2022.

#### 1.2.1.3. INTERNATIONAL DIMENSION: COMPLIANCE WITH INTERNATIONAL PROVISIONS (OBJECTIVES 4-5)

##### ❖ Introduction

In line with the CFP basic regulation<sup>38</sup>, the remit of EFCA, the Working Arrangements on EFCA's international activities between the European Commission and EFCA (AB Decision 15-W-1) and at the request of the European Commission, the Agency assisted the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries, including RFMOs, in order to strengthen operational coordination and compliance.

The scope of this assistance is included in a yearly strategy document presented by the Commission to the EFCA Administrative Board and is incorporated in EFCA's Programming Document considering the availability of resources.

OBJECTIVE 4	
Support the EU in the implementation of the external dimension of the CFP <sup>39</sup>	
Results	
1.	Support to the EU delegation in RFMOs meetings
2.	Support to the EU as regards direct cooperation with third countries, countries without prejudice of PESCAO (under objective 5) and/or, in the context of ICCAT and GFCM and other RFMOs, including through JDPs
3.	Assistance to the European Commission in connection with the evaluation missions to third countries as regards IUU Regulation

<sup>38</sup> 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".

<sup>39</sup> North Atlantic related activities are detailed in Objective 1.3.



4. Increased collaboration between Member States IUU competent authorities in the verification process and risk analysis relating to the import of fisheries products to the EU

## 1. Support to the EU delegation in RFMOs meetings

Throughout 2019 EFCA has continued to closely support DG MARE during the run-up, participation and follow-up of the EU representation in RFMO meetings, namely in GFCM, ICCAT.

As regards ICCAT, EFCA participated and supported the EU Delegation in the ICCAT Annual meeting and in those intersessional meetings concerning 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 Scheme of International Inspection for BFT and Mediterranean swordfish, and also providing support in the development of new monitoring and control provisions.

An EFCA staff member chaired the ICCAT panel that deals with the development and reviewing of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance issues (PWG - Permanent Working Group) and continued to Chair the Technical Working Group for the Electronic Bluefin Catch Document Programme (eBCD TWG).

Regarding GFCM, EFCA supported the EU Delegation and participated in the GFCM Annual meeting and in the intersessional meetings of the Compliance Committee and IUU Working Groups, in which EFCA supported DG MARE as regards control issues, as well as presented the approach, state of play and results of the Pilot Projects developed by EFCA and coordinated on behalf of the EU.

On 30 March 2017, Ministers and high-level representatives of Mediterranean riparian states as well as the European Commission and the European Parliament, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean came together and took a decisive step to promote the sustainability of the Mediterranean and its fisheries with the signing of the Medfish4ever Declaration.

To take stock of progress made and to renew commitments of the Declaration, a GFCM High-level conference on MedFish4Ever initiatives took place on 11-12 June 2019 in Marrakesh, Morocco, in which a special focus was placed on the celebration on the international day for the fight against IUU fishing. In this regard EFCA received an award for its coordination of the International Joint inspection Scheme, its contribution in the fight against IUU fishing and the promotion of cooperation between the coastal states in the Strait of Sicily.

EFCA will continue to support EU Commission on implementation of Council conclusions on Oceans and Seas, as adopted by the Council (General Affairs) on 19 November 2019.<sup>40</sup>

Below you can find a summary of dedicated events undertaken/attended by EFCA in relation to our cooperation with RFMOs (GFCM and ICCAT):

Events/meetings/trainings	Dates	Place
<b>Pilot Project launch meeting with GFCM Contracting Parties</b>	5-6 February 2019	Vigo, Spain
<b>Intersessional meeting of ICCAT Panel 2</b>	4-7 March 2019	Madrid, Spain
<b>ICCAT eBCD Working Group meeting</b>	27-28 March 2019	Madrid, Spain
<b>13th Meeting of the ICCAT Working Group of the Integrated Monitoring Measures (IMM)</b>	2-4 April 2019	Madrid, Spain

<sup>40</sup> Council conclusions on Oceans and Seas No. 14249/19.



<b>Operational planning meeting with GFCM Contracting Parties</b>	15 July 2019	Tirana, Albania
<b>CoC and GFCM IUU/MCS/VMS Working Groups</b>	16-19 July 2019	Tirana, Albania
<b>Pilot Project Operational activities</b>	August - September 2019	OPV Lundy Sentinel
<b>ICCAT eBCD Working Group meeting</b>	17-18 September 2019	Madrid, Spain
<b>GFCM Annual Session</b>	4-8 November 2019	Athens
<b>ICCAT Annual Session</b>	16-26 November 2019	Palma de Mallorca

## 2. Support to the EU as regards direct cooperation with third countries, countries without prejudice of PESCAO (under objective 5) and/or, in the context of ICCAT and GFCM and other RFMOs, including through JDPs

From the perspective of the Union, EFCA coordinated the EU contribution to the ICCAT Joint Scheme of International Inspection as regards BFT and SWO, and also the EU contribution to the GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance scheme for the Strait of Sicily.

EFCA implemented this activity through the JDP for the Mediterranean, where the compliance with the different relevant elements of the International Scheme were taken care of: level of control activities, planning of means, notification of control means and inspectors, notification of sightings and inspections, etc., 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 and cooperation platform with Third Countries in the scope of the GFCM Pilot projects and activities. See in particular points described under the Objective 2 as regards EFCA's coordinated activities to support the GFCM Pilot Projects.

EFCA led in cooperation with the EU Commission the preparation of a project in the scope of the WEST MED initiative on the establishment of Fighting Illegal Unreported and Unregulated Fisheries Fishing Regional Academy - FIUFRA. The main objective of the project is to set-up a virtual Regional Academy for capacity building activities in the implementation of control measures established under the GFCM and in support of the MEDFISH4EVER Declaration.

## 3. Assistance to the European Commission in connection with the evaluation missions to third countries as regards IUU Regulation

EFCA provided extensive support to the Commission in connection with the evaluation missions to third countries as regards the implementation of the Regulation (EC) No1005/2008 (the IUU Regulation)<sup>41</sup>. In this respect, throughout the year, EFCA was requested to support the European Commission for evaluation missions to six countries: Ecuador, Ivory Coast, Maldives, Mauritius, Panama (twice), and Vietnam.

EFCA's main role in these evaluation missions was to prepare the visit by analysing the catch certificates and supporting documents from the country in question and providing the European Commission with a report of the findings and/or to contribute to the on-spot assessment of the MCS

<sup>41</sup> 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 (OJ L 286, 29.10.2008, p. 1).



tools in place in these countries. EFCA was also requested to provide presentations and explanations of the findings stemming from the catch certificates analysis to the third country authorities.

In summary, EFCA assisted the European Commission with the analysis of a total of 378 catch certificates and 122 processing statements (Annex IV of the IUU Regulation) for five third countries, and directly participated in six evaluation missions to third countries:

Third country	EFCA mission dates	EFCA participation to the mission	No of documents analysed		
			CCs	PS	Other documents
<b>Panama</b>	28 January – 1 February 2019	<b>Yes</b>	106	0	(+/-) 300
<b>Ivory Coast</b>	20-24 May 2019	<b>Yes</b>	30	20	(+/-) 200
<b>Ecuador</b>	17-21 June 2019	<b>Yes</b>	107	66	(+/-) 400
<b>Panama</b>	15-19 July 2019	<b>Yes</b>	*	*	*
<b>Mauritius</b>	10-13 September 2019	<b>Yes</b>	*	*	*
<b>Vietnam</b>	12-16 November 2019	<b>Yes</b>	93	36	(+/-) 400
<b>Maldives</b>	-	<b>No</b>	42	0	(+/-) 100
<b>Total</b>			<b>378</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>(+/-) 1400</b>

\*EFCA analysis from the previous missions was used

EFCA also participated in one working group meeting organised by the European Commission on the development of an EU IT system/database ("CATCH") to support the implementation of the IUU Regulation and the catch certification scheme. EFCA provided particular technical input based on its experience of analysing catch certificates and supporting documents. Also, three EFCA representatives participated in the training sessions on the use of the CATCH system organised by the European Commission in September 2019.

Last but not least, in October EFCA was invited to take part at the Ministerial Conference on Fishing Vessel Safety and Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing held in Torremolinos Spain where important aspects regarding legislative elements and the practical implementation of actions in relation to fisher's safety and IUU were discussed.

#### **4. Increased collaboration between Member States IUU competent authorities in the 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, EFCA organised a training session for "newcomers" in Vigo and an "advanced" training session in Brussels on the implementation of the IUU Regulation, including risk-based methodologies developed by EFCA.

EFCA also organised two regional IUU training sessions, the first one for DE, DK, FI, NL and SE (in Stockholm), and the second one for CY and GR (in Athens). In addition, EFCA participated in one national training session on the implementation of the IUU Regulation organised by GR.

As a follow-up to the analysis of Member States' biennial reports on the implementation of the IUU regulation for the period 2016-2017, EFCA carried out, at the request of the European Commission, an analysis of the additional information from Member States on their national risk-based procedures put in place for verifications of catch certificates. This analysis was presented on 4 December 2019, when EFCA organised a plenary seminar and EFCA IUU Steering Group aiming at promoting the exchange of experience and best practices between Member States.



## OBJECTIVE 5

**To strengthen compliance through the implementation of EU international projects (e.g. “Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO)”) as regards fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance**

### Results

1. Strengthening of prevention and responses to IUU fishing in the areas concerned
2. Harmonisation of third countries legal framework in accordance with international standards
3. Increased capacity of third countries fisheries inspectors and other officials
4. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the areas concerned

## 1. Strengthening of prevention and responses to IUU fishing in the areas concerned

### PESCAO

The PESCAO programme was developed in the framework of the Regional Indicative Programme (RIP) for Western Africa, both on component 1 (peace and security) and 3 (resilience). The Action Document (AD) was adopted by the Commission on 28 April 2017 - Decision C (2017)2951. EFCA signed its grant contract with the Commission in March 2018 and the project started in May 2018. 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 2019 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 with the European Commission, applying its experience in the EU context.

### Meeting of the technical Committee

In accordance with Annex I (section 9) of the contract signed in March 2018 between EFCA and the EU Delegation in Senegal, EFCA organised a Technical Committee meeting on 21 May 2019 on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Presidency. This was an opportunity for the partners to discuss the implementation, the orientations and the strategic axes of the project, circulate information between those responsible for the implementation of the project and the other ongoing complementary projects, and ensure and develop complementarity between projects. In addition, the meeting enabled the definition of actions that were the basis for the work carried out for the rest of the year regarding the implementation of the components involving EFCA.

### Coordination with other projects/donors in the region of PESCAO

During 2019, EFCA participated in two regional MCS coordination meetings organised by the FCWC:

- FCWC 8th West African Task Force meeting, Lomé, 8-10 May 2019;
- FCWC 9th West African Task Force meeting, Monrovia, 24-26 September 2019.

At these meetings, EFCA provided its expertise and experience in regional cooperation in the field of MCS, stemming in particular from its coordination responsibility in the framework of the EU joint





deployment plans. The Agency also provided technical support in terms of the development of the regional vessel monitoring systems for the FCWC region.

In addition, EFCA participated in the SRFC meeting of the Monitoring, Control and Surveillance working group, held in Saly, Senegal, from 9 to 11 December, to share and assess the first year of the implementation of the PESCAO project, as well as the planning of activities for the year 2020. At this meeting, EFCA also provided support on ways of improving the technical and financial reporting of joint sub-regional fisheries monitoring operations as well as on the possibilities of harmonization and alignment of inspection reports of SRFC Member States with Annex III of the 2009 FAO Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA).

EFCA also participated in the ECOWAS first meeting of the stakeholders in maritime security (Abuja, 6-7 May 2019) and the ECOWAS validation workshop of the comprehensive strategic framework for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture development (Lomé, 9-10 October 2019).

Specifically regarding maritime security, EFCA participated in two meetings of the G7++ group of friends of the Gulf of Guinea, the first in Brussels on July 2, 2019 and the second in Accra (5-6 November 2019). The participation of EFCA in these meetings enabled the identification of possible areas of synergy between different projects, such as, for example, the organisation of joint control campaigns and training events together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

### **Collaborative platform**

In order to facilitate the archiving of project related documents and the exchange of information between PESCAO Partners, EFCA has created and made available a specific "PESCAO corner" in its e-learning platform.

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

EFCA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the FCWC, SRFC and the Regional Academy of Sciences and Technics of the Sea - Inter-regional Maritime Security Institute (ARSTM-ISMI) to optimise the synergies of the work done by the parties as regards fisheries MCS training. Through collaboration, the parties mutually contribute to a harmonised training programme for fisheries MCS officials in Western Africa.

In 2019, and benefiting from the signing of this MoU, EFCA organised a regional training for Fisheries Monitoring Centre operators at ARSTM-ISMI premises. Eighteen (18) operators from Benin, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo participated in this regional training. The cooperation with ARSTM-ISMI, in terms of logistical and technical support, proved very useful for the success of this event.

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

A report was drafted on the review of the SRFC and the FCWC member countries' national legal frameworks related to fisheries control and enforcement.

The scope of the report comprised the analysis of the legislation of member countries of the SRFC and FCWC. It also included an overview and state of play on the signing, ratification and/or transposition processes of these countries regarding the adoption of international rules aiming at eliminating IUU fishing activities. An important element of the report is that it also identified the needs and recommendations in terms of legal updating and/or implementation for each country by way of a gap analysis. The report became a reference document for EFCA's contribution to the harmonisation and updating of national legal frameworks in Western African countries covered by PESCAO, with a view to align them with international standards aiming at eliminating IUU fishing activities and taking into consideration support being provided by the European Commission in the context of the IUU dialogues and SFPAs.

This 'legal study' was presented to FCWC and SRFC countries during a workshop held in Dakar on 22-23 May 2019. During this workshop, the authorities from Cabo Verde stated their intention to adopt a





new legislation (“*Decreto-Lei*”) and expressed interest in the opportunity to benefit from the support of EFCA’s legal experts through the PESCAO Programme. Also at this workshop, the authorities from Togo stated their intention to adopt a National Plan of Action to Prevent, Deter and Eliminate Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (NPOA-IUU) and expressed interest in the opportunity to benefit from the support of the FCWC and EFCA legal experts.

As a result, EFCA signed a specific contract with an expert to assist the competent authorities of Cabo Verde in reviewing and amending their draft legislation on the basis of (but not limited to) the recommendations formulated by the legal study. Likewise, a contract was also signed with the purpose of providing legal support for the review and amendment of the Togo NPOA – IUU”. In the framework of the legal support, two on-the-spot missions were conducted by the external expert, one in Cabo Verde from 7 to 9 of October (EFCA accompanied the expert) and another one in Togo from 11 to 14 November 2019.

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

EFCA was engaged in several capacity building activities for third countries both in the SRFC and FCWC regions in 2019. In cooperation with its partners, EFCA organised three national trainings on fisheries control and inspection in the Republic of Guinea, Nigeria and Gambia. EFCA selected relevant trainers from the PESCAO pool of trainers to take part in the courses, and cooperated with other donors/training academies by inviting trainers from their capacity building programmes, such as those of the FAO.

In addition to training provided for fisheries inspectors, two sub-regional courses for FMC operators were organised per language, one in Portuguese in Cabo Verde (for Cabo Verde and Guinea Bissau), and one in French in Abidjan, at the “*Académie régionale des sciences et techniques de la mer*” (ARSTM), (for Senegal, Guinea, Mauritania, Côte d’Ivoire, Benin and Togo). The objective of the courses was to increase capacity building in the use of VMS, AIS and other new technologies such as satellite imagery in fisheries control.

In the context of the IUU dialogue with Liberia, EFCA also participated in a DG MARE led capacity building initiative for the benefit of fisheries control officials in the Liberian FMC. The main objective of the capacity building was to train the FMC operators in the control of the international (reefer) fleet. As both EFCA and West Africa Regional Fisheries Program (WATF) are working with this country in the framework of the PESCAO and WATF projects respectively, it was considered appropriate for EFCA to assist in this capacity building initiative.

### **4. Improved compliance, level playing field and cost-effectiveness in the areas concerned**

#### **Operational campaigns**

The SRFC organised three joint control campaigns during 2019, and EFCA participated, providing support, in all of them. In two of the campaigns, a member of EFCA staff was deployed as observer on board of one of the patrol vessels that participated in the joint campaigns.

The first joint campaign “Alexandre Baptista” was carried out from 31 January to 4 February 2019, under the coordination of SRFC and with the participation of Cabo Verde, Mauritania and Senegal. The coordination centre in charge was based in Dakar and the operation covered the waters of Cabo Verde, Mauritania and Senegal. During the operation, the competent authorities of the SRFC Member States worked together in the coordination of joint patrols and inspections. Three patrol vessels were deployed, thirty-two inspections were carried-out and seven instances of possible non-compliance detected, several of which were of a serious nature.

The second joint campaign “Kuta” was held from 7 to 14 May and involved the participation of Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone. The coordination centre was established in Freetown. The operation covered the waters of the three participating countries. Four patrol vessels and 1 aircraft were deployed with 56 inspections being carried out and 6 instances of non-compliance detected. The French Navy aircraft, for its part, identified 52 industrial fishing vessels and 23 artisanal fishing vessels.



The third and last joint control operation of 2019 called “Tessito” took place from 22 to 27 September 2019 with the participation of Guinea-Bissau, Senegal and The Gambia. Three patrol vessels (one regional offshore and 2 coastal patrol vessels) as well as an aircraft (Falcon F 50) were used in this operation. The regional patrol vessel operated in the waters of the three SRFC countries while the coastal patrol vessels of Guinea-Bissau, and the Gambia operated in the waters to which they were assigned and did not cross into another country waters during the operation. During the operation “Tessito”, 69 inspections were carried-out resulting in the detection of 8 instances of non-compliance and sanctions being applied to 3 trawlers and 5 canoes.

EFCA experts were deployed in the regional coordination centres during all joint control operations. During their deployments, EFCA experts contributed with the provision of analysis of satellite images (Copernicus programme) and EFCA's IMS. 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.

An aircraft of the French navy participated in two of the three joint control operations carried-out in 2019 and was provided with a maritime situational analysis report prior to take off. This made it possible to optimise the targeting of the areas and vessels to be monitored during the campaign<sup>42</sup>.

The joint operations continue to contribute to the development of a culture of cooperation amongst the countries in the sub-region, and to reinforce the cooperation between EFCA and SRFC. The results of the joint control operations also underline their value as a robust instrument to curb IUU fishing in the sub-region.

### **Technical support to the implementation of infrastructures and equipment of the Regional Fisheries control centres**

During 2019, EFCA continued to work with the FCWC in the development of Specification of Requirements (SoR) for the Regional VMS tender document, and supported the FCWC during the Tender publication and clarification processes. Subsequently, EFCA participated as an observer in the Tender evaluation procedure, providing FCWC with expert technical advice.

### **Chartering of aerial means in support of the joint operations**

The collaboration with the French Navy (Elements Français au Senegal) with respect to aerial surveillance was carried out in two joint PESCAO control operations: operation: “Kuta” (07-14 May 2019) and operation “Tessito” (22-27 September 2019).

The close collaboration between EFCA, the SRFC and the French navy followed the directions agreed during the EFCA-PESCAO technical committee where it was advocated to continue the cooperation with the French Navy (*Elements Français au Senegal*) concerning the use of aerial means. Thus, SRFC and EFCA have worked closely with the French Navy to use its air assets during the joint control operations in the region to achieve the results of the PESCAO project more efficiently and effectively.

## **1.2.1.4. COAST GUARD AND CAPACITY BUILDING (OBJECTIVE 6)**

### **❖ Introduction**

#### **Coast Guard functions**

This strategic area was important in order to strengthen EU cooperation on Coast Guard functions with other European agencies and to support Member States national authorities. EFCA is considered an

<sup>42</sup> See also Objective 6.3.

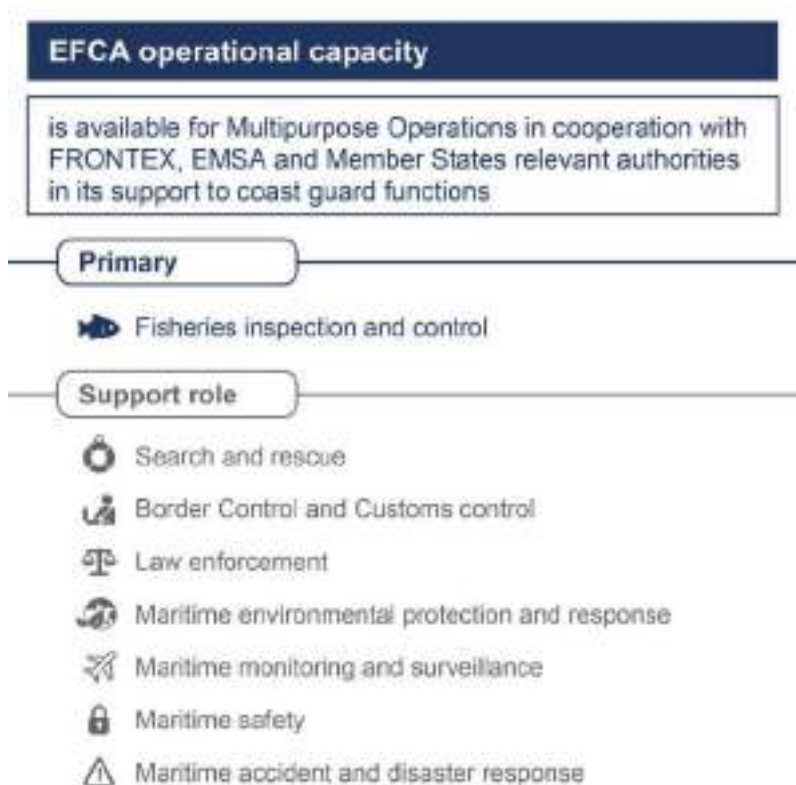


agency inside the group of 'security' agencies and contributes to the EUMSS Strategy. Within the framework of the Tripartite Working Arrangement<sup>43</sup>, EFCA successfully cooperated with Frontex and EMSA to support national authorities carrying out coast guard functions, providing assistance and expertise on coordination and fisheries control using services/tools available at agencies.

EFCA, while implementing its primary mandate related to fisheries control, and within the framework of the Tripartite Working Arrangement, always keeps in mind that the aim of the interagency cooperation is to support Member States' national authorities performing coast guard functions. This is implemented by the objective to maximise the synergies between the different areas of cooperation established by the EU coast guard initiative and the EFCA activities.

In accordance with the Steering Committee and Technical Subcommittees created by the TWA, EFCA is closely cooperating with Frontex and EMSA involved to manage the collaboration at strategic and technical level respectively.

### Coast Guard functions



### Capacity Building

Training activities and training material in support of the effective and uniform application of the CFP are crucial to guarantee a fair and equitable treatment to the Union operators.

EFCA continued the development and update of the different training material to be used by Member States, with the final objective to contribute to the creation and implementation of a Sectoral

<sup>43</sup> Arrangement signed on 17 March 2017 by the three agencies following the legislative amendment to the founding regulations of EFCA and EMSA and the adoption of a new Regulation for Frontex.



Qualification Framework for EU CG functions including fisheries control and inspection<sup>44</sup>. In that regard, the EFCA e-learning platform<sup>45</sup> helped to contribute to a level playing field and a harmonised methodology for inspections.

Training courses delivered by EFCA covered, in line with its mandate, control aspects of the CFP and the relevant international instruments.

## OBJECTIVE 6

### Improve capacities to implement fisheries control and support other<sup>46</sup> coast guard functions

#### Results

1. Harmonised training programmes for Member States officials including through the support to the development of a Sectoral Qualification Framework for fisheries
2. Cooperation with EMSA and Frontex in the implementation of the EU Coast Guard initiative. Implementation of the annual strategic plan agreed with EMSA and Frontex under the TWA
3. EFCA control means chartered and deployed following the agreed planning of operations
4. Promotion of the use of new technologies for fisheries control purposes

#### 1. Harmonised training programmes for Member States officials including through the support to the development of a Sectoral Qualification Framework for fisheries

EFCA continued to provide training to Member States inspectors and to promote exchanges between Member States' Union inspectors in the context of JDP operations, both at sea and on land. The training events took place throughout the year, and 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 counts with an event registration functionality in its e-learning platform to facilitate the organisation and management of training sessions.

During 2019, 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. EFCA has also participated in training sessions in support of Member States in the different regions.

Additional information on operational trainings is provided under objectives 1 and 2. A summary table of training events organised in 2019 by EFCA or national training events to which EFCA contributed is available in Annex IV to this report.

#### EFCA E-learning courses

In order to promote and proliferate the use of its e-learning platform by Member States' inspectors, EFCA finalised the translation of the 3 Core Curricula e-learning courses on "inspection at sea", "port

<sup>44</sup> Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 2), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

<sup>45</sup> Administrative Board Recommendations on EFCA Five-Year Evaluation (Recommendation 2), 21 June 2017, <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/external-evaluation-2017>

<sup>46</sup> Article 3(3) of the Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) and repealing Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council (COM (2018) 390 final), defines coast guard as follows:

'coast guard' means national authorities performing coast guard 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



inspections”, and “general principles and specific types of inspection” into French, German, Greek, Italian, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish. The translations into the same languages for the video tutorials on the use of mesh gauges and the IMS (developed in cooperation with EMSA) have also been finalised. In line with the Steering Group on Training and Exchange of Experience (SGTEE) guidance, additional translations of the 3 CC e-learning courses have been launched in 2019, namely into Bulgarian, Dutch, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Finnish, Swedish, and Romanian.

For non-EU inspectors, the course “Introduction to inspection at sea/in port” has been translated in French and Portuguese and made available to Western African countries and organisations covered by the EU-funded project PESCAO.

Currently more than 1000 staff from EU and non-EU countries are now registered in the EFCA e-learning platform.

### **Support to Member States training activities on request**

At the request of 8 Member States, EFCA participated in national trainings covering general and/or specific topics such as inspection methodologies, technical measures, market/premises inspection and verification/validation procedures under the IUU Regulation.

### **Training and briefings in cooperation with other EU agencies**

The European Coast Guard Functions Academic Network (ECGFA Net) project, financed by the European Commission, established a Sectoral Qualification Framework working group to develop the SQF for the different coast guard functions. A representative from EFCA participated in this working group and contributed to the fisheries control and inspection part of the SQF. This project concluded in mid-2019 and the SQF is now available and was endorsed by the European Coast Guard Functions Forum during its annual plenary conference in November in Venice. The three agencies also supported the stakeholder consultation of SQF through distributing a dedicated questionnaire to their communities. EFCA is working to ensure continuation of the work done under ECGFF, and is already hosting the ECGFA net Network Portal, which is made accessible to relevant users from CG functions authorities.

In the context of the inter-agency cooperation, one of the tasks is the development of relevant cross-sectoral training. In this regard, and in order to be in line with end-user needs, each Agency consulted its own community on possible needs. EFCA consulted the Steering Group on Training and Exchange of Experience in February 2019, Paris. Each agency is invited to participate in the consultation meetings of the other two agencies. The existing cross-function training activities delivered with the contribution of EFCA in 2019 were:

- Maritime safety and fisheries control rules applicable to fishing vessels – focused to the EMSA and EFCA communities, held in June 2019, in Vigo. EFCA also participated in November 2019 to a similar event organised by EMSA for maritime safety inspectors from Albania, Bosnia Herzegovina, Montenegro and Turkey.
- Air Crew preparation for Joint Operations – focused on the Frontex Community. Representatives of the EMSA and EFCA were invited to participate. A total of five sessions were delivered in 2019 and EFCA has delivered the part related to fisheries surveillance.
- EFCA tailored operational briefings on fisheries surveillance and control for the experts participating in Frontex coordinated maritime operations. In 2019 in total there were 13 operational briefings provided by EFCA.
- One tailored briefing was delivered for Frontex European Coast Guard Functions Officers working at Frontex International Coordination Centres in Rome, Madrid and Piraeus.
- Two briefings for Frontex MAS experts at Frontex Situational Centre in Warsaw.

## **2. Cooperation with EMSA and Frontex in the implementation of the EU Coast Guard (EUCG) initiative. Implementation of the annual strategic plan agreed with EMSA and Frontex under the TWA**





In 2019 the cooperation with EMSA and Frontex, in the context of the EU Coast Guard initiative was further developed, in support to Member States national authorities performing coast guard functions, as follows:

### **Practical Handbook on EU cooperation on coast guard functions**

EFCA is coordinating the overall drafting process, in cooperation with Frontex and EMSA, of the *Practical Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions*. This handbook is mentioned in the common article included in the founding regulations of the three agencies, where is foreseen that the European Commission shall make available this handbook through a Commission Recommendation. The European Commission requested the three agencies to take over the drafting process, and to develop the handbook in close cooperation with the Member States.

The Agencies then requested their Governing Boards to designate experts and a total of 43 experts were nominated to take part in the drafting process. A kick off

meeting was held in January 2019 with the participation of 32 experts. It is anticipated that the Handbook will have five parts: a Service catalogue, a Training catalogue, a Best Practice Guidelines and Manuals section, a Regional Cooperation best practices and Country Factsheets. During the first week of April, a template for the Country factsheets was provided by the Agencies to the Member States experts for comments and at the beginning of August a first draft of the handbook was delivered by the agencies. The experts provided their comments at the beginning of October and a dedicated Workshop involving the three Agencies along with the Member States experts meeting was organised by EFCA in November 2019, in Vigo.

### **Follow-up of the European Coast Guard Functions Academies Network project**

As mentioned above, the ECGFA Net project was financed by the European Commission and was implemented between 2015 and 2019. The main aim was to enhance educational cooperation in the field of coast guard functions and, consequently, to facilitate the interoperability and cooperation amongst different bodies carrying out coast guard functions in order to enhance the coherence and effectiveness of CGF activities.

Since the project concluded in August 2019, EFCA is in the lead within the inter-agency cooperation of the process to take over the results by the three agencies and to lead the future cooperation with the Member States authorities.

EFCA is also hosting the training portal that was one of the deliverables of the ECGFA Net project.

### **Risk assessment**

The three agencies developed their own risk analysis frameworks within their mandate to support national authorities performing coast guard functions (e.g. providing risk assessment tools, risk assessment analysis and products and/or Abnormal Behaviour Monitoring).

The three agencies have exchanged information about the types of data, methodologies (steps, levels and objective of risk assessment) and analytical products that each agency is currently using.

The agencies discussed possible levels of integration and respective analytical products, considering advantages and disadvantages of each level. The adequate spatial and temporal dimensions would be important to consider. The levels of planning between strategic planning vs tactical day-to-day monitoring were also considered. The identification of complementarities that could be relevant for each



agency (data poor situations, low risks with high impacts) was also considered. A glossary/terminology was elaborated.

The agencies initiated an exploratory analysis for joining a risk assessment outcome for fisheries (strategic risk assessment outcome from EFCA), incident reports off illegal border crossings and smuggling of goods (data from Frontex) and likelihood of oil spills (from the EMSA Clean Sea Net). Different maps were explored for the Mediterranean Sea by plotting the different data or information from the three agencies. This is a preliminary exercise of trying to combine data or information from the three agencies.

There is an ongoing discussion about the additional data sets that could be considered for the purpose of risk assessment.

### **Capacity sharing**

Through cooperation with EMSA, important developments took place for the EFCA chartered Offshore Patrol Vessel Lundy Sentinel, and it was upgraded in its capacity by means of:

- Pollution response equipment was installed on board, consisting of oil dispersant spray booms and an oil recovery trawl, to neutralise oil spills. This pollution response capacity is 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).
- A Remotely Piloted Aircraft System seaborne from the OPV Lundy Sentinel, was tested as from September 2019 onwards until the end of the year. The small quadcopter is used as a complementary fisheries control tool to have an initial pre-boarding assessment for fisheries inspectors (before boarding a fishing vessel) and to check certain fisheries control measures remotely.

On 28 March 2019 EFCA and EMSA signed an amended Service Level Agreement (SLA) where specific points as regards data sharing, IMS, RPAS as well as oil pollution response topics were commonly defined in the scope of interagency cooperation on EU coast guard functions.

From 27 May to 7 June, EFCA, within the scope of the interagency cooperation with Frontex, has been associated to the multipurpose operation "Baltic Tracking", led by Denmark and implemented under the umbrella of the Baltic Sea Region Border Control Cooperation framework in the Baltic Sea area.

There was a deployment of a MAS airplane by Frontex, that was used as a shared capacity with EFCA. This shared capacity has been seen of great benefit in the region. All the countries of the BSRBCC forum have increased their awareness on the Agencies services and support. Denmark authorities reported to have increased and improved communication with other Member States of the BSRBCC as well as with new partners (such as fishery control authorities) at a national level.

Thanks to the interagency cooperation, the aforementioned developments were possible to be implemented free of cost contributing to the cost effectiveness of EU agencies activities.

### **Cooperation with Coast Guard Fora**

#### **European Coast Guard Functions Forum**

The chair of the ECGFF during 2019 was Italy, that organised the Annual Plenary conference in Venice between 12 and 15 November 2019. In the meantime, there were three workshops held with support of EMSA (on Pollution response), Frontex (related to maritime security) and EFCA (on multipurpose operations). The workshop organised in cooperation with EFCA in June, on Multipurpose Maritime Operations, included a drill coordinated by the Italian Coast Guard. The workshops were proven to be a useful forum for national authorities performing coast guard functions for consultation and feed-back at a technical level. The agencies have also increasingly contributed to the organisation and content of the workshops. The ECGFF is also contributing directly to the implementation of the EU maritime security strategy action plan involving civilian and military actors.





## **Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)**

The MCGFF was cochaired during 2019 by France and Morocco. EFCA participated in the Annual Plenary conference from 12 to 13 June 2019 (Casablanca, Morocco). The plenary covered four key topics: immigration, illegal fishing, maritime surveillance and environmental pollution, and EFCA contributed on the fisheries control. This Forum is of strategical importance to maintain the links with non-EU partner countries in the areas, and the agencies have therefore considered the possibility to continue the support to the chairmanship through the organisation of a joint workshop.

## **EUMSS and its Action Plan**

The European Union Maritime Security Strategy<sup>47</sup> and the respective Action Plan were adopted in 2014. The Action Plan was revised in 2018 and EFCA is included in this revised Action Plan as one of the contributing agencies for 24 out of 56 actions in the Horizontal part and for 6 out of 34 actions in the Regional part. It is important to underline that the EUMSS does not aim to *create new structures, legislation, (and) additional administrative burden*. Therefore during 2019, EFCA contributed to the implementation of the Action Plan through its normal activity and reported regularly on the relevant activities performed for each action. EFCA, during its activities under the TWA, promotes civil military cooperation, an important element of EUMSS. Cooperation between the authorities performing coast-guard functions leads to better maritime security as it does not only improve situational awareness but also helps anticipate threats and risks and maximizes efficiency of operations at sea.

To this end, EFCA has participated in the meetings organised by the Council as regards the follow-up of the EUMSS, and also in some specific meetings organised by the European Defence Agency (EDA) where interagency collaboration was further explored.

## **Cooperation with EUROPOL in the field of fisheries**

In line with the policy framework endorsed by the Council, the EU Policy Cycle for fighting against organised and serious international crime for the period 2018 – 2021 was implemented by different Action leaders and action co-leaders.

Since 2019, and in the scope of the interagency cooperation for coast guard functions, EFCA was designated co-leader of Operational Action (OA) 2.1, dedicated to illegal fishing, while Portuguese authorities are leading the action. The OA 2.1 is one of the 20 actions under Environmental EU Crime Priority. The following MS and Agencies participating in this OA 2.1: Estonia, Greece, Spain, France, Croatia, Italy, Malta, Romania, EUROJUST, EUROPOL, INTERPOL and Frontex.

Activities during 2019 have mainly focused in facilitating and further promoting cooperation among fisheries and law enforcement communities, looking for deeper synergies as well as in preparing a specific common action that was organised during a Joint Action Day (JAD) last 25 September. The main objective for EFCA was to ensure the involvement of fisheries authorities in cases related with the fisheries control followed by the Law enforcement authorities, and to promote cooperation and coordination between all the competent authorities.

There were specific meetings<sup>48</sup> organised by EFCA in cooperation with the Action leader where Member States authorities from fisheries and law enforcement communities, as well as EU agencies like Europol, EUROJUST and Frontex, and the COM were invited to take part.

EFCA Coordination Centre (CC) with its tools and services was activated for the purpose of the JAD, where Europol, Frontex and Member States fisheries and law enforcement communities were invited to delegate their experts. To this end, EFCA OPV was also contributing to the objectives of the JAD while patrolling in the Adriatic Sea.

<sup>47</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime-security\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/policy/maritime-security_en)

<sup>48</sup> 18 June in Vigo – strategic meeting to discuss general and specific aspects for OA 2.1 as well as JAD, and 6 September in Madrid – preparatory meeting dedicated to the JAD where a concept of operations (CONOPS) has been presented and agreed.



It is important to underline that it has been the first time that this JAD is coordinated not by a Justice and Home Affairs Agency (Europol or Frontex), as well as it was the first time that the Coordination Centre was based in another Agency as usually it was hosted either by Europol and/or a Member State.

### **3. EFCA control means chartered and deployed following the agreed planning of operations**

EFCA's chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel has been assigned as a fisheries inspection platform for JDPs all year around, in line with the commitments provided in the JDP planning. Deployments normally comprise two consecutive weeks at sea and two days at port for crew and inspectors exchange, as well as the necessary bunkering.

The deployments of the OPV are implemented thanks to a very close cooperation with Member States. The patrols at sea are implemented 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, sometimes supported by 3rd country experts in a specific campaign (e.g. Strait of Sicily GFCM).

EFCA chartered OPV contributed to the implementation of JDPs in the EU sea basins by adding capacity to fisheries control operations outside the territorial waters of MS and offered a platform to deploy multinational Member State inspection teams, including also Third Countries inspectors in the Mediterranean JDP. This promoted transparency, level playing field and fostered a good exchange of knowledge and expertise. It also provided a first-hand understanding of fisheries situations in terms of compliance, highlighting issues which may need to be addressed through the SG and TJDG. It also provided an additional valuable information and data to help, fine tune risk assessment outputs. EFCA OPV was operational 308 days and provided a robust platform for fisheries inspections leading to total 247 inspections and 136 suspected infringements detected.

Besides fisheries control tasks, EFCA's OPV was made available to multipurpose tasks in the framework of European cooperation on coast guard functions, such as search and rescue, maritime border control and pollution response operations, in cooperation with Member State authorities, Frontex and EMSA. In that respect, Lundy Sentinel has in board equipment for pollution response and dedicated medical personnel is on board during the campaigns in the Mediterranean Sea. In order to be ready to face situations requiring immediate assistance to persons found in distress at sea, EFCA OPV is equipped with additional food and first aid supplies to support mass-rescue operations.

Before starting fisheries patrols in the Mediterranean Sea, there was a common letter launched with Frontex to Member States (Spain, Italy, Greece) as well as Standard Operating Procedure (SOPs) agreed with Frontex covering the data exchange and reporting in relation to the Frontex operational areas INDALO (Spain), THEMIS (Italy), POSEIDON (Greece) as well as asking for mutual assistance in cases of events that could include disembarkation of rescued migrants.

A full report of the operation of the chartered vessel Lundy Sentinel may be found in Annex IV.

### **Specific workshop and international maritime exercise COASTEX 19**

The third workshop of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum on "Multipurpose Maritime Operations" was held in Catania, Sicily, Italy from 3 to 5 June 2019.

The workshop was organised with the support of the European Fisheries Control Agency and welcomed around 90 delegates from 16 Member States and from EMSA and Frontex.

The event addressed the issue of complex multipurpose maritime operations, in which several Coast Guard functions are implemented simultaneously, in order to prepare effective and efficient responses to multiple challenges that may arise in a given area of operations.

The concept of MMO was concretely tested on 4 June in the context of an exercise at sea called COASTEX19. Under the operational coordination of the Italian Coast Guard eleven naval assets, three



aircrafts and three boarding teams created a complex scenario with around 300 crews that simulated activities to combat illegal fishing, fight pollution, search and rescue operations and illegal trafficking.

EFCA chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel took part in two scenarios countering illegal fishing and addressing oil pollution at sea.

### International operation 30 Days at Sea

The operation was the tactical phase of the INTERPOL Global Marine Pollution Enforcement Project. The operation 30 days at sea aimed to enhance the global response to marine pollution violations in breach of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and national legislation, with the ultimate objective of enhancing sea quality.











The operation was coordinated by INTERPOL and its Pollution Crime Working Group (PCWG) response in partnership with EUROPOL. EFCA was associated to this operation already for the 2nd time, as the very first edition of the aforementioned operation was implemented in 2018. EFCA's participation in this operation was under the framework of EMPACT ENVICRIME in close cooperation with Europol and Frontex. What is more, EFCA associated its chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel as well as promoted MS means active under the JDP to contribute to international operation 30 Days at Sea implemented in the month of October 2019.

### Chartered aerial surveillance

EFCA participated in the Inter Institutional call for *Aerial Surveillance Services for Border & Coast Guard Functions* launched by Frontex. Through the call, EFCA has the opportunity to have flights for Mid-Range or Long-Range Maritime Area Aerial Surveillance depending on the operational needs. Due to the limited budget and extensive cost of the flying hours of the chartered flights (e.g. for the area of PESCAO) EFCA was not in a position to activate deployment of the airplane using institutional call. Nevertheless, thanks to the close interagency cooperation in 2019, EFCA could benefit free of charge and receive data and information from Frontex flights for the relevant areas in the Mediterranean Sea as well as in the Black Sea.

## 4. Promotion of the use of innovative technologies for fisheries control purposes

### 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



## Integrated Maritime Services for fisheries control

The EFCA IMS application, the result of a very intensive and long-lasting cooperation between EMSA and EFCA, provides a fisheries control specific integrated maritime awareness picture.

By the end of 2019, there were 972 credentials issued by EFCA (an increase of 28% compared to 2018) to users of the fisheries control authorities in Member States and the European Commission. Two milestones regarding the continued development of the EFCA IMS marked 2019:

- On 1 April 2019 EFCA submitted the final report regarding the results of the pilot project "Modernising fisheries controls and optimising vessel monitoring through the use of innovative European systems" (Action N. 2016/MARE/MARSURV WORLDWIDE REF: SI2.734854) implemented from 1 Jul 2016 until 31 Dec. 2018.

The pilot project successfully demonstrated the potential benefit of the application for combating IUU fisheries on a global scale once upgraded with a number of very specific functionalities.

However, it was concluded that, in order to implement this large number of additional functionalities without negatively affecting the other services provided by EMSA to other IMS user communities, there was a need to build an enhanced EFCA specific IMS platform.

- In May 2019, EFCA approved an EMSA-EFCA cooperation project plan to take stock of the results of the pilot project and build an EFCA specific IMS platform (EFCA IMS V2 application). The dedicated 'EFCA IMS V2' funded by EFCA will allow to manage the development and implementation of a large number of user requests, including IUU specific functionalities, defined during the previous pilot project. A first version of the new EFCA IMS V2' application is to be expected by the end of 2020.

## Earth Observation Technologies

In 2019, EFCA used the Copernicus Maritime Surveillance Service for fisheries control operations. Implemented by EMSA, this is a Security Service of the EU's Copernicus Programme. EFCA promotes and coordinates the uptake of CMS Services for the fisheries control user community. In 2019 157 synthetic aperture radar and 78 optical images were ordered in view of vessel detection or other specific monitoring tasks. The delivered synthetic aperture radar and optical satellite images were integrated in the EFCA IMS and analysed by EFCA in view of detecting and identifying potential targets for inspection.

In view of its specific operational needs, following a pilot assessment test in 2018, EFCA also used the services of the European Union Satellite Centre for the delivery of high-end situational awareness and intelligence information based on the analysis of high resolution optical and SAR satellite imagery. In total 195 Images were delivered in 2019.

Alongside EFCA's participation in specific Copernicus workshops and user meetings at both EMSA and EU SatCen, EFCA participated in various research and development as well as technical events and workshops to present the specific needs of the fisheries control user community concerning the use of earth observation technologies.

## Support to maritime surveillance technology related initiatives

In 2019, EFCA was consulted on a regular basis to provide input and support, from a fisheries control perspective, to various EU maritime surveillance technology related initiatives, including some related to maritime cyber security.

EFCA became a member of the GOVSATCOM – H2020 CSA *ENTRUSTED* Project Consortium. The European Union Governmental Satellite Communications (EU GOVSATCOM) initiative aims to provide



secure and guaranteed satellite communication capacity and services to EU governmental stakeholders (EU countries, EU Agencies and institutions) for various security, defense, humanitarian aid, emergency response, and diplomatic communication missions. In the framework of this project, EFCA will safeguard the user needs of the fisheries control user community.

EFCA become an associated partner of the MED-OSMoSIS project that addresses governance for Maritime Surveillance in the Mediterranean. The main objective of MED OSMoSIS is the development of a number of modules/applications regarding Maritime Surveillance activities.

### **Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE)**

Representing the fisheries control user community, EFCA has been involved since 2012 in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) initiative. In 2019 EFCA has been following up on the conclusion in March 2019 of the EUCISE2020 project, which allowed to develop a pre-operational network for information exchange. As from April 2019 the CISE transitional phase was rolled out, paving the way for a fully operational CISE. EFCA is a member of the CISE Stakeholder Group which is entrusted with the fine-tuning and execution of the activities needed to reach the objectives of the CISE transitional phase. CISE is a key element of the EU integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) and the EU Maritime Security Strategy.

The objective is to integrate and make existing surveillance systems and networks interoperable so that data and other information can be exchanged easily through the use of modern technologies.



## PART II. HORIZONTAL SUPPORT

The Horizontal Support includes:

Horizontal Support	
Communication	Governance and Communication
Administrative Board	
Advisory Board	
Representation and Networks	
Budgetary and Financial management	
Human Resources (HR) management	
Budget implementation tasks entrusted to other services and entities	
Procurement	
IT	
Information Security Management	
Facilities	
Data protection and access to documents	

### 2.1 COMMUNICATION (OBJECTIVE 7)

#### ❖ 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 takes on board the feedback and best practices of other EU agencies. In 2019, much focus has been placed on the roadmap for a balanced management of the fisheries control remit and EFCA's role in the EUCG undertaking.

#### ❖ Main activity results

This has been an intense year in regards to the communication activities that have been undertaken in support of EFCA's mission and operational activities, as foreseen in the Communication Strategy. The 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 agenda in the Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea as well as the extension of the EFCA's activities in the international dimension, including the programme of cooperation in Western Africa, PESCAO. Moreover, the delivery of EFCA's tasks in the framework of the Coast Guard function, including fostering collaboration with both FRONTEX and EMSA, remained high on the Agency's agenda.





## Objective 7

**Promote a culture of compliance of the Common Fisheries Policy and foster the European Union values**

### Results achieved by objective

#### **1. 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 the cooperation programme PESCAO**

In view of supporting the Communication Strategy defined by the European Commission, EFCA participated in the Seafood exhibition in Brussels joining the stand of the Commission, having continuous EFCA staff presence, giving a presentation on its activities, as well as displaying new publications, such as a new brochure, and other material. The cooperation with DG MARE on social media has been constant throughout the year, through the sharing of posts and content.

One video was produced this year, illustrating EFCA's participation in the context of the multipurpose exercise Coastex 2019 in Catania and EFCA's support to the European Coast Guard Functions Forum workshop.

Regarding the online tools, EFCA's website as well as its social media channels Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn, have been kept updated regularly.

When it comes to offline communication tools, a short version of the Annual Report 2018 has been designed and printed as well as the Programming Document 2019. Other material was produced such as bags, stickers, stationery and a customised USB in the shape of the EFCA OPV, the Lundy Sentinel.

Moreover, EFCA issued 13 press releases covering different areas of its work, ranging from news on trainings in the framework of PESCAO, adoption of EFCA's work programme for 2020 or 2019 Annual Report, cooperation with EMSA and FRONTEX on different fronts, the participation in and support provided to the workshop and exercise COASTEX 19 of the European Coast Guard Functions Forum or cooperation with European enforcement and fisheries authorities on illegal fishing.

Groups of visitors received by EFCA include; on 14 May the participants of the 3rd International Forum for Maritime Spatial Planning held in Vigo, and on 25 June, university professors from Sweden. Moreover, different students, both from university and high school were also received.

#### **2. 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 the cooperation programme PESCAO**

EFCA received several prominent visits during this period, ranging from authorities such as the Irish and Dutch fisheries control authorities, and Mr Rob van Lint, Inspector General at the Netherlands Food and Consumer Product Safety Authority, to EMSA Executive Director, Ms Maja Markovčić Kostelac. Also, participants of the 3rd International Forum for Maritime Spatial Planning held in Vigo, and university professors from Sweden were also received, as were several groups of students from both secondary education and university.

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

With the objective of promoting the European Union values locally, EFCA celebrated Europe Day, marking the anniversary of the Schuman Declaration at its premises. Prominent authorities attended as well as various stakeholders. The event received excellent media coverage. Moreover, this year EFCA participated in the Vigo Sea Fest, a summer event that includes different leisure activities related to the





sea. EFCA supported the workshops for children on environmental education. Local authorities were received in EFCA premises such as the directors of the main Galician newspapers, and the dean of Vigo University. EFCA also attended events of local stakeholders when invited.

Moreover, EFCA was represented at the most relevant local events such as the FAO- Conxemar congress inauguration, the celebration of the Spanish Constitution and the relevant celebrations of the Spanish Navy.

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

Under the interagency cooperation, EFCA participated in European Maritime Day. It shared a stand together with Frontex and EMSA and was part of an interagency workshop on the added value of the European Coast Guard cooperation. EFCA material and video were displayed and EFCA staff was present in the stand.

Moreover, EFCA coordinated communication actions with the Italian Coast Guard and EMSA and Frontex both in the framework of the exercise Coastex 2019 and the ECGFF plenary in Venice.

#### **5. EFCA staff: keep staff informed and involved in EFCA's work**

After every Administrative Board meeting, an information meeting was organised with EFCA staff to keep them updated. Internally, and taking into account the results of the survey carried out to staff last year, the intranet has been redesigned and moved to Microsoft 365.

## **2.2 GOVERNANCE AND REPRESENTATION (OBJECTIVE 8-10)**

### **❖ Introduction**

Governance and representation cover the Administrative Board, Advisory Board and representation and networks horizontal tasks.

The Administrative Board is the governing and controlling body of EFCA. It is composed of six members representing the European Commission and one representative per Member State.

The Advisory Board is composed of one representative of each Advisory Council (AC)<sup>49</sup> and was established by the Agency Founding Regulation to advise the Executive Director and to ensure close cooperation with stakeholders.

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<sup>49</sup> The Advisory Councils are stakeholder organisations composed of representatives from the industry, NGOs and other groups of interest.



## Objective 8

**Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity of achieving its responsibilities in governance and expertise**

### Results achieved by objective

- 1. EFCA Administrative Board was regularly and effectively informed of the EFCA's work and developments**
- 2. EFCA Administrative Board ensured the matching of tasks foreseen for the Agency in the programming document and resources available to the Agency**
- 3. Increased Administrative Board involvement and output legitimacy**

In 2019, two meetings of the Administrative Board were held in Vigo; the 32nd meeting of the Administrative Board meeting was held on 10 April 2019, preceded by an Administrative Board seminar on Future Control Challenges and the 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 22 October 2019.

In January, the Administrative Board adopted, through written procedure, both the amendment to the EFCA Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020, the Annual work programme for year 2019 and the Final Budget and Establishment Plan of the EFCA for year 2019, and the amendment to the EFCA draft Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2020-2024 and the Annual work programme for year 2020.

In April, the Administrative Board adopted the Annual Report 2018; the amendment of the Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020 and Annual work programme 2019; the Draft Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2021-2025 and Annual work programme for 2021; the election of the Deputy Chair of the Administrative Board; the designation one of the two Reporting Officers for the annual appraisal of the Executive Director of EFCA; the Internal Control Framework and the Staff Regulation implementing rules.

In June, the Administrative Board adopted both the Final Annual Accounts for financial year 2018 and the general provisions for implementing Article 79(2) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, governing the conditions of employment of contract staff employed under the terms of Article 3a thereof.

In August, the Administrative Board adopted by Written Procedure the Financial Regulation of the EFCA and the endorsement of a Service Level Agreement between EMSA and EFCA on Accounting Services for mutual backup and support.

In October, the Administrative Board adopted the Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2020-2024, the Annual work programme for 2020 and the Budget and Establishment plan for 2020; the draft Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2021-2025, Annual work programme for 2021 and Staff Regulation implementing rules.



## Objective 9

### Ensure an effective dialogue at the level of the Advisory Councils through the Advisory Board

#### Results achieved by objective

##### 1. Close cooperation with the Advisory Councils ensured

The Advisory Board met twice in 2019 prior to the Administrative Board meetings, in Brussels on 27 February 2019 and in Vigo on 21 October 2019<sup>50</sup>.

Throughout 2019, EFCA participated in meetings of the Executive Committees and Working Groups of the Advisory Councils (ACs), 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.

AC Meeting	Meeting Place	Dates
BSAC <sup>51</sup> WG to deal with control / BSAC Ex Com meeting	28-29 January	Copenhagen
BSAC ExCom and theme meeting on future Common Fisheries Policy	3 September	Helsinki
SWW <sup>52</sup> AC Ex Com meeting	13 February	Bilbao
NWWAC <sup>53</sup> Horizontal WG meeting	12 March	Madrid
NSAC Demersal Working Group meeting	9 July	Brussels
Pelagic AC Working Group I and II, Executive Committee meetings	25 April	The Hague
MEDAC <sup>54</sup> meeting	12 November	Rome
MIACO 2019 – (Annual Meeting ICES <sup>55</sup> , Advisory Councils and other observers)	18 January	Copenhagen

##### 2. Facilitate the interaction between the Administrative Board and Advisory Board of EFCA

To promote the participation of the Administrative Board members in the Advisory Board, thus to boost interaction among the two bodies, in October 2019 the Advisory Board meeting was organised the day before the Administrative Board meeting. One Member State attended the Advisory Board meeting.

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. From 2 March 2019 to 1 March 2020 the representative of the Advisory Board was Mr Esben Sverdrup-Jensen, Baltic Sea Advisory Council and the alternate, Mr Daniel Buhai, Black Sea Advisory Council.

<sup>50</sup> [https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/partners/advisory-councils\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/partners/advisory-councils_en)

<sup>51</sup> Baltic Sea Advisory Council (BSAC)

<sup>52</sup> South West Waters Advisory Council (SWWAC)

<sup>53</sup> North Western Waters Advisory Council (NWWAC)

<sup>54</sup> Mediterranean Advisory Council (MedAC)

<sup>55</sup> International Council for the Exploration of the Sea



## Objective 10

### Ensure the Agency representation, cooperation, dialogue and transparency with other institutional bodies, EU agencies and third parties

1. **Synergies with other Institutions and bodies were enhanced and**
2. **EU institutions and bodies and general stakeholders were informed on EFCA activities**

EFCA attended the meetings convened by the European Commission, where its presence was desirable, required or in the interest of the Agency.

On horizontal matters, the inter-agency cooperation network coordinates the relations between Agencies, the Commission and the European Parliament. In this context, the Executive Director and the Head of Unit Resources attended the various meetings held at managerial level. Likewise, Agency staff met their counterparts through specific technical networks: Procurement, Communication, Data protection, Legal, IT, the Performance Development Network (PDN) and Accounting.

Noteworthy is the contribution of EFCA to the Roadmap proposed by the European Commission following the tripartite approach on EU decentralised agencies endorsed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission in July 2012. EFCA has contributed to the roadmap implementation through the EU Agencies PDN to find synergies and to optimise the available resources. The PDN has worked, among other areas on the revision of the template of the Single Programming Document and the Consolidated Annual Activity Report, the Shared Services Catalogue, the Quality management and the concept paper on EU agencies impact.

The Agency was also represented on the Board of the Translation Centre in LU.

EFCA shares services with the Commission and other agencies:

- 10 SLA's /MoU signed with agencies; e.g. EMSA, FRONTEX and the European Union Intellectual Property Office (EUIPO);
- The EC has carried out a merging exercise of the different SLAs and services offered to agencies, gathering all services of each DG into more global agreements. EFCA has now 15-20 SLA's/MoU with the Commission;
- There are around 50 Framework Contracts (FWC) signed with the Commission and agencies and currently in use.
- EFCA is amongst the first wave of agencies where Sysper (Commission's HR IT tool) is being implemented;
- EFCA currently uses the following corporate systems shared by the Commission for the financial and procurement procedures:
  - Accrual Based Accounting (ABAC) Workflow and Legal Commitment Kernel (LCK) for the implementation of the budget
  - Systems Applications and Products (SAP)/ABAC for the Accounting processes
  - ABAC Assets for the processing of the order forms, assets and inventory
  - AGM for the reimbursement of the experts attending meetings at EFCA
  - Missions Integrated Processing System (MIPS) for the approval and payment of mission costs for EFCA's staff
  - e- Invoicing for the electronic invoicing from third parties, and e-Submission for the open calls for tender



## 2.3 BUDGETARY AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT (OBJECTIVE 11)

### ❖ Budget implementation

EFCA received a total budget of €16.7 million as a contribution from the General EU Budget for 2019, representing a decrease of 0.4% in respect of 2018. In addition, EFCA received resources during the course of 2019 in relation to the grant for Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO project), to be implemented from 2018-2022. In total, the grant awarded equalled €2.5 million, from which €0.5 million was earmarked for 2019.

Following the recommendations provided by the Commission in the Budget circular 2019 in respect of the annual salary adjustments applicable from July 2019, as well as considering the high impact of the salary adjustments already applicable from July 2018, EFCA launched an amendment to the Final Budget 2019 as approved by the AB in October 2018. This amendment realigned the figures between Titles for 2019.

The budget has been successfully implemented in 2019 with a 99.9% execution for commitments and 86% for payments. In particular, on the operational expenditure, the commitment implementation was 99.9% from which 27.3% was carried forward for payment in 2020.

Title	Budget	Committed (€)	Paid (€)
<b>TITLE I</b>	<b>8 120 000</b>	<b>7 958 796</b>	<b>7 869 311</b>
<b>TITLE II</b>	<b>1 634 000</b>	<b>1 536 015</b>	<b>1 155 886</b>
<b>TITLE III</b>	<b>6 993 000</b>	<b>7 232 564</b>	<b>5 325 318</b>
Coordination	600 000	509 303	437 445
Assistance and Expertise	1 185 000	1 328 719	755 611
Harmonisation and Standardisation	5 208 000	5 396 543	4 132 262
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16 747 000</b>	<b>16 727 375</b>	<b>14 350 516</b>

The implementation of the ad-hoc grant PESCAO has been 72%, and the remaining of this assigned revenue will be implemented in 2020.

In terms of commitments carried forward from 2018, EFCA consumed 94%.

EFCA cancelled 0.8% of the payment appropriations in 2019 including all fund sources.

The payment times have been maintained at the levels of 2018, passing from an average of 16.3 to 16.2 days. There was a 99.4% compliance with the Financial Regulation time limits, which is higher than the one in 2018. No interest was charged to EFCA for any payment delay.

Performance Indicators	Target	Achieved
<b>Execution rate commitments appropriations</b>	As close as possible to 100%	99.9%
<b>Execution payments appropriations</b>	≥70%	85.7%
<b>Percentage of payments done within the time limits</b>	>98%	99.4%



### ❖ Activity Based Management information

EFCA has estimated the implementation of the Activity based budget 2019 based on the three operational activities presented in the PD 2019 (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 2019 has been the following:

Code	Activity	AWP 2019	AR 2019	% execution vs. planned
1.1	Coordination	3 728 819	3 548 886	95.2%
1.2	Planning and evaluation <sup>56</sup>	9 476 905	9 406 129	99.3%
1.3	Assistance and expertise	3 541 276	3 772 361	106.5%

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 over one year, and therefore cannot be easily compared in consideration of the annuality principle of the EU subsidy funds. For implementation information on the grants, please refer to Annex V (R0 fund source implementation).

#### Objective 11

- 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
- Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's processes

#### Results achieved by objective

1. **Increase of efficiency in the administration through further efforts in the area of e-administration and maintain the levels already achieved in this respect**
  - As part of the implementation of Sysper, the first set of basic Sysper modules was made available to staff on 1 March 2019. The possibility to properly use those modules was gradually increased until the end of 2019 and required the support from the Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security (DG HR), the Directorate-General for Informatics (DG DIGIT) and the Paymaster's Office (PMO).
  - The AGM system was implemented and EFCA started using the system in July 2019. This system has brought great efficiencies in the financial workflows related to the experts reimbursement of travel expenditure.
  - Feasibility study of a budget programming tool. EFCA explored the different alternatives applied in other EU Agencies and the Commission that would fulfil its needs. The implementation will start in 2020.
2. **Maintaining high levels of budget implementation performance through close budget programming, reporting and regular follow-up of the information gathered from the financial systems and the input from the operational units**

<sup>56</sup> Former Harmonisation and standardisation.





- Commitment and payment implementation levels above the targets, with a reduction on budget transfers which shows good budget programming.
  - Close monitoring and follow-up of the commitments and appropriations carried forward from previous years.
  - Regular bilateral meetings with the operational units and EFCA services involved on budget programming and execution.
3. **Compliance with all legal requirements in the operational and administrative fields ensured**
    - Results of audits performed by the Court of Auditors. Full compliance with the regularity and legality of the financial transactions.
  4. **Smooth functioning of the EFCA premises on a day to day basis, managing and coordinating ongoing services like reception, security, building maintenance etc. ensured**
    - Application of adequate security and safety measures
    - Keep the assets management updated and proceed to regular checks (Assets registration, physical tracking, declassification, etc.)
    - Monitor the impact of the Agency on the environment, assess and compare with standards, improve or limit where possible
  5. **Highly available, secure and cost-effective ICT services to support the EFCA business processes and its internal/ external operational activities ensured**

## 2.4 HUMAN RESOURCES (HR) MANAGEMENT

### ❖ Personnel Selection and Recruitment

On 31 December 2019, the establishment plan was 100 % filled<sup>57</sup>, with 61 Temporary Agents (TA). The number of Contract Agents (CA) was within the estimates, with 10 CA<sup>58</sup>. This is similar to the situation at the end of 2018. Additionally, 2 CA were covered by ad hoc grants, under the PESCAO project.

On 31 December 2019 the number of SNEs was 6<sup>59</sup>. The SNE work volume in 2019 resulted in 6.1 person/years of usage sourced by the EFCA budget and 1.3 person/years due to funding for the PESCAO project.

External personnel were not used for replacement.

Furthermore, external service providers were used for delivering specified structural services within the EFCA premises, in the areas of ICT and Logistics. The total of this amounted to 9.2 full-time equivalent (FTE).

### ❖ Organisational development and staff structure

EFCA has carried out a job screening exercise for 2019 following the methodology agreed with the Commission. The jobs include all statutory staff as well as external service providers working *intra-*

<sup>57</sup> Job offers sent before 31 December 2019 concerning 2 posts are counted here as posts filled.

<sup>58</sup> This figure does not include CA covered by ad hoc grants.

<sup>59</sup> This figure does not include SNEs covered by ad hoc grants.



*muros*. The results are displayed in Annex IX allowing a comparative view on the allocation of human resources with the previous year. Operational staff accounts for 66.2 % of the total workforce.

In 2019, the volume of staff on parental leave, maternity leave or partly absent due to working part-time resulted in 2.5<sup>60</sup> person/years. On 31 December 2019, the total FTE of staff on parental or maternity leave or being partly absent due to working part-time was 4.25<sup>61</sup>, with 2 FTE of operational staff and 2.25 FTE of staff in the administration.

As in the previous years there is a wide composition of staff in regard to nationalities as analysed in the chart below.

Including SNEs, nationals of 18 EU Member States were working at EFCA on 31 December 2019. This table by nature only includes posts filled.



On 31 December 2019, the overall average age of staff, including SNEs was 44.8 years. The average age of staff, not counting SNEs, was the same.

#### ❖ Change management process

In June 2019, the sections and desks in EFCA's internal organisation were renamed to sectors. The organisational chart is reflected in Annex VI.

<sup>60</sup> This figure does not include 1 CA covered by ad hoc grants.

<sup>61</sup> This figure does not include 1 CA covered by ad hoc grants.

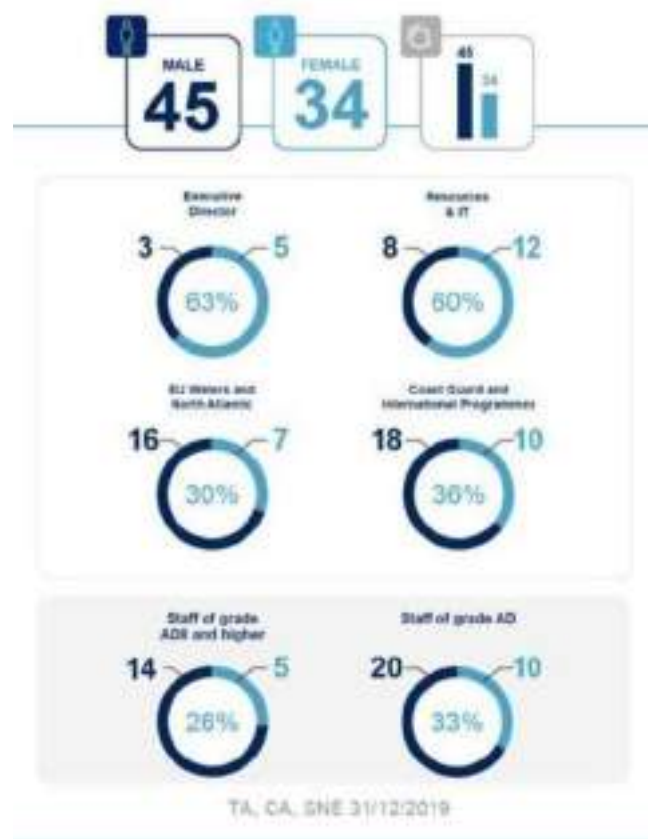


### ❖ Gender distribution among EFCA staff

EFCA promotes a policy of equal treatment and aims to reach an optimal 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 31 December 2019, the overall percentage of female staff members was 46%. This figure is reduced to 43%, if SNEs are included (see data below). Against these figures, the percentage of female staff grade AD8 (administrator's function group, grade 8) or higher was 26% (this number is expected to increase in future years), while in the range AD 5 to AD 7, the balance of female staff was 45.5% on 31/12/2019.

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

Several new General Implementing Provisions (GIP) of the Staff Regulations were adopted by the Administrative Board, inter alia on types of posts and post titles and engagement of contract agents. In the framework of implementing the GIP on anti-harassment, a confidential counsellor was appointed.



### ❖ Appraisal and Reclassification

The annual appraisal exercise was performed for all staff members. Following the reclassification exercise, 9 staff members were reclassified.

### ❖ Training and Tuition

Training sessions on finance and procurement, business continuity management, the new regulation on data protection, information security and Sysper were provided in-house throughout the year. EFCA continued to offer online training on ethics principles via EU Learn. The regular language courses provided via an e-learning tool in 2019, made the organisation of courses more efficient and gave more flexibility to staff to obtain their individual learning goals. In addition to those, class-room language courses were provided during summer months in an intensive format. Spouses continue to participate in Spanish language classes organised by the Agency.

Figures related to the staff training activities in 2019 are as follows:

- number of collective courses organised in the EFCA premises: 8;
- number of external training courses followed: 22;
- number of persons following language courses: 20;
- average number of training days per staff member: 3.06.

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 2019 with an increase of requests after the summer period.

## 2.5 BUDGETARY IMPLEMENTATION TASKS ENTRUSTED TO OTHER SERVICES AND ENTITIES

Based on a Service Level Agreement with the PMO, EFCA delegated the powers of determination of entitlements related to the remuneration of its staff to PMO. In cooperation with the PMO services, EFCA prepares and controls the processing and implements the final payments of the monthly payroll.

## 2.6 PROCUREMENT

The main two procurement procedures in 2019 have been two open calls for tender.

- Software development and IT services with 2 contractors (3 100.000 euro). The procedure was finalised during the 3rd quarter of 2019 and resulted in the signature of 2 framework contracts in cascade in August.
- Communication Services and material (400.00 euro). This procedure was also finalised during quarter 3 and the framework contract was signed in September

Further to that, several negotiated procedures were launched in 2019, such as:

- Medical services onboard EFCA's chartered vessel
- Supplies for operational sea missions
- Subscription services
- Insurance brokerage services for EFCA (chartered vessel, building and other professional liability)



- Banking services
- Provision of STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping)
- Basic Safety Training to EFCA staff.

EFCA joined several inter-institutional tenders, among others,

- Certification services (European Food Service Authority - EFSA)
- Management Consultancy Services (EFSA)
- Mobile communications (EUIPO)

## 2.7 IT

Regarding the improvement of the efficiency of EFCA administration and operations, several tasks were performed in 2019.

- Set the IT Governance Framework based on the IAS audit recommendations and according to the Control Objectives for Information and Related Technologies (COBIT), ITIL, Capability Maturity Model Integration (CMMI) and other frameworks and methodologies.

The following policies have been approved or drafted more concretely.

- A Service catalogue has been created to describe the IT services EFCA provides to internal and external users. It has been agreed in the Information Technology Steering Committee (ITSC) and approved by Executive Director.
  - An SLA between ICT and business have been agreed and adopted.
  - The requirements for gathering management policy have been established.
- Fishnet migration took place in November. The new platform provides enhanced security, more capabilities for collaboration and is more stable. There was a significant effort made to ensure the migration was as seamless as possible for the users. The migration is part of the strategic decision to minimise the technologies used and thus the cost of operating them.
- The support of IT in the effort of the Agency to reduce the carbon footprint by reducing missions and meeting has resulted in the investment in the acquisition of state-of-the-art video/web conference platforms. Apart from the functionality already provided in Fishnet the meeting rooms will have also physical equipment for video conference.
- Back office functions (email, intranet etc.) have moved to the cloud in order to minimise the cost in the long term and enhance the security and agility. Also moving to the cloud gives EFCA the ability to try and use new technologies faster.

The automation of the budget programming process has been launched and will be finalised in 2020.

Continuing the Digital Workplace Enhancement, EFCA has continued to move systems to the cloud. The use of the cloud provided better control of the cost per system and thus better transparency.

EFCA, since August, is hosting the European Coast Guard Functions Training platform.

The yearly maintenance of operational applications (ERS, JaDE and VMS) continued throughout the year with frequent updates.

## 2.8 INFORMATION SECURITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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 organizations like EFCA 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– 2013.

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 that will govern the full set of 114 information security controls of the standard ISO.

## 2.9 FACILITIES

- Physical Security, Health and Safety & Workplace improvement

In 2019, Workplace improvement actions have been focussed on finalizing the last reorganisation of the Agency building, centred on the adaptation of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors.

Works for the upgrade of physical security, initiated in 2018, have been finalised during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2019. The last quarters of 2019 have been dedicated to maintaining an optimal level of security for persons, information and goods. In terms of workplace improvement, a series of maintenance and upgrade actions have been carried out.

- EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme (EMAS) Certification

2019 has been dedicated to the preparation for obtaining the EMAS Certification. Data collection and checking of compliance with the requirements have been the focus of the project to date.

- Business Continuity Plan (BCP)

BCP actions in 2019 have been marked by the finalisation of the review and update of the BCP documentation, the staff awareness sessions and a BCP exercise.

## 2.10 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.

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission agreed the Agency's governance structure in its founding act. European Parliamentary committees regularly assess the work of EFCA and oversee its general development. In short, parliamentary oversight over the EU agencies may include questions, inquiries, hearings, budget discharge, visits and committee contact.

EFCA is overseen by an Administrative Board composed of independent representatives from each Member State as well as the European Commission, which meets at least once per year. The minutes from the Administrative Board meetings are published on the Agency's website. The 'Rules of procedure' of the Administrative Board are published there as well.

The Advisory Board advises the Executive Director of the Agency and ensures close cooperation with stakeholders. The Advisory Board is composed of representatives of the Advisory Councils, on the





basis of one representative designated by each Advisory Council. The meetings of the Advisory Board are chaired by the Executive Director.

The Executive Director is appointed by the Administrative Board, he prepares the Single Programming Document including the draft work programme and the annual budget, and submits it to the Administrative Board for adoption after consultation with the Commission and the Member States. The Executive Director prepares an Annual Report addressed to the Administrative Board in order to provide it with a fair and balanced assessment of EFCA's activities.

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 Single Programming Document.

The Agency is subject to internal audits carried out by the Internal Audit Service. The European Court of Auditors reviews the legality and regularity of the transactions and gives assurance on the truth and fairness of the financial statements.

EFCA continues to implement and further enhance its activity-based management. Moreover, the agency's operational 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, facilitating the identification of the main objectives as reflected in its Single Programming Document.

In its Single Programming Document, EFCA follows a results-based allocation of resources based on priorities. It also includes an annex on risk management, which helps to identify potential risks and how to respond in order to mitigate them. In addition, it provides performance indicators that facilitate an effective evaluation. These aspects facilitate the assessment of whether or not EFCA is achieving its objectives and increase accountability, transparency and openness.

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.

Each five years an evaluator conducts an independent external evaluation of EFCA. Evaluation is the main tool used to assess the extent to which its activities reach the set objectives and how their performance can be improved in the future. Among other effects, the results of evaluations have an impact on increasing the transparency and accountability of EU expenditure.

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. 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 and in consultation with OLAF. 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 whistleblowers in particular.



### 2.10.1 DATA PROTECTION

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2019 was the first year of application of Regulation (EU) 2018/1725 within the EU institutions and bodies. A new Data Protection Officer (DPO) was appointed in EFCA, as well as a Deputy DPO, with a view to keep the highest standards and full compliance with the updated rules.

Two Information Sessions were provided in 2019 in order to raise awareness among all EFCA staff. At the end of the year, management was briefed on the state of play of the implementation of the legal requirements, particularly regarding processing operations which may be subject to the requirement for a data protection impact assessment.

The Agency consulted the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) on internal rules laying down the cases where justified restrictions according to Article 25 of the Regulation could be applied by the EFCA.

EFCA also responded to a request for information from the supervisory authority on the use of Microsoft products and services.

### 2.10.2 ACCESS TO DOCUMENTS

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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")<sup>62</sup>.

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 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](mailto:efca-documents@efca.europa.eu)). After considering each request, the service responsible will send a reasoned reply within 15 working days. During 2019 there were nine requests of access, which eight were responded positively and one was rejected.

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<sup>62</sup> 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.



## PART III. BLOCKS AND ASSURANCE

### 3.1 ASSESSMENT BY MANAGEMENT

#### ❖ Organisational management

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

At the end of 2019 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 Accounting Officer and the Policy Officer are also attending the management meetings.

The EFCA Administrative Board adopted the EFCA Programming Document in October 2018 containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2021 and the Annual work programme for 2019. 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 achievements of the year and the implementation of the work programme is reported in the Annual Report of the Executive Director.

In 2019 the Executive Director of EFCA, as Authorising Officer (AO), delegated financial responsibilities to the heads of unit (Authorising Officers by Delegation (AOD)). Should one Head of Unit be unavailable, the authority returns to the Executive Director. Thus, a very limited number of persons act as AO/AODs in EFCA. The AODs can enter into budgetary and legal commitments and authorise payments. However, all commitments above EUR 80,000 require the signature of the Executive Director.

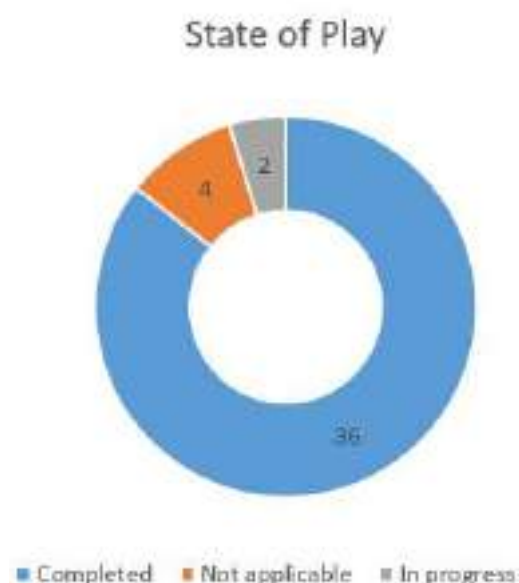
As in previous years for the expenditures of 2019, the AODs signed a Declaration of Assurance to the AO, similar to the one signed by the AO himself, for the area for which they have been delegated responsibility. No reservations were raised by the AODs.

In 2019 EFCA continued to establish and improve formal internal Service Level Agreements (SLA's) defining the level of service expected between different EFCA units/desks. The internal SLAs help to clarify expectations amongst EFCA internal services and will increase the efficiency.

#### ❖ Roadmap on the follow-up to the Common Approach on EU decentralised agencies

In line with the Common Approach endorsed by the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission in July 2012, the Commission prepared a Roadmap on the follow-up to the Common Approach with concrete timetables for the planned initiatives. EFCA is actively committed to put in place the actions to be performed as defined by the Commission.

The progress of each action is closely followed-up and the state of play as of 31 December 2019 is as follows:



## 3.2 INTERNAL CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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. During the first quarter of 2019 this system was based on the 16 internal control standards (ICS) adopted by the Administrative Board in 2008 and further updated in 2015, in line with equivalent standards laid down by the European Commission. However, 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 new 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.

The assessment for the reporting year 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).

Based on the most relevant key indicators and control results, the assessment concluded that, overall, the internal control system is present (compliance) and functioning (effectiveness).

The assessment also conclude that measures are needed to further improve the control activities component, namely, on the contract management area by defining clearly the roles and responsibilities and by raising awareness of the contract management process.

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.



### 3.3 LEGALITY AND REGULARITY OF TRANSACTIONS

#### 3.3.1 EX-ANTE AND EX-POST CONTROLS

EFCA continues to carry out ex-ante verification over a subset of financial transactions in its financial circuits based on a risk assessment methodology established in 2013. To compensate for this, internal ex-post verification on a sample of transactions is carried out quarterly by EFCA financial staff. From the total payments, around 68% were carried out without an ex ante verification, in line with the rate of 2018.

The quarterly ex-post verification exercises have shown an accumulated error rate of 0.3%, similar to the one in 2018 exercise.

#### 3.3.2 MANAGEMENT OF EXCEPTIONS AND NON-COMPLIANCE EVENTS

EFCA has a procedure in place to ensure that where overrides of controls or deviations from established processes and procedures are identified, documented and logged centrally.

In 2019 four events were registered, three exceptions and one non-compliance event, with an overall notional value of 46.000 EUR. The events were mainly related to a late signature of a contract amendment regarding its extension. Even if a notional value was attributed to the events there was no financial impact/loss for the Agency. Appropriate measures are being taken to avoid the occurrence of these kind of errors.

### 3.4 RISK MANAGEMENT

EFCA has identified risks in different areas; for each risk action plans are established and closely followed-up. The Agency is aware that risk management is a continuous exercise. Therefore, risks are updated and assessed if major changes occur.

The risk register contains now 8 risks that are subject to a close follow-up, most of the risks were already present in previous exercises and the mitigation actions are already embedded in the day-to-day operations of the Agency.

During 2019, particular attention was given to address potential safety, security and other related risks regarding the operation of chartered means. Specifically, for the OPV chartered by EFCA and besides the regular meetings with the contractor, the company Sentinel Marine, there were two dedicated meetings in Lisbon where the flag state (PT Direcção-Geral de Recursos Naturais, Segurança e Serviços. Marítimos - DGRM), EFCA's ED and other representatives addressed important aspects related to safety and security as well as other mutual assistance elements.

#### ❖ Fraud prevention and detection

In principle, the controls aimed at preventing and detecting fraud are not unlike those intended to ensure the legality and regularity of the transactions (the unintentional errors) e.g.:

- The 'four eyes' principle applied at each level gives reasonable assurance of compliance with the legal framework;
- The automated controls embedded over the workflows of the financial and accounting systems (ABAC/SAP);



- The salaries calculation and upload of individual payments is done by PMO;
- A declaration of absence of conflict of interests is always signed by panel members.

In 2014, the Agency adopted a comprehensive policy on the prevention and management of conflict of interests and an anti-fraud strategy. A revised anti-fraud strategy was adopted by the Administrative Board in 2018.

Those documents, which mainly aim for prevention measures, are important instruments in discouraging actions and behaviours that could harm the Agency's reputation.

Since the creation of the Agency no fraud events have occurred.

## 3.5 ASSESSMENT OF AUDIT RESULTS DURING THE REPORTING YEAR

### 3.5.1 INTERNAL AUDIT SERVICE

In line with the IAS Strategic Audit Plan 2017-2019, EFCA has been audited by the IAS in July 2019. The scope of the audit engagement was to assess the adequacy of the design and effective and efficient implementation of the management and internal control systems put in place by EFCA for the implementation and assessment of the JDPs.

The IAS concluded that the audited processes are effective and efficient and did not identify any critical or very important risks that may affect the achievement of the objectives for the processes audited. However, notwithstanding the overall positive conclusion, a limited number of issues were identified. The final report was received on 13 November 2019. IAS issued 3 recommendations all rated "important". For each recommendation EFCA drafted a comprehensive action plan that was considered by IAS as adequate to mitigate the risks identified. The recommendations will be addressed throughout 2020.

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.

### 3.5.2 EUROPEAN COURT OF AUDITORS (ECA) AND EXTERNAL AUDITOR

EFCA is audited every year by the European Court of Auditors. 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 2019, EFCA received a [Statement of Assurance](#) certifying an unqualified opinion<sup>63</sup> for 2018 Annual Accounts and indicating that the accounts are reliable and the transactions underlying the accounts are legal and regular.

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<sup>63</sup> 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.





With regards to the 2019 Financial Year, ECA conducted its on-site audits and will conclude with a desk review in the first quarter of 2020.

At the same time, the 2019 Annual Accounts will be 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 late 2020.

### 3.5.3 EXTERNAL EVALUATIONS

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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, EC and industry, allowing EFCA to achieve objectives in terms of Member States cooperation and compliance, thus contributing to the level-playing field 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 of 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, 10 recommendations were implemented and progressing in line with the roadmap presented to the Administrative Board on 22 October 2019.

The recommendations issued by the Administrative Board are being taken into consideration in the Single Programming Document of the Agency.

## 3.6 FOLLOW-UP OF AUDIT PLANS, AUDITS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Agency has developed and implemented a centralised monitoring of all audit recommendations in order to improve the follow-up of corresponding action plans.



Therefore, all the recommendations issued by the IAS and the European Court of Auditors were consolidated and are regularly monitored.

In 2019, 6 action plans were implemented and the associated recommendations were considered closed by IAS.

At the current time, 7 IAS recommendations are open and being currently addressed, 3 of those issued in late 2019. None of the open recommendations are considered critical or very important.

### 3.7 FOLLOW-UP OF OBSERVATIONS FROM THE DISCHARGE AUTHORITY

The European Parliament granted the Executive Director of the EFCA the discharge in respect of the implementation of the Agency's budget for the financial year 2017. 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 Agency.

The EP resolution contained comments addressed to EFCA. For each comment that required measures EFCA implemented and informed the Discharge authority accordingly.

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.



## PART IV. MANAGEMENT ASSURANCE

This part 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 2019, the Authorising Officers by Delegation signed a Declaration of Assurance to the Authorising Officer, similar to the one signed by the AO himself, for the area for which they have been delegated responsibility. No reservations were raised by the Authorising Officers by Delegation.

Taking into account all the elements reviewed below, it can be positively concluded that the Executive Director has reasonable assurance and has no reasons to introduce any reservation for the year 2019.

### 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 satisfactory 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 2019 for the financial year 2018 on the true and fair view of the EFCA 2017 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 materiality framework (Annex XII);
- 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 AND OVERALL CONCLUSION ON ASSURANCE

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.

In conclusion, for 2019 nothing opposes to the signing the Declaration of Assurance.



#### 4.2.1 STATEMENT OF THE INTERNAL CONTROL COORDINATOR

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##### **Statement of the Internal Control Coordinator**

*I hereby declare that in accordance with my responsibilities as Internal Control Coordinator I have reported my assessment, advice and recommendations to the Executive Director on the overall state of internal control in EFCA.*

*I certify that the information provided in the relevant sections of the Annual Report and its annexes is, to the best of my knowledge, accurate and exhaustive.*

Done at Vigo on 28 February 2020

**SIGNED**

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Paulo C



#### 4.2.2 DECLARATION OF ASSURANCE

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##### 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 view<sup>1</sup>.*

*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 recommendations of the Internal Audit Service, the accompanying action plans and their follow-up;*
- *the lessons learnt from the reports of the Court of Auditors and the accompanying action plans and their follow-up;*
- *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 2 March 2020

**SIGNED**

Pascal SAVOURET  
Executive Director

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<sup>1</sup> True and fair in this context means a reliable, complete and correct view on the state of affairs in the Agency.



## ANNEXES

## ANNEX I: MULTIANNUAL PROGRAMME – STRATEGIC MULTIANNUAL OBJECTIVES 2019 – 2020

STRATEGIC MULTIANNUAL OBJECTIVES	Key Performance Indicator (KPI)	STATE OF PLAY END 2019 <sup>65</sup>		TARGET BY 2020
1. Support the Member States in the monitoring of the Common Fisheries Policy and in particular the landing obligation	% of SCIPs implemented by JDP adopted	100		100%
	Number of inspections and inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement by JDP	NS	13,656 (-5%) 112 (-39%)	Stable trend (Inter-annual change less than $\pm 15\%$ )
		BS <sup>66</sup>	4,286 (3%) 111 (71%)	
		NAFO & NEAFC	67 (12%) 6 (0%)	
		WW	2,901 (7%) 129 (-21%)	
		MED	9,327 (68%) 787 (268%)	
		Black S	2,144 21	
	Ratios for inspection with at least 1 suspected infringement by JDP <sup>67</sup>	NS	0.8% (-36%)	Stable trend (Inter-annual change less than $\pm 25\%$ )
		BS	2.6% (66%)	
		NAFO & NEAFC	9% (-10%)	
		WW	4.4% (-27%)	
		MED	8.4% (119%)	
		Black S	1%	
	Percentage of PACT projects organized following requests from Member States	100%		100%
2. Cooperate with other European Agencies to support Member States national authorities carrying out coast guard functions	% of operations implemented by EFCA chartered means in line with the Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA)	70%		>80%
3. Support the Union in the international	Third countries mission number in the framework of IUU regulation (EC) No1005/2008	6		8 missions (2-year term)

<sup>65</sup> Data available on 24 January 2020.

<sup>66</sup> Baltic Sea (see section Evolution of Joint Deployment Plans, page 14).

<sup>67</sup> Infringement ratio is influenced by the risk management strategy.





dimension of the CFP and the fight against IUU activities	% of analysis of catch certificates and supporting documents provided timely to the EC	100%	100%
	% of assistance provided to EU in relations with the Regional Fisheries Management (RFMOs) and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (SFPAs) <sup>68</sup> / EU requests received	100%	100%
4. Contribute to achieve a Level Playing Field through Capacity Building tools	Use of CC by coastal Member States	100%	70% use of the CC by coastal Member States
	Number of attendees to regional workshops and training sessions by EFCA	638	At least 750 participants (2-year term)
	E-learning platform service available to users <sup>69</sup>	100%	95% on a yearly basis for three years
5. Ensure visibility of EFCA's mission and EU values	Implementation of the Annual Communication Strategy Plan	100%	90%
6. Ensure EFCA good governance, transparency and accountability	Preparation and notification of EFCA's Programming Document in due course	100%	100%
7. Ensure the efficient use of EFCA resources	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 31 <sup>st</sup> December)	0 %	≤5%
	Degree of paperless transactions and procedures <sup>70</sup>	90%	90%

<sup>68</sup> Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements.

<sup>69</sup> The KPI does not include scheduled downtime.

<sup>70</sup> It refers to the financial transactions and procedures.



## ANNEX II: CORRESPONDENCE ANNUAL OBJECTIVES 2019

PD 2020 Operational Activities and Horizontal tasks	AWP 2020	AWP 2019
JDPs, Operational Plans and Pilot Projects	1. Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the Commission in EU Waters and North Atlantic	1. Coordinate the implementation of JDPs and Operational plans by the Member States in EU waters and North Atlantic, and support to national authorities carrying out coast guard functions in EU waters  3. Support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters and North Atlantic
	2. Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the Commission in Mediterranean and the Black Sea	2. Coordinate the implementation of the EU contribution to the International Control and Inspection Schemes in RFMOs in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea (ICCAT and GFCM) also including PACT regional projects and support to national authorities carrying out coast guard functions in International waters 4. Support to the implementation of CFP in Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and external waters, and cooperation with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries (RFMO's)
Risk assessment and data analysis	3. Promotion of a risk management based approach and compliance evaluation	6. Promoting effectiveness and efficiency of control operations  7. Development of Data Governance Strategy of the EFCA Fisheries Information System (FIS) to support the operational activities of EU Fisheries control and related Maritime Operations
International dimension: compliance with international provisions	4. Support the EU in the implementation of the external dimension of the CFP	4. Support to the implementation of CFP in Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and external waters, and cooperation with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries (RFMO's) 9. Provide assistance to the European Commission and the Member States in order to ensure uniform and effective application of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008
	5. To strengthen compliance through the implementation of EU international projects (e.g. "Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO)")	10. Support to the EU in international projects, (e.g. "Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO)") as regards fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance



	as regards fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance	
Coast Guard and Capacity Building	6. Improve capacities to implement fisheries control and support other <sup>71</sup> coast guard functions	<p>5. Contribute to the implementation of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy through interagency cooperation on coast guard functions and to the development of technologies for fisheries control</p> <p>8. Provision of training activities in support of the effective and uniform application of the CFP, including fisheries control expertise in the context of the EUCG functions</p>
Communication	7. Ensure that EFCA's target audiences: stakeholders, general public, institutions, local audience and EFCA staff understand the Agency's mission, positively perceive the Agency as a well-qualified operational and technical body which efficiently meets its objectives and have a direct flow of information with the EFCA. Through its communication strategy, the EFCA promotes a culture of compliance and fosters the European Union values	11. Ensure that EFCA's target audiences: stakeholders, general public, institutions, local audience and EFCA staff understand the Agency's mission, positively perceive the Agency as a well-qualified operational and technical body which efficiently meets its objectives and have a direct flow of information with the EFCA. Through its communication strategy, the EFCA promotes a culture of compliance and fosters the European Union values
Governance and representation	<p>8. Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity of achieving its responsibilities in governance and expertise</p> <p>9. Ensure an effective dialogue at the level of the Advisory Councils through the Advisory Board</p> <p>10. Ensure the Agency representation, cooperation, dialogue and transparency with other institutional bodies, EU agencies and third parties</p>	<p>12. Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity of achieving its responsibilities in governance and expertise</p> <p>13. Ensure an effective dialogue at the level of the Advisory Councils through the Advisory Board</p> <p>14. Ensure the Agency representation, cooperation, dialogue and transparency with other institutional bodies, EU agencies and third parties</p>
Horizontal support	<p>11. - 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</p> <p>- Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's processes</p>	<p>15. - 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.</p> <p>- Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's processes</p>

<sup>71</sup> 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 coast guard as follows:

'coast guard' means national authorities performing coast guard 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'



## ANNEX III: AWP 2019 TABLES PER OBJECTIVE

## 1. Coordination (Operations) (ABMS CODE 1.1) (Objectives 1 and 2)

Resources – Activity Based Management System (ABMS) Code 1.1 (Objectives 1 and 2)		
Code 1.1	Planned	Consumed
Staff	2.5 AD, 11 AST, 1 CA, 4 SNE	3.1 AD, 10.9 AST, 1.9 CA, 4.5 SNE
Standard Budget	€600 000	€509,303
ABMS	€3 728 819	€3 548 886

Objective 1				
Coordinate the implementation of JDPs and Operational plans by the Member States in EU waters and North Atlantic, and support to national authorities carrying out coast guard functions in EU waters				
RESULTS				
Planned				Achieved
1. Coordination of the implementation of the control activities committed by the Member States and EFCA in the Regional JDPs and operational plans for 2019 in North Sea, Baltic Sea, NAFO and NEAFC and Western Waters				Yes
2. Close collaboration, exchange of information, increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States in the context of the JDPs Provision of assistance and expertise to Member States through regional workshops and best practice meetings for the Union Inspectors, inspectors and MS staff				Yes
3. Implementation of multipurpose operations to support national authorities carrying out coast guard functions through sharing of information and sharing of means				Yes
Performance Indicators JDPs in EU waters	Target	Achieved		
		Baltic Sea	North Sea	Western Waters
1. By JDP:				
• Number of campaigns days per JDP	>300	365	365	365
• Percentage of control and inspection means deployed in accordance with the JDP schedule (% of total planned)	90%	100%	97%	100%
• Man/days in joint inspection teams	75	>75	>75	>75



2. Percentage of inspections at sea on vessels belonging to the two highest risk fleet segments per JDP regional area	60%	86%	53%	60%
3. By region/JDP				
• Number of workshops and best practice meeting delivered	At least 1 per region	1	1	1
• Union inspections attending workshops attendees satisfaction	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good) >80%	100%	100%	100%

#### MAIN OUTPUTS

Planned	Achieved		
1. Quarterly reports regarding Regional JDPs and operational plans for 2019 in North Sea, Baltic Sea, NAFO, NEAFC and Western Waters	Yes		
2. Advanced workshop(s) and best practice meetings delivered.	Yes		
3. Multipurpose operations with Frontex and EMSA, in support of national authorities carrying out coast guard functions.	Yes		
4. Operation of EFCA chartered means	Yes		
Multiannual index to be used as a tendency for compliance evaluation purposes JDPs in EU waters <sup>72</sup>	Baltic Sea	North Sea	Western Waters
Number of inspections and inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement	4286 / 111	13656 <sup>73</sup> / 112	2901 / 129
Ratios for inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement detected by JDP	2.6%	0.8 <sup>74</sup> %	4.4%
Number of attendees to regional workshops by EFCA	26	7	14

#### Objective 2

**Coordinate the implementation of the EU contribution to the International Control and Inspection Schemes in RFMOs in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea (ICCAT and GFCM) also including PACT regional projects and support to national authorities carrying out coast guard functions in International waters**

#### RESULTS

Planned	Achieved
1. Coordination of the implementation of the control activities committed by the Member States and EFCA in the JDPs covering the waters of Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea, including the waters managed by ICCAT and GFCM	Yes
2. Close collaboration, exchange of information, increased synergies and transparency between the participating Member States in the context of the JDPs	Yes

<sup>72</sup> Data available on 25 January 2018. Additional data may be received later from Member States.

<sup>73</sup> Of which 12 742 correspond to inspections conducted a shore

<sup>74</sup> The ratio of inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement of inspections conducted a shore was 0.9%.



3.	EFCA's participation as inspectors in control missions in international waters	Yes			
4.	Provision of assistance and expertise to Members States through regional workshops and best practice meetings for RFMO inspectors, Union Inspectors, inspectors and Member States staff	Yes			
5.	Implementation of multipurpose operations to support national authorities carrying out coast guard functions through sharing of information and sharing of means	Yes			
Performance indicators		Target	Achieved		
			NAFO NEAFC	MED	Black Sea
1. By JDP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of campaigns days per JDP</li><li>Percentage of Control and inspection means deployed in accordance with the JDP schedule (% of total planned)</li><li>Man/days in joint inspection teams</li></ul>	>300	365	365	365	
	90%	90%	100%	100%	
	75	>75	>75	>75	
3. By region/JDP <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Number of workshops and best practice meeting delivered</li><li>Union inspectors attending workshops attendees satisfaction</li><li>Number of EU-ICCAT trainers trainings delivered</li></ul>	At least 1 per region	3	1	2	
	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good) >80%	95%	100%	100%	
	at least 1	1			
MAIN OUTPUTS					
Planned				Achieved	
1. Quarterly reports regarding JDPs in the Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea				Yes	
2. Advance workshop(s) and best practice meetings delivered				Yes	
3. Multipurpose operations with Frontex and EMSA, in the support of national authorities carrying out coast guard functions.				Yes	
4. Operation of EFCA chartered means				Yes	
Multiannual index to be used as a tendency for compliance evaluation purposes		NAFO/NEAFC	Black Sea	MED	
Number of inspections and inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement by JDP		67 / 6	2144 / 21	9327 / 787	
Ratios for inspections with at least 1 suspected infringement detected by JDP		9.0%	1.0%	8.4%	
Number of attendees to regional workshops by EFCA		63	104	53	





## 2. Harmonisation and standardisation (ABMS CODE 1.2)

Resources - ABMS Code 1.2 (Objectives 3, 4 and 5)		
Code 1.2	Planned	Consumed
Staff	9 AD, 4 AST, 0.5 CA, 2 SNE	9.6 AD, 4.5 AST, 0.9 CA, 0.5 SNE
Standard Budget	€5 208 000	€5 396 543
ABMS	€9 476 905	€9 406 129

Objective 3		
Support the implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy in EU waters and North Atlantic		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Joint deployment plans adopted		Yes
2. Improved CFP implementation at a regional level through the organisation of regional steering group (RSG) meetings		Yes
3. Improved cost-effectiveness through the planning of the regional control operations (JDPs and operational plans) including multipurpose missions in cooperation with the other Agencies		Yes
4. Assessment of the regional control operations (JDP and operational plans), including the definition of major risks for the control activities		Yes
5. Implementation of the tasks delegated to EFCA in relation to RFMOs and third countries in the North Atlantic		Yes
6. Promote compliance and level playing field in the fisheries control		Yes
7. Support to the EU Delegation in international meetings		Yes
8. Assistance to Member States, including to Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in the implementation of projects related to the CFP, as the landing obligation		Yes
9. Adaptation of JDPs to the post-Brexit situation		Yes
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		Achieved
		Target 2019
1. Planning of control operations delivered timely		Quarter 4
2. Assessment reports JDPs (year N) delivered before 1 July (year N+1)		100%
3. Risk management implemented for landing obligation		100%
4. % of Member States and EC support requests fulfilled by EFCA		100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved



1. Report on the support from EFCA to Member States, including to Regional Bodies, and the European Commission in projects related to the implementation of the CFP, including PACT regional projects	Yes
2. Planning and assessment of the regional control operations delivered	Yes
3. Planning and assessment of EUCG multipurpose operations	Yes

Objective 4		
Support to the implementation of CFP in Mediterranean Sea, Black Sea and external waters, and cooperation with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries (RFMO's)		
RESULTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Joint deployment plan adopted	Yes	
2. Improved implementation of the CFP at a regional level through the organization of regional steering group meetings	Yes	
3. Improved cost-effectiveness through the planning of the regional control operations (JDPs and operational plans), including multipurpose missions in cooperation with the other Agencies	Yes	
4. Preparation and implementation of pilot projects for cooperation with third countries in the context of the GFCM	Yes	
5. Support cooperation of third countries involved in GFCM and ICCAT fisheries	Yes	
6. Assessment of the regional control operations (JDP and operational plans), including the definition of major risks for the control activities	Yes	
7. Promote compliance and level playing field in the fisheries control	Yes	
8. Implementation of the tasks delegated to EFCA in relation to RFMOs and third countries	Yes	
9. Support to the EU Delegation in RFMOs meetings	Yes	
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Planning of control operations delivered timely	Quarter 4	100%
2. Assessment reports JDPs (year N) delivered before 1 July (year N+1)	100%	100%
3. % of RFMOs and third countries to which EFCA assisted in comparison with EC requests	100%	100%
4. % of Implementation of the tasks delegated by the EC in relation to RFMOs and third countries	100%	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Reports on the support from EFCA to Member States, including to Regional Bodies, and the EC in projects related to the implementation of the CFP	Yes	
2. Planning and assessment of the regional control operations, (JDP and operational plans) including PACT regional projects delivered	Yes	



3. Pilot projects with third countries delivered	Yes
4. Assistance to third countries delivered	Yes
5. Planning and assessment of EUCG multipurpose operations	Yes
6. Report of cooperation with third countries and RFMOs	Yes
7. Report on the implementation of the tasks delegated to EFCA in relation to RFMOs and third countries	Yes

Objective 5		
Contribute to the implementation of the EU Integrated Maritime Policy (IMP) through interagency cooperation on coast guard functions and to the development of technologies for fisheries control		
RESULTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Support to the EU regarding the implementation of the EU integrated Maritime Policy	Yes	
2. Cooperation on EU Coast Guard functions <sup>75</sup> with EMSA and Frontex in benefit of Member States coast guard authorities	Yes	
3. Control means chartered and deployed following the agreed planning of operations	Yes	
4. EFCA Maritime Operational Centre managed in support of EFCA operations	Yes	
5. Implementation of the annual strategic plan agreed with EMSA and Frontex under the TWA	Yes	
6. Support to the Member States in the use of technologies for fisheries control purposes	Yes	
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Number of multipurpose operations missions	10	50
2. Agreement reached on the operational RPAs services with the other Agencies	By December	100%
3. Fixing areas/period/means and briefings for multipurpose operations in 2020	By December	100%
4. Definition of fixed Wing Aircraft surveillance service for the purpose of Agencies in 2020	By December	100%

<sup>75</sup> 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 coast guard as follows:

'coast guard' means national authorities performing coast guard 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



5. Percentage of EFCA chartered means operational days carried out in multipurpose operations	70%	70%
<b>MAIN OUTPUTS</b>		
<b>Planned</b>	<b>Achieved</b>	
1. Active participation and expert input in initiatives related with the implementation of the EU integrated maritime policy	Yes	
2. Reports of the TWA Steering Committee and Technical Subcommittees	Yes	
3. Fisheries control and multipurpose activities delivered by the EFCA chartered means	Yes	
4. Reports regarding the implementation of new technologies in the fisheries control activities	Yes	
5. Preparation of first draft of CG handbook	Yes	
6. One working group organised on the use and development of technologies for fisheries control	Yes	

### 3. Assistance and expertise (ABMS CODE 1.3)

<b>Resources - ABMS Code 1.3 (Objectives 6, 7, 8 ,9 and 10)</b>		
<b>Code 1.3</b>	<b>Planned</b>	<b>Consumed</b>
<b>Staff</b>	7,3 AD, 2 AST1, 2,5 CA, 1 SNE	7 AD, 3.5 AST, 3.1 CA, 1 SNE
<b>Standard Budget</b>	€1 185 000	€1 326 719
<b>ABMS</b>	€3 541 276	€3 772 361
<b>Grant PESCAO</b>	€500 000 <sup>76</sup> / 2CA, 2 SNE	€454 204 / 2.2 CA, 1.3 SNE

<b>Objective 6</b>	
<b>Promoting effectiveness and efficiency of control operations</b>	
<b>RESULTS</b>	
<b>Planned</b>	<b>Achieved</b>
1. Major risk drivers and mitigation measures for priority risks identified by regional risk analysis developed in each JDP/operational plan area, and in regional areas on request of the Member	Yes

<sup>76</sup> Budget granted to EFCA for the support to the EU project "Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO)".



States		
2.	Compliance trends identified in the different JDPs, and in regional areas on request of the Member States	Yes
3.	Contribution to the EFCA users` needs definition regarding the software for operational applications	Yes
4.	Identification of cost-effective monitoring through an evaluation of the costs of JDPs and operational plans	Yes
5.	Assistance to Member States to facilitate successful enforcement of procedures	Yes
6.	Harmonisation and standardisation of control methods, procedures and minimum inspection standards	Yes
7.	Provide expertise on the control aspects in preparation of new or updating existing regulations upon EC request	Yes
Performance indicators		Achieved
1.	JDPs/operational plans with a full regional risk analysis system established	100%
2.	Methodology for compliance evaluation implemented in agreed specific fisheries	100%
3.	Implementation of cost estimation model in JDPs	100%
4.	Project on Member States procedures and requirements delivered by some regions	100%
5.	Project on standardisation of inspection practices delivered by some regions	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1.	Updated Regional risk analysis report by JDP/region delivered	Yes
2.	Report on compliance trends in JDP/region delivered	Yes
3.	Report on the support to the EU expert group on compliance delivered	Yes
4.	Report on the evaluation of the costs of JDPs delivered	Yes
5.	National fiches by Member States on procedures and requirements to be considered by Union inspectors when acting in waters of another Member State and follow-up delivered	Yes
6.	Report on standardisation of inspection practices delivered	Yes



Objective 7		
Development of Data Governance Strategy of the EFCA Fisheries Information System to support the operational activities of EU Fisheries control and related Maritime Operations		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1.	High quality data exchange in place of Fisheries control and Maritime Operations supported by established Data management processes	Yes
2.	Increased Business Intelligence through data analysis and analytics to support EFCA's activities	Yes
3.	Contribution for the improvement of EU information systems in support to fisheries monitoring and control	Yes
4.	Collaboration with other EU and international bodies on the implementation of information systems supporting maritime surveillance and fight against IUU	Yes
5.	High use by the participating parties in JDPs (TJDG) and joint maritime operations of the data provided	Yes
Performance indicators		Achieved
Data Governance Strategy established and implemented		100% <sup>77</sup>
User evaluation of the ERS, Fishnet and IMS applications		> 90% satisfaction rate per JDP from participating MS 89% <sup>78</sup>
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1.	Establishment of Data Governance Strategy and implementation of it through Data management processes in line with business requirements	No
2.	Identification and analysis of business requirements for the development of EFCA FIS in support of JDPS, EUCG functions and support to MS to fight IUU fishing	Yes
3.	EFCA FIS developments acceptance reports	Yes
4.	Access and interoperability with the EC and other EUCG function related agencies	Yes
5.	Continuous service of operational and training environments for the EFCA suite of operational applications	Yes
6.	Annual survey of user satisfaction for operational applications including data quality, user interface etc.	No

<sup>77</sup> The EFCA Data Governance was established during 2019. The implementation phase started in 2019, with the adoption of an internal data governance organisation, and the development of standardised data quality monitoring processes. The implementation phase of data governance should be seen as an on-going process with no end date for completion, considering the dynamic aspects of systems and data. Nevertheless, the 2019 tangibles objectives related with organisational aspects and monitor of data quality were achieved.

<sup>78</sup> No user survey was conducted in 2019. The results of the survey conducted in 2018 are considered valid for 2019 and the values obtained were very close to the target. It is not desirable to conduct the survey in an annual basis.





Objective 8		
Provision of training activities in support of the effective and uniform application of the CFP, including fisheries control expertise in the context of the EUCG functions		
RESULTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Improvement of the uniform application of the CFP and international rules by the competent inspectors at international, regional and national level	Yes	
2. Contribution to the preparation of a practical handbook on European cooperation on coast guard functions	Yes	
3. Cooperation with Member States authorities and other Agencies in the training of coast guard authorities, including Third Countries	Yes	
4. Harmonised training programmes of Member States officials through the development of a Sectoral Qualification Framework	Yes	
5. Increased availability of translated training material on the EFCA e-learning platform	Yes	
6. Availability of e-learning courses	Yes	
7. Support to Member States training activities on request	Yes	
8. Delivery of training to third countries inspectors on request of the Commission, including Tunisia, Algeria, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Ukraine and Georgia	Yes	
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. EFCA training sessions for Member States satisfaction rate	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good) >80%	97%
2. Number of registered users in the EFCA e-learning platform	750	1117
3. Number of Member States using CC training courses as reference material (Inspection at sea, Port inspection, and General principles & specific types of inspection)	>80% of coastal Member States	100%
4. Number of Union inspectors and Member States staff concerned attending the regional workshops and training sessions	500	547
5. Percentage of third countries trained on request of the Commission	100%	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned	Achieved	
1. Report from Working Group on training and exchange of experience (WGTEE) and SGTEE meetings	Yes	
2. Existing training manuals updated according to SGTEE request	Yes	
3. Specialised e-learning courses delivered in accordance with the priorities set by the SGTEE	Yes	
4. EFCA support to Member State's national training services granted as agreed with the Member State	Yes	
5. Training delivered for Member States and third countries trainers and Union inspectors	Yes	



Objective 9		
<b>Provide assistance to the European Commission and the Member States in order to ensure uniform and effective application of the Council Regulation (EC) No 1005/2008</b>		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Implement the agreed programme of assistance to the European Commission in connection with the evaluation mission to third countries		Yes
2. Increased collaboration between Member States IUU competent authorities in the verification process and risk analysis relating to the import of fisheries products to the EU		Yes
3. Improves training of Member States officials involved in the implementation of the IUU Regulation		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Number of evaluation missions in third countries	4	6
2. % of analysis of catch certificates and supporting documents provided timely to the Commission	100%	100%
3. IUU training sessions satisfaction rate	Attendees satisfaction (good or very good) >80%	97%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Reports on analysis and missions in third countries		Yes
2. Organisation and reports on the IUU steering group meeting		Yes
3. Action plan for landlocked countries delivered		Yes
4. Training sessions and seminars for Member States IUU competent authorities delivered		Yes
Multiannual index to be used as a trend for compliance evaluation purposes		
IUU training sessions and seminars number of participants		4 / 86



Objective 10		
Support to the EU in international projects, (e.g. “Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa (PESCAO)” <sup>79</sup> ) as regards fisheries monitoring, control and surveillance		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Strengthening of prevention and responses to IUU fishing in the areas concerned		Yes
2. Support to the third countries concerned as regards the harmonisation of its legal framework in accordance with the international standards		Yes
3. Fisheries inspectors and other officials trained		Yes
4. Support to the third countries concerned as regards cooperation and operational campaigns implementation		Yes
5. Support to the third countries concerned as regards acquisition of infrastructures, equipment and charter operations		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
Joint regional missions organised with EFCA support	2	3
Support to Regional FMCs provided with VMS/AIS system	1	1
Number of trained officials in the areas covered by SRFC and FCWC	20	91
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Multiannual planning of activities for the 5-year project defined		Yes
2. Annual programme of the project for 2020 adopted		Yes
3. Periodic reports of cooperation delivered		Yes
4. Mapping of needs delivered for SRFC and FCWC Member States		Yes
Multiannual index		
Estimation of IUU catches in the area		Recent data not available

<sup>79</sup> Grant agreement signed on 16 March 2018.



## HORIZONTAL TASKS

### 1. Communication, Governance and Representation (Objectives 11-14)

Resources – Objectives 11, 12, 13 and 14		
	Planned	Consumed
Staff	6 AD	5.2 AD, 1.1 CA
Standard Budget	€209 000 <sup>80</sup>	€187 460
ABMS	N/A	N/A

Objective 11		
Ensure that EFCA's target audiences: stakeholders, general public, institutions, local audience and EFCA staff understand the Agency's mission, positively perceive the Agency as a well-qualified operational and technical body which efficiently meets its objectives and have a direct flow of information with the EFCA. Through its communication strategy, the EFCA promotes a culture of compliance and fosters the European Union values.		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
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 the cooperation programme PESCAO		Yes
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 the cooperation programme PESCAO.		Yes
3. Local public is familiar with the general values of the European Union		Yes
4. Institutional partners are well informed about the Agency's work and mission		Yes
5. EFCA staff: keep staff informed and involved in EFCA's work		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Number of visits to the EFCA by stakeholders	6	17
2. Participation in international events, fairs, information seminars, conferences or meetings of other stakeholders that EFCA attended	8	9
3. Followers in Twitter	1000	2397
4. Number of page views to the EFCA website	8000	11760
5. Publications and audiovisual material produced	3	5

<sup>80</sup> It includes expenditure related to communication, representation, administrative missions and the Administrative and Advisory Board meetings.



6. Number of meetings or events with a local public	6	8
7. Meeting with all staff when relevant	3	2
8. Satisfaction with EFCA's intranet	80%	80%

#### MAIN OUTPUTS

Planned	Achieved
1. Organisation of visits in EFCA premises	Yes
2. Ensuring the quality and timeliness of EFCA's website content and social media presence	Yes
3. EFCA presence in the main EU fairs, events, information seminars or conferences related to its areas of work	Yes
4. Layout and distribution of the main publications of the Agency	Yes
5. Production of effective video material describing EFCA's work.	Yes
6. Effective communication tools, presentations or briefings available for trainings, visits, meetings or fairs	Yes
7. Strong media relations on the topics covered by the EFCA	Yes
8. Cohesive visual identity respected in the Agency	Yes
9. Organisation of international and local events with vast local institutional presence and media coverage	Yes
10. Cooperation with other EU institutions and agencies on Communication	Yes
11. Sound implementation of the Internal Communication Strategy, including staff meetings, cross-unit events and an updated collaborative intranet	Yes

#### Objective 12

**Provide the EFCA Administrative Board with the capacity of achieving its responsibilities in governance and expertise**

#### RESULTS

Planned	Achieved
1. EFCA Administrative Board regularly and effectively informed of the EFCA's work and developments	Yes
2. EFCA Administrative Board ensures the matching of tasks foreseen for the Agency in the programming document and resources available to the Agency	Yes



3. Increased AB involvement and output legitimacy <sup>81</sup>		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Number of Administrative Board meetings	2	2
2. Preparation and notification in due course of the Administrative Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Programming document</li> <li>• Annual Report</li> </ul>	100% 100%	100% 100%
3. Preparation, adoption and notification of Budget and the Accounts in due course	100%	100%
4. Monitoring the submission to EFCA of Annual written declarations of interest of Administrative Board members to ensure a proper control of those declarations of interest and compliance with legal obligations	100%	99% <sup>82</sup>
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Agency Administrative Board Decisions		Yes
2. Adoption of the Agency Programming Document		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

Objective 13	
Ensure an effective dialogue at the level of the Advisory Councils through the Advisory Board	
RESULTS	
Planned	Achieved
1. Close cooperation with the Advisory Councils ensured	Yes

<sup>81</sup> 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>

<sup>82</sup> One Administrative Board member, who did not participate in the meetings, did not submit the declaration of interest by 31 December 2019



2. Facilitate the interaction Administrative Board-Advisory Board-EFCA <sup>83</sup>		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Number of Advisory Board meetings	2	2
2. Advisory Board conclusions to be prepared, delivered and notified to the Advisory and Administrative Board in due course	100%	100%
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
Advisory Board advice regarding the Multiannual and Annual work programme of the Agency, containing the main concerns, needs and priorities of the stakeholders to be considered in the Agency field of action		Yes

Objective 14		
Ensure the Agency representation, cooperation, dialogue and transparency with other institutional bodies, EU agencies and third parties		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Synergies with other Institutions and bodies enhanced		Yes
2. EU institutions and bodies and general stakeholders informed on EFCA activities		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Participation on the Heads of Agencies and Heads of Administration network meeting (number of meetings)	2 meetings	2
2. List of meetings where EFCA has participated to be communicated to the Administrative Board	Twice a year under the AB Information from the Executive Director	2
MAIN OUTPUTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Attendance to relevant meetings for the Agency		Yes
2. Contribution to the EU decentralised Agencies working groups		Yes
3. Presentations and briefings delivered in the different meetings		Yes
4. Briefings and documents issued to inform the institutional bodies and third parties		Yes

<sup>83</sup> 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>





## 2. Horizontal support

Resources – Objective 15		
	Planned	Consumed
Staff	5,6 AD, 6,3 AST, 3,6 CA <sup>84</sup>	5,3 AD, 10,3 AST, 3,6 CA
Standard Budget	N/A	N/A
ABMS	N/A	N/A

Objective 15		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> <li>Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's processes</li> </ul>		
RESULTS		
Planned		Achieved
1. Increase of efficiency in the administration through further efforts in the area of e-administration and maintain the levels already achieved in this respect.		Yes
2. Maintaining high levels of budget implementation performance through close budget programming, reporting and regular follow-up of the information gathered from the financial systems and the input from the operational units.		Yes
3. Compliance with all legal requirements in the operational and administrative fields ensured.		Yes
4. Smooth functioning of the EFCA premises on a day to day basis, managing and coordinating ongoing services like reception, security, building maintenance etc. ensured.		Yes
5. Highly available, secure and cost effective ICT services to support the EFCA business processes and its internal/ external operational activities ensured		Yes
Performance indicators	Target	Achieved
1. Execution payments appropriations	>70%	85.7%
2. Percentage of planned procurements launched	>80%	100%
3. Open remarks/ recommendations from ECA and IAS <sup>85</sup>	<2	0
4. Contracts concluded and managed for the provision of ICT services.	100%	100%
5. Hardware and software acquired, maintained and updated according to plan	100%	100%

<sup>84</sup> These figures are aligned with the results of the benchmarking exercise carried out by EFCA following the *Methodology for agencies job screening*

<sup>85</sup> Recommendations rated Very Important or Critical.



6. Procedures for the running of the ICT services created, updated and agreed	n/a	5
7. Availability rate for all operational applications hosted by EFCA	>95%	99,4%
8. Sysper modules made available to EFCA implemented	>60%	60%
<b>MAIN OUTPUTS</b>		
<b>Planned</b>		<b>Achieved</b>
1. Increase the extent to which the already existing modules of e-Prior and other systems related to administration (Sysper, MIPs...) are used		Yes
2. Reporting to management on administrative implementation and forecasted information (budget, recruitment, procurement, training, etc.)		Yes
3. Coordination with the operational units for a regular update of the programming information		Yes
4. Ensure staff development, rights and obligations		Yes
5. Organisation of financial, HR and procurement and other trainings to new staff and/or ad-hoc trainings to all staff when needed		Yes
6. Follow-up on the FR and Rules of application (RAP) applicable, and advising staff on financial and budget issues		Yes
7. Advising on and verifying contracts and procurement procedures		Yes
8. Application of adequate security and safety measures		Yes
9. Keep the assets management updated and proceed to regular checks (Assets registration, physical tracking, declassification, etc.)		Yes
10. Monitor the impact of the Agency on the environment, assess and compare with standards, improve or limit where possible		Yes
11. Providing legal advice to the Executive Director and the units		Yes
12. Internal application of Data Protection Regulation		Yes
13. Provision of adequate hardware and software solution for the highly available and secure running of the corporate and operational applications		Yes
14. Development of IT synergies with other agencies		Yes
15. Provision of Service Desk for the user of the corporate applications, equipment and services as well as for the first line of support for the operational applications.		Yes



## ANNEX IV: OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES DETAILED INFORMATION

### NORTH SEA JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 30/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	North Sea JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	1 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	BE, DE, DK, FR, IE, NL, SE, UK.
<b>Operational area</b>	ICES Divisions.III.a, IV

	<b>Campaign</b>	<b>Member States</b>	<b>Number of Experts</b>	<b>Man-days</b>
Coordination Centre (CC)	North Sea	BE	2	12
		DE	1	14
		SE	1	5

A – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY			
<b>Deployment Type</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Quantity reported<sup>86</sup> (Tons)</b>	<b>%<sup>87</sup> of Total</b>
Land	Atlantic Cod (COD)	14,707	3.7%
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	101,322	25.4%
	Atlantic Horse Mackerel (HOM)	3,672	0.9%
	Atlantic Mackerel (MAC)	103,625	26.0%
	Blue Whiting (WHB)	723	0.2%
	European Sprat (SPR)	33,193	8.3%
	Greater argentine (ARU)	803	0.2%
	Haddock (HAD)	17,844	4.5%
	Hake (HKE)	4,572	1.1%
	Horse Mackerel (JAX)	113	0.0%
	Monkfish (ANF)	33	0.0%
	Nephrops (NEP)	10,564	2.6%
	Northern Prawn (PRA)	180	0.0%
	Norway pout (NOP)	21,504	5.4%
	Plaice (PLE)	2,684	0.7%

<sup>86</sup> In inspection reports.

<sup>87</sup> Rounded to decimal figures.



	Pollock (=Saithe) (POK)	11,374	2.9%
	Sandeel (SAN)	41,147	10.3%
	Sole (SOL)	292	0.1%
	Whiting (WHG)	9,804	2.5%
	Other (OTH)	20,839	5.2%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>398,996</b>	<b>100%</b>
Sea	Atlantic Cod (COD)	1,748	10.6%
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	348	2.1%
	Atlantic Horse Mackerel (HOM)	179	1.1%
	Atlantic Mackerel (MAC)	5,208	31.6%
	European Sprat (SPR)	4,186	25.4%
	Greater argentine (ARU)	14	0.1%
	Haddock (HAD)	160	1.0%
	Hake (HKE)	66	0.4%
	Horse Mackerel (JAX)	1	0.0%
	Monkfish (ANF)	7	0.0%
	Nephrops (NEP)	175	1.1%
	Northern Prawn (PRA)	24	0.1%
	Norway pout (NOP)	0	0.0%
	Plaice (PLE)	1,055	6.4%
	Pollock (=Saithe) (POK)	235	1.4%
	Sandeel (SAN)	1,464	8.9%
	Sole (SOL)	235	1.4%
	Whiting (WHG)	135	0.8%
	Other (OTH)	1,216	7.4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,456</b>	<b>100%</b>

B – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea			Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Core	Associated		No of Flights	No Exchanges
BE	12	18	26	4	
DE	379	208		6	2
DK	91	145		4	2
FR	9	1		3	
UK	135	156	66		
NL	58	67	18		



SE	46	6	154		
EFCA	45		4		
<b>Total</b>	<b>775</b>	<b>601</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>4</b>

C – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT											
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator								
			BE	DE	DK	FR	UK	NL	SE	EFCA	Total
Surveillance	Air	Sightings reported	194				714	190	1,220	8	2,326
	Sea	Sightings reported		1,308	213	2	538	5		38	2,104
Inspections	Vessels on Land	No of inspections	63	150	1,146	1	10,898	143	341		12,742
		No of targeted inspections	3	19	69		12	28	6		137
	Vessels at Sea	No of inspections	54	268	178	7	113	254	31	9	914
		No of targeted inspections	15	12	31		3	27	3	1	92

D - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES																	
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered														Total
			BE	DE	DK	ES	FO	FR	UK	IE	LT	NL	NO	PL	PT	SE	
Air	Vessel	Total number of suspected infringements										1					1
Land	Vessel	Number of Inspections	89	162	1,033	2	89		10,688		1	161	158	1	2	356	12,742
		Number of inspections with suspected infringement	3	1	9		1		25			5	2			16	62
		% of inspections with infringements	3.4	0.6	0.9	0.0	1.1		0.2		0.0	3.1	1.3	0.0	0.0	4.5	0.5
		Total number of suspected infringements	3	1	9		1		27			5	2			16	64
		Total number of inspections of targets	5	24	42		12					47				7	137
		Inspections of targets with infringements			1							4					5
Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	40	110	147		15	1	124	3		438	5			31	914
		Number of inspections with	6	3	2				5			34					50



		suspected infringement														
		% of inspections with infringements	15.0	2.7	1.4		0.0	0.0	4.0	0.0		7.8	0.0		0.0	5.5
		Total number of suspected infringements	6	4	2				6			39				57
		Total number of inspections of targets	1	15	8		3					62			3	92
		Inspections of targets with infringements										4				4

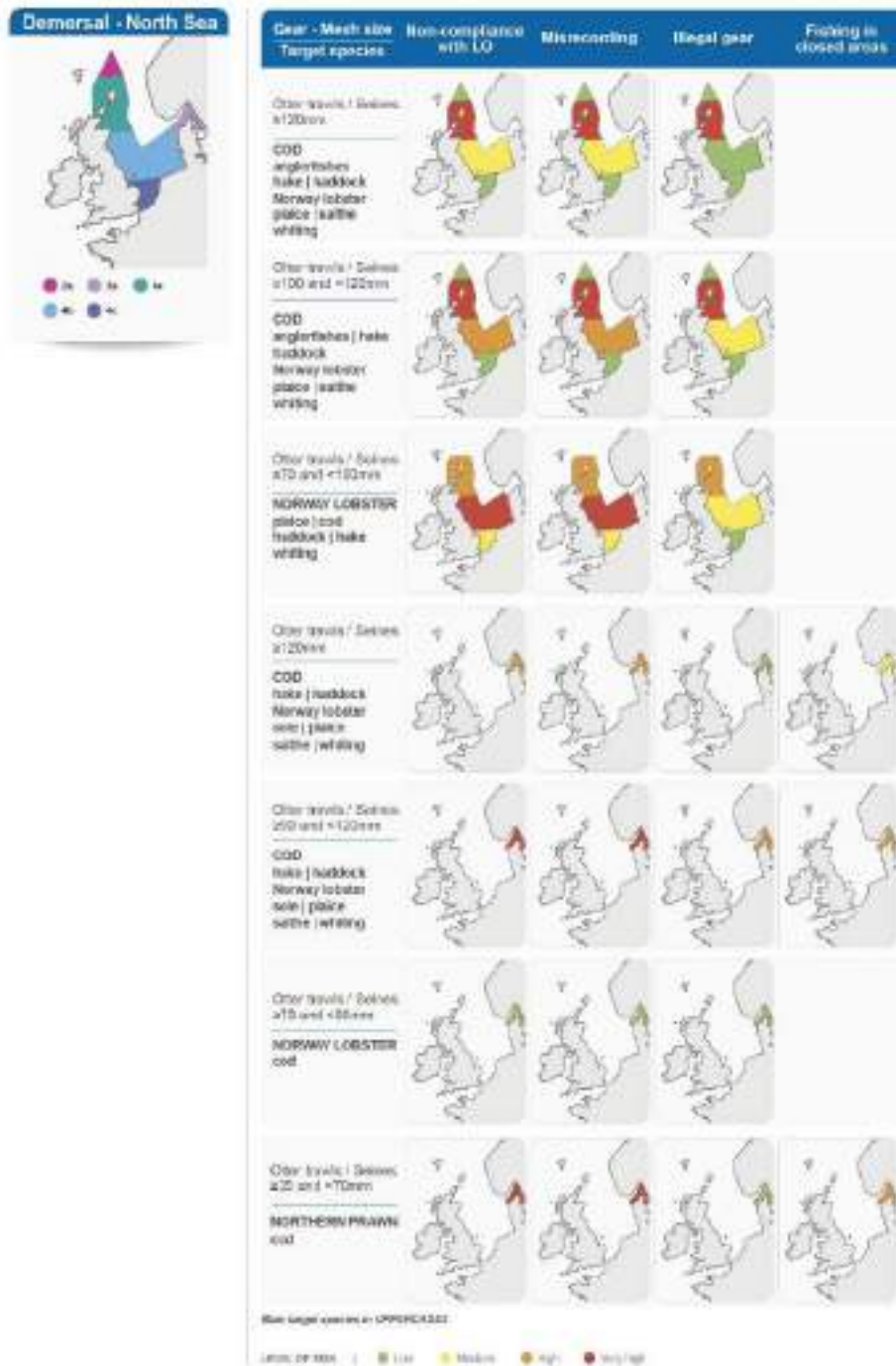
E - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Landing Obligation	Discard species subject to LO	2	2%
	Illegal sales - below MCRS	8	7%
	No recording of BMS	2	2%
Misrecording	Misrecording	8	7%
	Misrecording - logbook	18	15%
	Misrecording of catches	5	4%
	Non-compliance - MoT	9	7%
	Non-compliance - notification rules	9	7%
Technical Measures	Fishing without or after attainment of a quota	2	2%
	Illegal fishing - closed area/period	1	1%
	Illegal gear	7	6%
	Illegal gear - attachment	4	3%
	Illegal gear - marking rules	2	2%
	Illegal gear - mesh size	11	9%
	Non-compliance - by-catch rules	1	1%
	Retain / land prohibited species	3	2%
	Retain / land species below MCRS (no LO)	9	7%
Others	Absence or inappropriate pilot ladder	5	4%
	Fishing without authorization / licence	3	2%
	Non-compliance - designated ports rules	1	1%
	Non-compliance - labelling rules	1	1%
	Non-compliance - national rules	1	1%



	Non-function or operate without ERS	1	1%
	Non-function or operate without VMS and/or AIS	4	3%
	Obstruction to inspection	3	2%
	Others not specified	2	2%
<b>Total</b>		<b>122</b>	<b>100%</b>

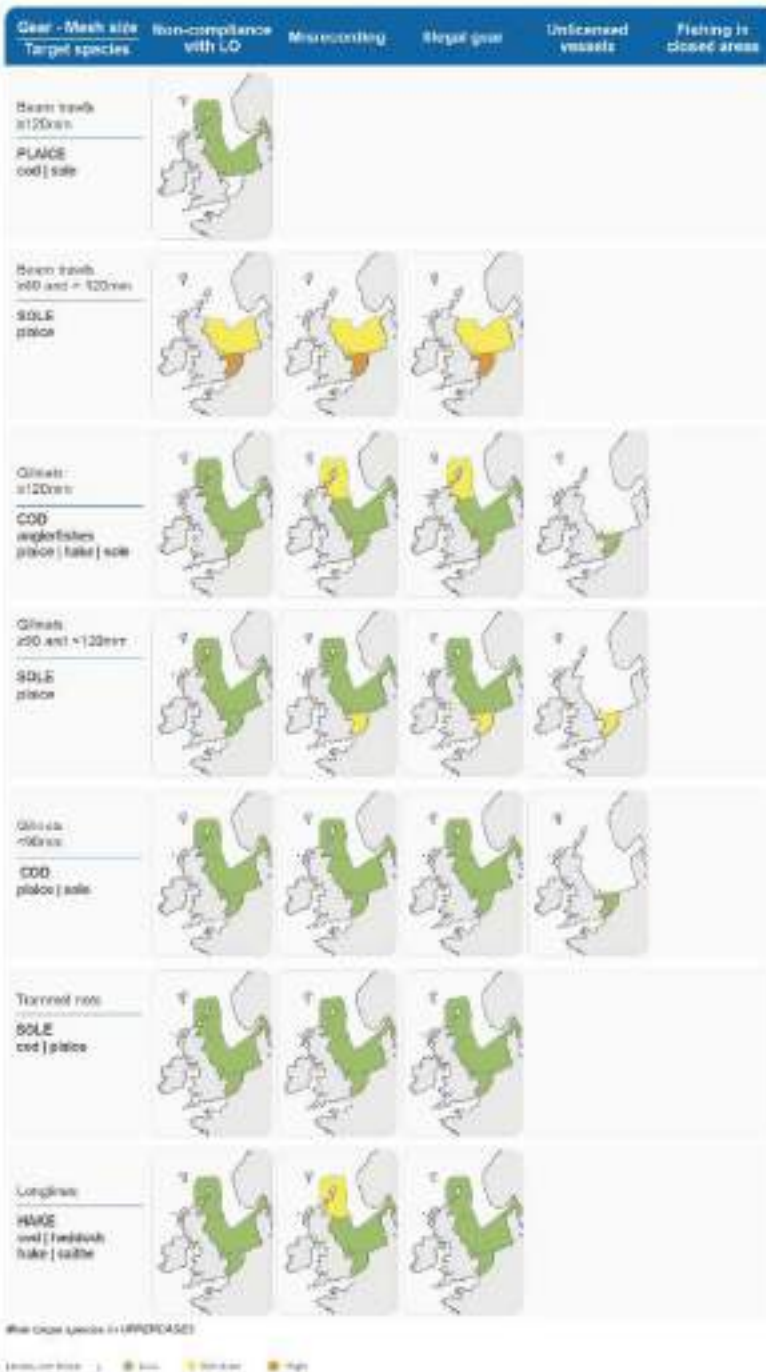


## Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

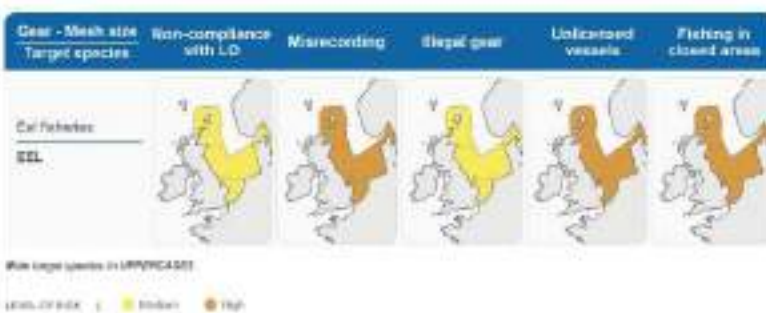




## Demersal - North Sea



## Demersal - North Sea





## BALTIC SEA JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 30/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	Baltic Sea JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	01 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	DE, DK, EE, FI, LT, LV, PL, SE
<b>Operational area</b>	27.3.b,c, 27.3.d

Coordination Centre (CC)	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
	Baltic Sea	DE	3	11
		DK	1	10
		FI	1	10
		SE	1	5
		LV	1	10
		LT	1	10
		EE	1	5
		PL	1	15

A - SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY					
Deployment Type	JDP species	Quantity reported <sup>88</sup>			
		Weight (Tons)	% of Total	Individuals	% of Total
Land	Atlantic Cod (COD)	1,405	2.4%		
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	24,769	41.5%		
	European eel (ELE)	9	0.0%		
	European Flounder (FLE)	186	0.3%		
	European Sprat (SPR)	31,648	53.0%		
	Plaice (PLE)	147	0.2%		
	Salmon (SAL)	30	0.0%	8,467	99.9%
	Other (OTH)	1,507	2.5%	5	0.1%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>59,702</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>8,472</b>	<b>100%</b>
Sea	Atlantic Cod (COD)	167	3.0%		
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	1,234	22.1%		

<sup>88</sup> In inspection reports.



	European eel (ELE)	1	0.0%		
	European Flounder (FLE)	31	0.5%		
	European Sprat (SPR)	3,770	67.4%		
	Plaice (PLE)	88	1.6%		
	Salmon (SAL)	1	0.0%	376	100%
	Other (OTH)	302	5.4%		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>5,594</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>100%</b>



B – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea			Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Core	Associated	No of Flights	No Exchanges	No Exchanges
DE	255	364		4	5
DK	152	139		3	2
EE	1	6	16	16	2
FI	40	40		4	
LT	20	5	3	7	2
LV	11	19		8	1
PL	75	33		17	4
SE	49	10	96	6	10
EFCA	43		3	1	
Total	646	616	118	66	26

C – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT													
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator									
				DE	DK	EE	FI	LT	LV	PL	SE	EFCA	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported			112					375	4	491
	Sea		Sightings reported	991	218	3	3		7		4	41	1,267
Inspections	Land	Vessel	No of inspections	640	562	258	184	72	625	611	186		3,138
			No of targeted inspections	11	27	15		3	56	4	1		117
		Transport	No of inspections					7					7
		Business	No of inspections				1						1
		Other	No of inspections				56						56
	Sea	Vessel	No of inspections	317	193	13	16	35	109	147	31	23	884
			No of targeted inspections	10	15	1			3	2	1	1	33
		Other Fishing Gear	No of inspections				200						200



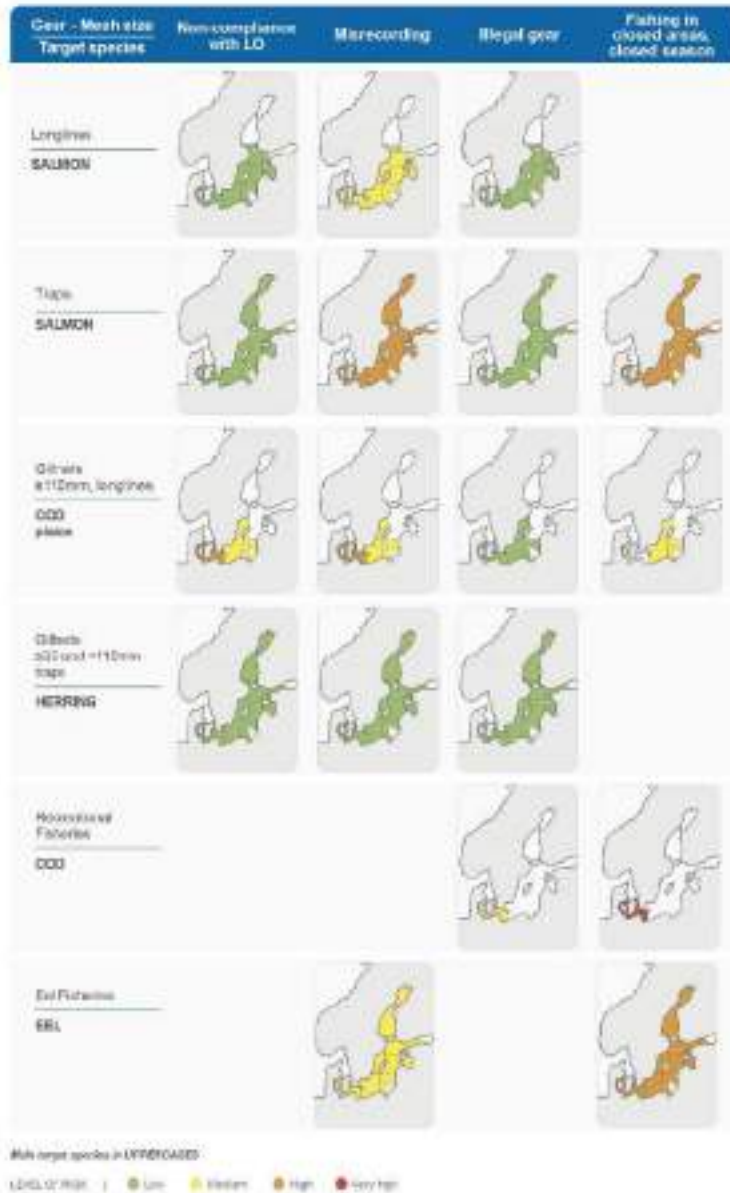
D - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES											
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered								
			DE	DK	EE	FI	LT	LV	PL	SE	Total
Air	Vessel	Total no. of suspected infringements							1		1
Land	Business	No. of Inspections				1					1
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				0					0
	Other	No. of Inspections				56					56
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				0					0
	Transport	No. of Inspections					6	1			7
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements					0	0			0
	Vessel	No. of Inspections	619	514	263	190	106	599	634	213	3,138
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements	3	20	6	4	2	14	11	18	78
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.5	3.9	2.3	2.1	1.9	2.3	1.7	8.5	2.5
		Total no. of suspected infringements	3	20	6	4	2	15	13	18	81
		Total no. of inspections of targets	13	26	17		7	51	1	2	117
		Inspections of targets with infringements		5	1					1	7
Sea	Other Fishing Gear	No. of Inspections				200					200
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements				0					0
	Vessel	No. of Inspections	192	228	14	18	50	108	234	40	884
		No. of inspections with suspected infringements	6	13		1	2	2	6	3	33
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	3.1	5.7	0.0	5.6	4.0	1.9	2.6	7.5	3.7
		Total no. of suspected infringements	6	13		1	2	2	6	3	33
		Total no. of inspections of targets	11	16	1		1	3	1		33
		Inspections of targets with infringements		3							3



E - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Landing Obligation	No recording of BMS	1	1%
Misrecording	Misrecording	11	10%
	Misrecording - landing declaration	3	3%
	Misrecording - logbook	15	13%
	Misrecording of catches	8	7%
	Non-compliance - MoT	20	17%
	Non-compliance - notification rules	8	7%
Technical Measures	Illegal fishing - closed area/period	6	5%
	Illegal gear	8	7%
	Non-compliance with marking rules	7	6%
	Retain / land prohibited species	3	3%
Others	Absence or inappropriate pilot ladder	7	6%
	Falsifying, deleting or concealing the markings, identity or registration of a fishing vessel	1	1%
	Fishing without authorization / licence	2	2%
	Non-compliance - labelling rules	2	2%
	Non-function or operate without ERS	4	3%
	Non-function or operate without VMS and/or AIS	2	2%
	Others not specified	7	6%
Total		115	100%









## WESTERN WATERS JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 30/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	Western Waters JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	01 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, UK, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT
<b>Operational area</b>	ICES Subareas V, VI, VII, VIII, IX

	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
Coordination Centre (CC)	Western Waters	IE	1	10
		ES	1	5
		BE	2	10

A – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY			
Deployment Type	JDP Species	Quantity reported <sup>89</sup> (Tons)	% <sup>90</sup> of Total
Land	Albacore (ALB)	87	0.0%
	Argentines (Ns) (ARG)	3	0.0%
	Atlantic Cod (COD)	186	0.1%
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	2,731	0.8%
	Atlantic Horse Mackerel (HOM)	6,709	2.0%
	Atlantic Mackerel (MAC)	93,287	27.9%
	Black Scabbardfish (BSF)	3	0.0%
	Blue Whiting (WHB)	162,892	48.6%
	Boarfish (BOR)	10,729	3.2%

<sup>89</sup> In inspection reports.

<sup>90</sup> Rounded to decimal figures



	European Anchovy (ANE)	791	0.2%
	European Pilchard (=Sardine) (PIL)	282	0.1%
	European Sprat (SPR)	427	0.1%
	Greater argentine (ARU)	1	0.0%
	Haddock (HAD)	608	0.2%
	Hake (HKE)	334	0.1%
	Horse Mackerel (JAX)	49,282	14.7%
	Monkfish (ANF)	626	0.2%
	Nephrops (NEP)	263	0.1%
	Plaice (PLE)	59	0.0%
	Pollack (POL)	3	0.0%
	Pollock (=Saithe) (POK)	258	0.1%
	Sole (SOL)	41	0.0%
	Whiting (WHG)	151	0.0%
	Other (OTH)	5,141	1.5%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>334,895</b>	<b>100%</b>
Sea	Albacore (ALB)	992	6.1%
	Atlantic Cod (COD)	7	0.0%
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	2,632	16.3%
	Atlantic Horse Mackerel (HOM)	221	1.4%
	Atlantic Mackerel (MAC)	1,727	10.7%
	Blue Whiting (WHB)	403	2.5%
	Boarfish (BOR)	412	2.6%
	European Anchovy (ANE)	51	0.3%
	European Pilchard (=Sardine) (PIL)	23	0.1%
	European Sprat (SPR)	28	0.2%
	Haddock (HAD)	67	0.4%
	Hake (HKE)	207	1.3%
	Horse Mackerel (JAX)	8,678	53.7%
	Lemon sole (LEM)	1	0.0%
	Megrimms nei (LEZ)	50	0.3%
	Monkfish (ANF)	92	0.6%



	Nephrops (NEP)	30	0.2%
	Plaice (PLE)	51	0.3%
	Pollack (POL)	1	0.0%
	Pollock (=Saithe) (POK)	26	0.2%
	Sole (SOL)	43	0.3%
	Whiting (WHG)	28	0.2%
	Other (OTH)	392	2.4%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>16,163</b>	<b>100%</b>

B – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS					
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea		No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	Mixed Teams ashore
	Core	Associated		No Exchanges	No Exchanges
BE		1		1	
DE					2
DK					1
ES	37	44	9	14	
FR	119	31	2	6	3
UK	244	91	55		
IE	142	16	66	2	2
LT					2
LV				3	
NL	12	3			
PL					2
PT				7	
EFCA	61				
<b>Total</b>	<b>615</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>12</b>



C – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT														
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator										
				BE	DE	DK	ES	FR	UK	IE	NL	PT	EFCA	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported				19	54	532	216				821
	Sea		Sightings reported					4	416	30			52	502
Inspections	Land	Vessel	No of inspections	8	1	28	1,216	82	277	688	13			2,313
			No of targeted inspections				56				1			57
		Transport	No of inspections				26							26
			No of targeted inspections											-
		Business	No of inspections				13					15		28
			No of targeted inspections											-
	Sea	Vessels	No of inspections	1			116	181	25	154	24		33	534
			No of targeted inspections				12	8		3	3		7	33



## D - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES

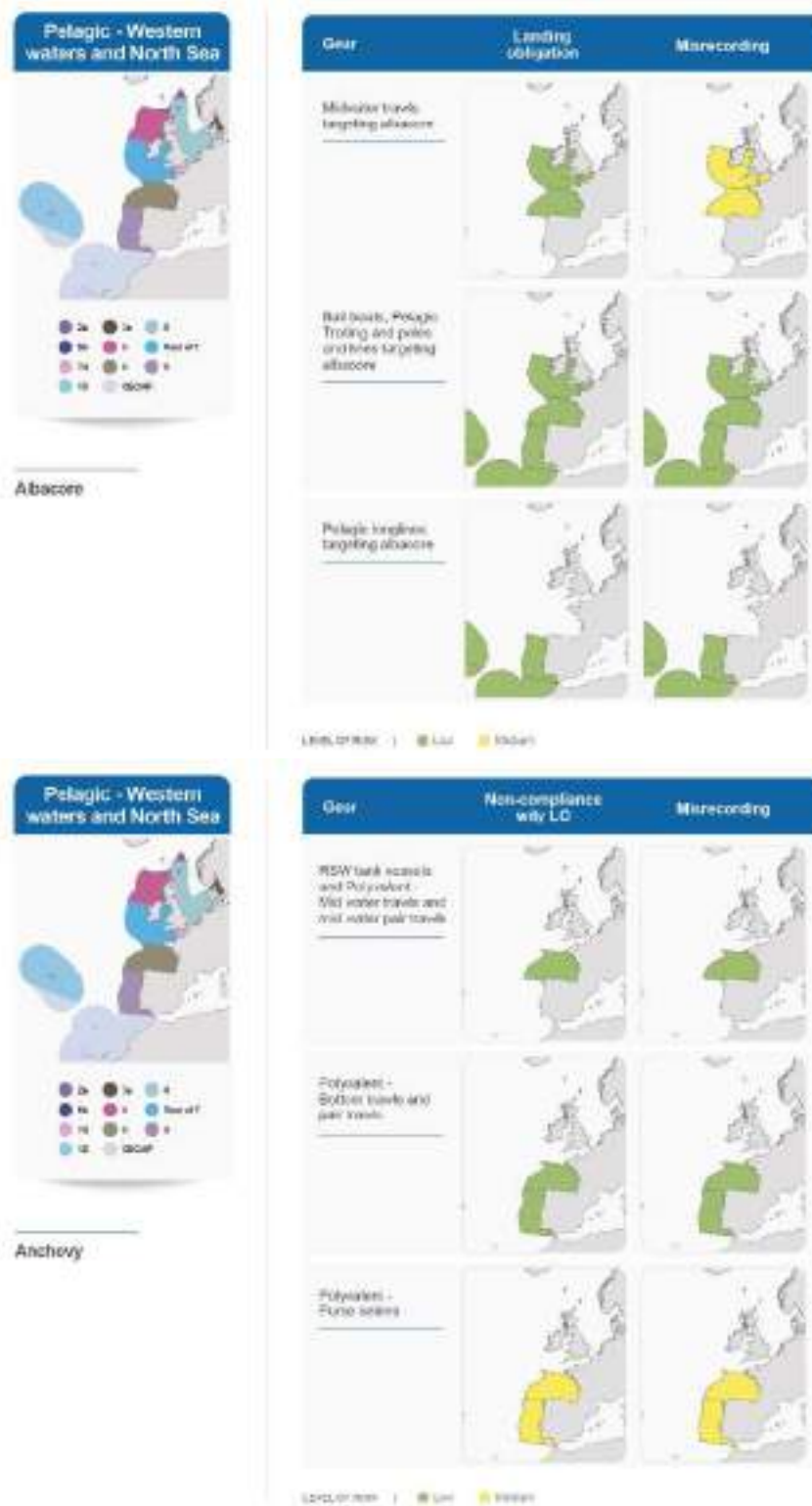
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered																
			AT	BE	DE	DK	ES	FR	FO	UK	GL	IE	IS	LT	NL	NO	PT	SE	Total
Land	Business	No of Inspections					13										15		28
		No of inspections with suspected infringements															1		1
		% of inspections with suspected infringements					0.0										6.7		3.6
		Total no of suspected infringements															1		1
	Transport	No of Inspections	1				25												26
		No of inspections with suspected infringements					4												4
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.0				16.0												15.4
		Total no. of suspected infringements					4												4
	Vessel	No of Inspections		9	3	31	1,129	96	7	310	1	610	2	1	10	24	79	1	2,313
		No of inspections with suspected infringements					77	6		1							7		91
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		0.0	0.0	0.0	6.8	6.3	0.0	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.9	0.0	3.9
		Total no. of suspected infringements					81	6		1							7		95
		Total no. of inspections of targets		1			56												57
		Inspections of targets with infringements					4												4
Sea	Vessel	No of Inspections		31	1	1	247	149		33		43			19	1	9		534
		No of inspections with suspected infringements		2		1	12	12				1			2		3		33
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		6.5	0.0	100.0	4.9	8.1		0.0		2.3			10.5	0.0	33.3		6.2
		Total no. of suspected infringements		2		4	12	14				2			2		4		40
		Total no. of inspections of targets		5			16	6				6							33
		Inspections of targets with infringements					1												1





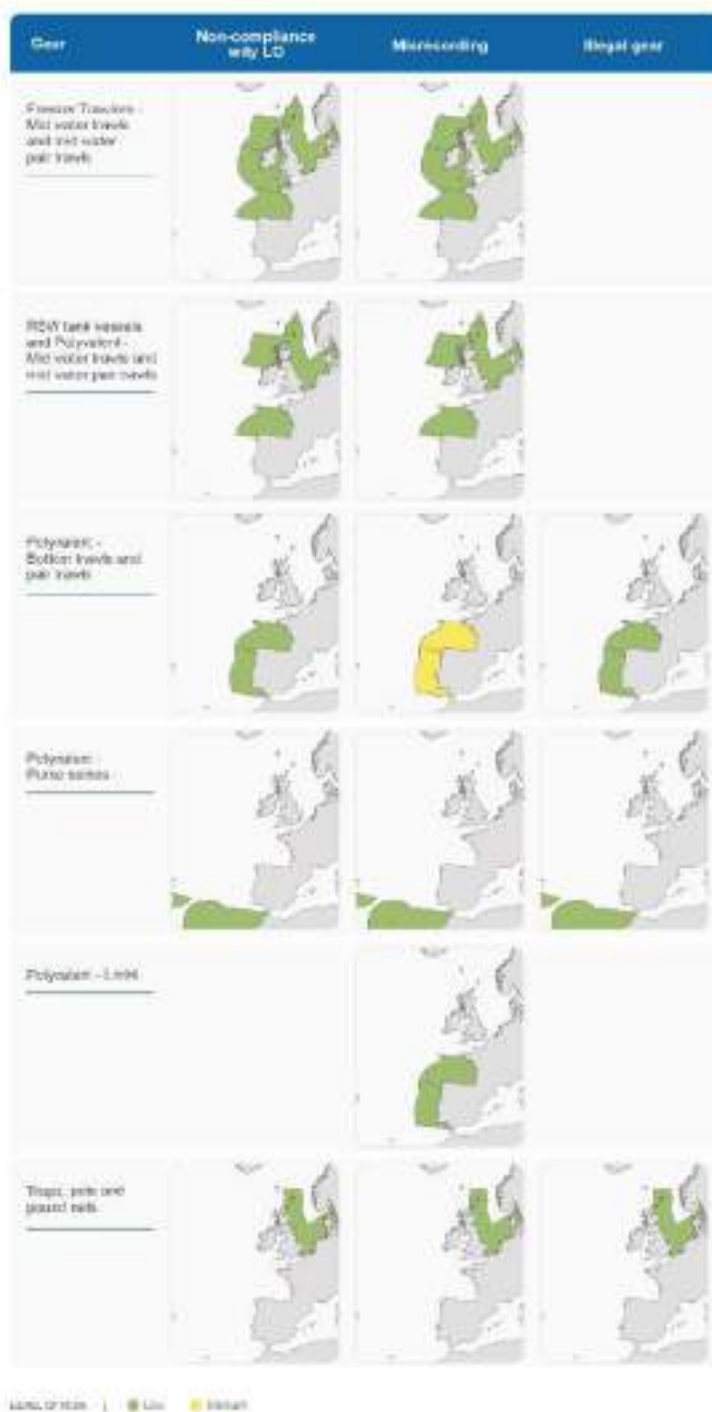
E - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Misrecording	Misrecording	12	9%
	Misrecording - landing declaration	1	1%
	Misrecording - logbook	26	19%
	Misrecording - transport documents	4	3%
	Misrecording of catches	41	29%
	Non-compliance - MoT	1	1%
	Non-compliance - notification rules	18	13%
Technical Measures	Illegal gear	9	6%
	Illegal gear - attachment	1	1%
	Non-compliance with marking rules	2	1%
Others	Absence or inappropriate pilot ladder	7	5%
	Equipment not calibrated or certified	2	1%
	Fishing without authorization / licence	2	1%
	Illegal handling equipment	2	1%
	Missing mandatory documents	1	1%
	Non-compliance - designated ports rules	1	1%
	Non-compliance - stowage /capacity plan rules	2	1%
	Non-compliance - transshipment rules	1	1%
	Non-function or operate without VMS and/or AIS	2	1%
	Obstruction to inspection	1	1%
	Others not specified	4	3%
Total		140	100%

## Results of risk assessment of non-compliance





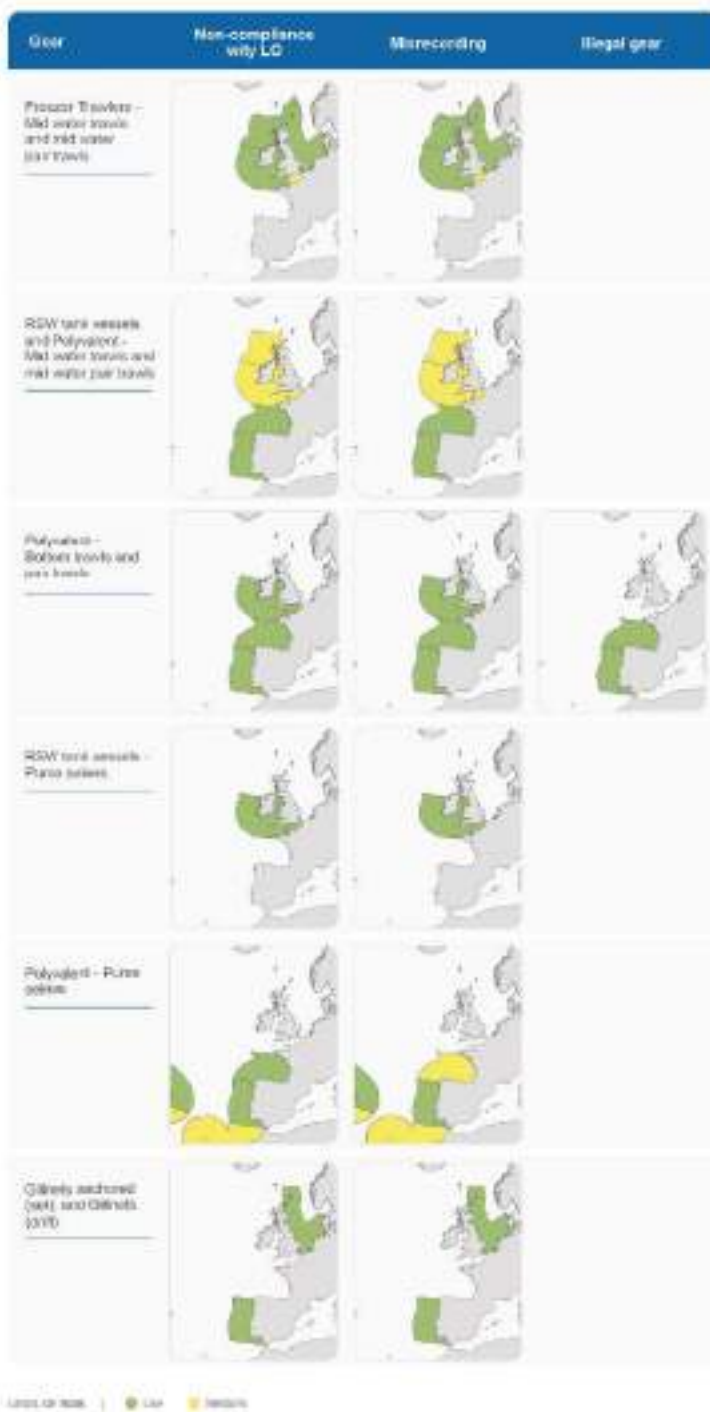
Blue whiting







Horse mackerel

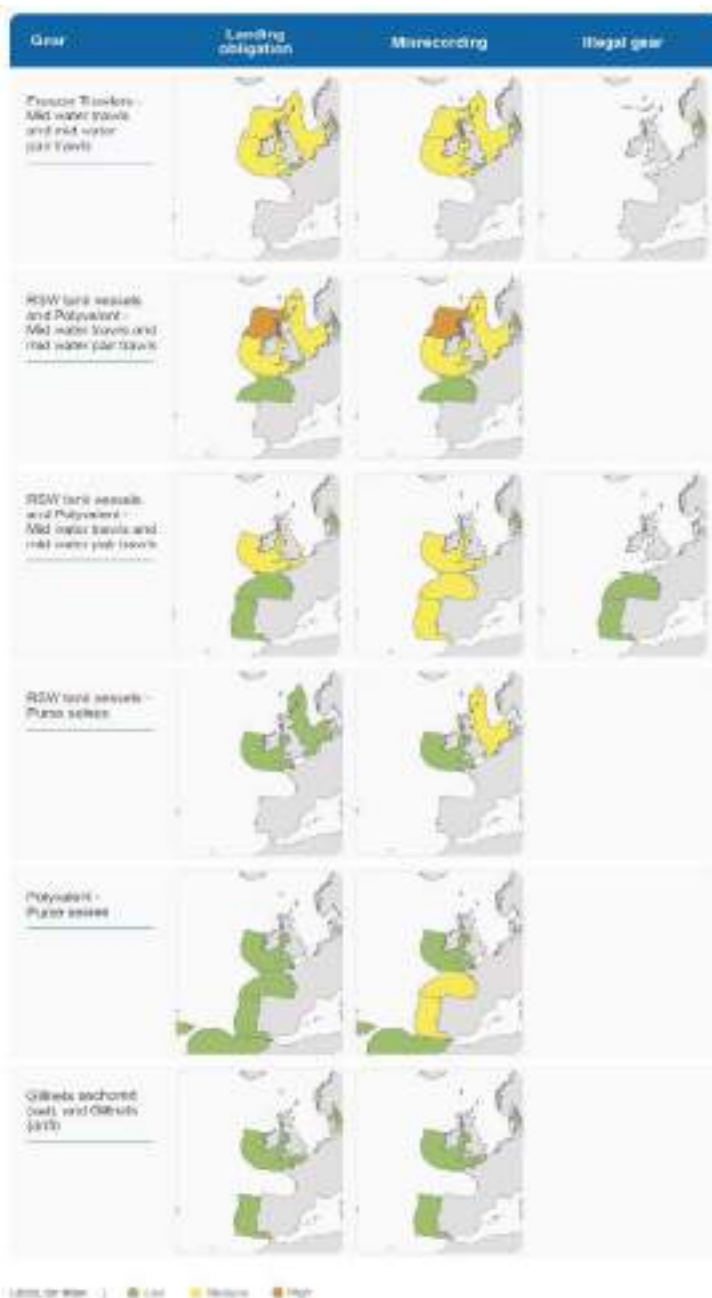




Horse mackerel



Mackerel

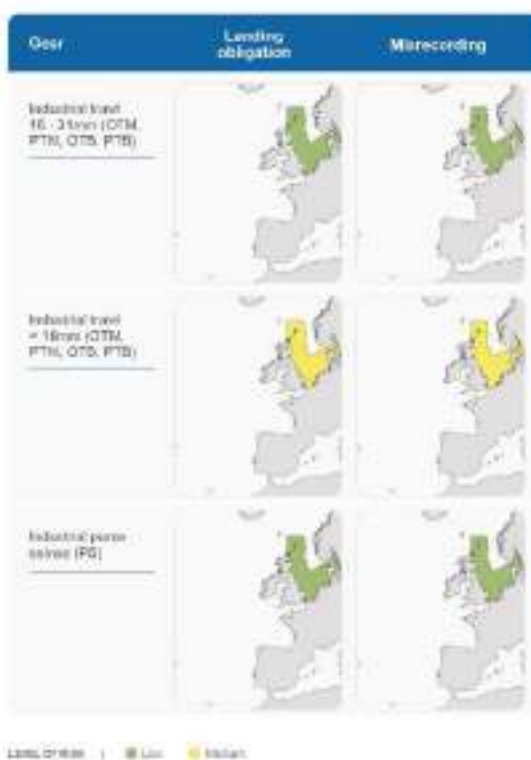




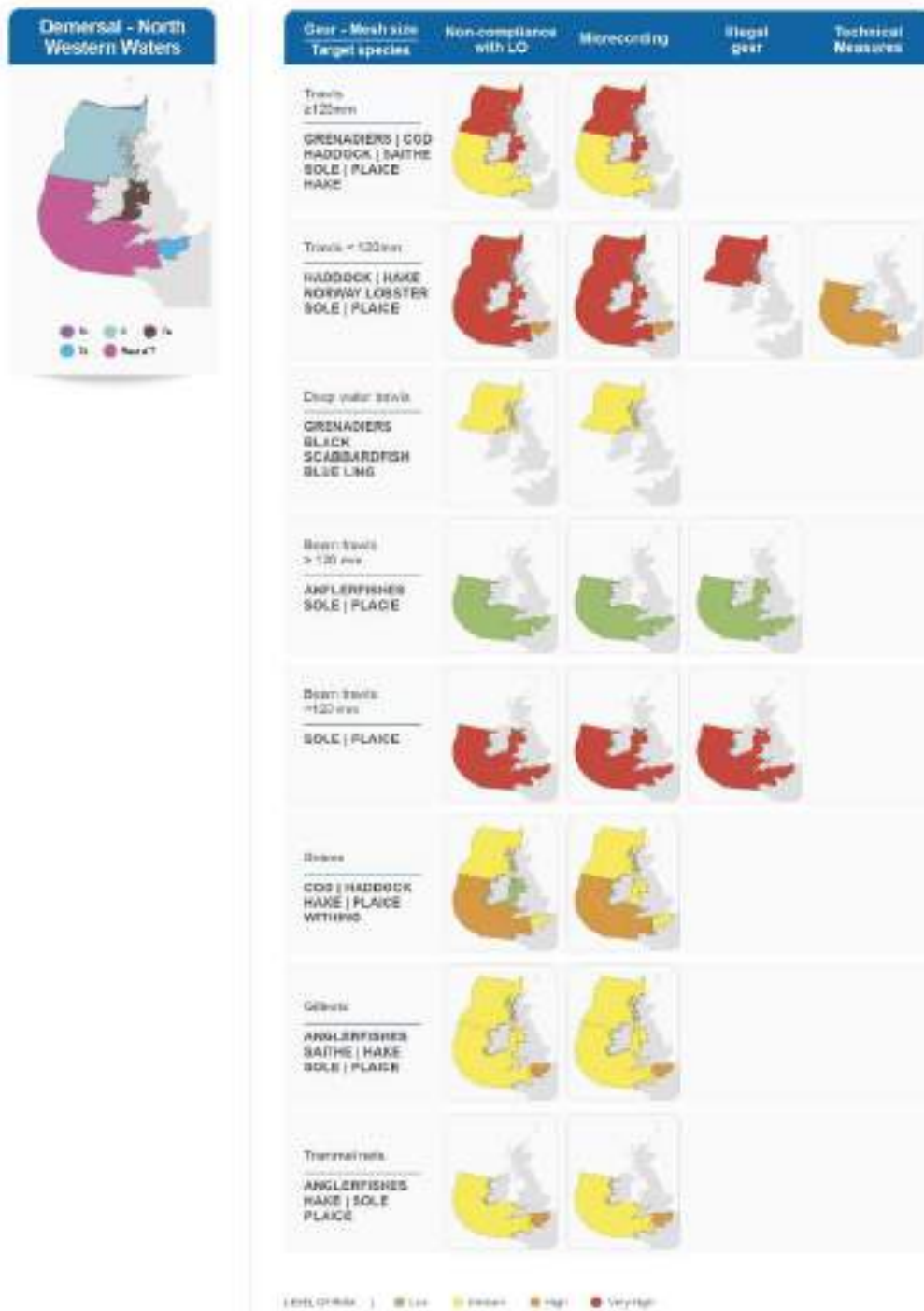
Mackerel

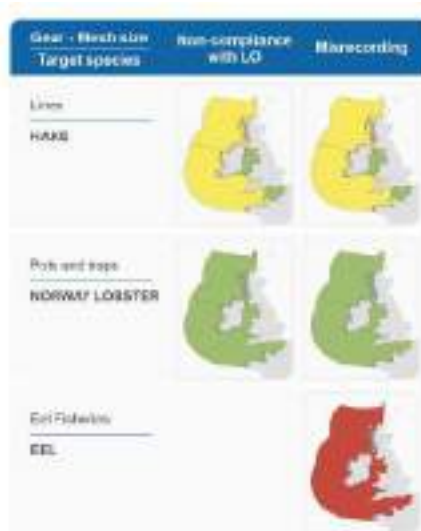


Industrial fisheries.









LEVEL OF EFFORT | Low Medium High



LEVEL OF EFFORT | Low Medium High





## NAFO JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 31/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	NAFO JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	01 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SE, UK
<b>Operational area</b>	NAFO Regulatory Area

A – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY			
Deployment Type	JDP Species	Quantity reported <sup>91</sup> (Tons)	% <sup>92</sup> of Total
Sea	American Plaice (PLA)	23	1.4%
	Atlantic Cod (COD)	212	12.7%
	Atlantic Halibut (HAL)	7	0.4%
	Atlantic Redfishes (RED)	986	58.9%
	Greenland Halibut (GHL)	134	8.0%
	Roughhead Grenadier (RHG)	3	0.2%
	Skates (Ns) (SKA)	7	0.4%
	Yellowtail Flounder (YEL)	304	18.1%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1,675</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>91</sup> In inspection reports.

<sup>92</sup> Rounded to decimal figures.



B – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS			
Member State	Patrol Vessel	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea	Joint Teams at Sea	
	Core	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
CA		20	
DE	20		40
ES	43		43
EE		50	
LT		23	
LV		20	
PT	30		30
<b>Total</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>113</b>	<b>113</b>

C – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT							
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator			
				DE	ES	PT	Total
Surveillance	Sea		Sightings reported	8	24	1	32
	Sea	Vessel	No of inspections	6	16	3	25

D - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES									
Type Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered						
			ES	EE	FO	JP	PT	RU	Total
Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	7	5	1	2	9	1	25
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements			1		2		3
		% of inspections with infringements	0.0	0.0	100.0	0.0	22.2	0.0	12.0
		Total number of suspected infringements			4		2		6



E - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Technical Measures	Illegal gear	1	17%
Others	Fishing without observer	1	17%
	Non-compliance - production logbook rules	1	17%
	Non-compliance - stowage /capacity plan rules	3	50%
Total		6	100%



## NEAFC JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 31/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	NEAFC JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	1 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	DE, DK, ES, EE, FR, IE, LT, LV, NL, PL, PT, SE, UK
<b>Operational area</b>	NEAFC Regulatory Area

A – SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY			
Deployment Type	JDP Species	Quantity reported <sup>93</sup> (Tons)	% <sup>94</sup> of Total
Sea	Deep-sea red crab (KEF)	21	0.1%
	Argentines (Ns) (ARG)	3	0.0%
	Atlantic Herring (HER)	183	1.3%
	Atlantic Mackerel (MAC)	7,844	55.4%
	Beaked Redfish (Deepwater) (REB)	5,028	35.5%
	Blue Whiting (WHB)	991	7.0%
	Haddock (HAD)	78	0.5%
	Ling (LIN)	2	0.0%
	Monkfish (ANF)	7	0.0%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>14,156</b>	<b>100%</b>

<sup>93</sup> In inspection reports.

<sup>94</sup> Rounded to decimal figures.





B – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS				
Member State	Patrol Vessel	Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors	
	Days at sea	No of Flights	Joint Teams at Sea	
	Core		Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
DE	40			40
DK	16			16
ES	21			
EE			19	
IE	9	18		
LT			25	
LV			16	
NL	19			19
PL			15	
SE		4		
UK		3		
<b>Total</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>75</b>

C – ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT										
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol Coordinator						
				DE	DK	ES	IE	NL	SE	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported				17		24	41
	Sea		Sightings reported	140	12	51		23		226
Inspections	Sea	Vessel	No of inspections	13	7	8	3	11		42



D - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES														
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered											
			DE	ES	FR	IS	LT	NL	NO	PL	PT	RU	UK	Total
Sea	Vessel	Number of Inspections	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	27	2	42
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements										3		3
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	7.14
		Total number of suspected infringements										3		3

E - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category			Total
			% Total
Misrecording	Non-compliance - MoT		1
Others	Non-compliance - labelling rules		2
Total			3
			100%



## MEDITERRANEAN JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 30/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	MED-JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	01 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	CY, ES, FR, GR, HR, IT, MT, PT, SI, EFCA, FRONTEX
<b>Cooperating Third Countries</b>	AL, BA, DZ, LY, ME, TN
<b>Operational area</b>	ICES Subareas VII, VIII, IX and FAO 37.1 – 37.2 – 37.3

	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
Coordination Centre (CC)	Purse seiner/ Bluefin Tuna Campaign	ES	1	57
		FR	1	42
		IT	3	60
		HR	2	38
		MT	2	57
		GR	1	55
		CY	1	57
		FRONTEX	2	22
	Strait of Sicily Campaign	IT	1	25
		MT	1	31
		DZ	1	26
		LB	1	5
		TN	4	47
	Adriatic Pilot Project	HR	1	11



A - DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS							
MS and Cooperating TC	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchanges of Inspectors			
	Days at sea		Nº of Flights	Joint Teams at sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	Core	Associated		Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
AL				27			
BA				13			
CY	132			30	1	4	4
DZ				28			
ES	158	61	106	45	28		10
FR	103		2	43	6	10	
GR	284		4	73	2	4	4
HR	231		26	58	38	22	43
IT	111	2	7	297	19	42	27
LY				14			
MT	34		3	87	43		
ME				13			
PT		14		30			
SI	284			5	5	11	5
TN				28			
EFCA	167				649		
FRONTEX		88	255				
Total	1504	165	403	791	791	93	93



B - ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT															
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol coordinator											
				CY	ES	FR	GR	HR	IT	MT	PT	SI	EFCA	FRONTEX	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported		602	41	9	93	43	39			24	663	1514
	Land		Sightings reported		56										56
	Sea		Sightings reported	125	32	53	6	301	113	12		1459	197	143	2441
Inspections	Land	Vessel	Number of inspections	691	1081	490	1271	240	18	316	75	20			4202
		Transport	Number of inspections	39	3			7	3			6			58
		Business	Number of inspections	212	3			414	38			250			917
		Fish Farm	Number of inspections		2			16							18
		Other	Number of inspections	138				1							139
	Sea	Vessel	Number of inspections	609	249	116	2198	264	116	25	4	4	184		3769
		Fish Farm	Number of inspections		52			17		3	2				74
		Other	Number of inspections	84				2							86
		Trap	Number of inspections		45						13				58
		Other Fishing Gear	Number of inspections						6						6



C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES																											
Type of Deployment	Object	Indicators	Country in which the Object is registered																								
			AL	BE	CY	DE	DZ	EG	ES	FR	GR	HR	IR	IS	IT	JP	LB	MA	MT	NL	PA	PT	RS	SL	TN	Unknown	Total
Air	Vessel	Total no of suspected infringements						1	8			1			1												11
Land	Business	No of Inspections			212				3			414			38									250			917
		No of inspections with suspected infringements			3				1			104			7									11			126
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			1.4				33			25.1			18.4									4.40			13.7
		Total no of suspected infringements			6				1			118			8									12			145
	Fish farms	No of Inspections							2			16															18
		No of inspections with suspected infringements							1			0															1
		% of inspections with suspected infringements							50			0															5.56
		Total no. of suspected infringements							1			0															1
	Other	No of Inspections			136							1											2				139
		No of inspections with suspected infringements			32							0											0				32
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			25.3							0											0				23.02
		Total no. of suspected infringements			45							0											0				45
	Transport	No of Inspections			39				3			11			2									3			58
		No of inspections with suspected infringements			2				0			0			1									0			3

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



		% of inspections with suspected infringements			5.1				0			0			50								0			3.17
		Total no. of suspected infringements			3				0			0			1								0			4
	Vessel	No of Inspections		2	710		3		1025	499	1267	238	2		33	1	3	4	298	1	5	91		20		4202
		No of inspections with suspected infringements		0	22		0		104	4	10	31	0		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	28		0		202
		% of inspections with suspected infringements		0	3.1		0		10.1	0.8	0.8	13	0		9.1	0	0	0	0	0	0	30.7		0		4.8
		Total no. of suspected infringements		0	22		0		149	4	10	32	0		3	0	0	0	0	0	0	112		0		332
Sea	Fish farm	No of Inspections						52			17							3			2				74	
		No of inspections with suspected infringements						1			1							0			0				2	
		% of inspections with suspected infringements						1.9			5.8							0			0				2.7	
		Total no. of suspected infringements						1			1							0			0				2	
	Abandon Fishing gear	No of Inspections																							6	6
		No of inspections with suspected infringements																							6	6
		% of inspections with suspected infringements																							100	100
		Total no. of suspected infringements																							6	6
	Other	No of Inspections			84							2														86
		No of inspections			7							1														8



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		with suspected infringements																								
		% of inspections with suspected infringements			8.3						50															9.3
		Total no. of suspected infringements			8						1															9
	Trap	No of Inspections						45												13						58
		No of inspections with suspected infringements						0												0						0
		% of inspections with suspected infringements						0												0						0
		Total no. of suspected infringements						0												0						0
	Vessel	No of Inspections	1		610	1	3	5	225	92	2199	249	1	1	214	8	7		71	1	49	8		5	19	3769
		No of inspections with suspected infringements	0		42	0	0	5	25	6	177	40	0	0	74	0	6		18	0	0	2		0	12	407
		% of inspections with suspected infringements	0		6.9	0	0	100	11.1	6.5	8.05	16	0	0	34.5	0	85		25.3	0	0	25		0	63.1	10.8
		Total no. of suspected infringements	0		44	0	0	28	39	7	207	50	0	0	92	0	11		28	0	0	3		0	25	534



D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Landing Obligation	Discard species subject to LO	1	0%
	Illegal sales - below MCRS	1	0%
Misrecording	Misrecording	16	1%
	Misrecording - BFT transfer documents	6	1%
	Misrecording - landing declaration	21	2%
	Misrecording - logbook	118	11%
	Misrecording - sales notes	15	1%
	Misrecording - transport documents	5	0%
	Non-compliance - BFT documentation and/or reporting rules	40	4%
	Non-compliance - MoT	1	0%
	Non-compliance - notification rules	37	3%
	Non-compliance with BFT video rules	17	2%
Technical Measures	Fishing without or after attainment of a quota	25	2%
	Illegal fishing - closed area/period	103	9%
	Illegal fishing - method	11	1%
	Illegal gear	101	9%
	Non-compliance with marking rules	28	3%
	Non-compliance - BFT by-catch rules	6	1%
	Non-compliance - effort rules	6	1%
	Non-compliance with BFT observer programmes	3	0%
	Retain / land prohibited species	11	1%
	Retain / land species below MCRS (no LO)	35	3%
	Technical measures - national rule	2	0%
Others	Absence or inappropriate pilot ladder	10	1%
	Equipment not calibrated or certified	1	0%
	Falsifying, deleting or concealing the markings, identity or registration of a fishing vessel	3	0%
	Fishing without authorization / licence	94	9%
	Missing mandatory documents	3	0%
	Non-compliance - designated ports rules for BFT	22	2%
	Non-compliance - labelling rules	21	2%
	Non-compliance - list of authorised vessels rules (BFT and/or SWO)	2	0%
	Non-compliance - national rules	17	2%
	Non-compliance - stowage /capacity plan rules	3	0%



	Non-compliance - transshipment rules	2	0%
	Non-compliance with recreational or sport vessel rules for BFT	5	0%
	Non-function or operate without ERS	2	0%
	Non-function or operate without VMS and/or AIS	25	2%
	Obstruction of observers work	2	0%
	Obstruction to inspection	10	1%
	Other - crew requirements	2	0%
	Others not specified	96	9%
	Safety - National rules	51	5%
	Third country vessels fishing in EU waters	7	1%
	Traceability	102	9%
<b>Total</b>		<b>1089</b>	<b>100%</b>



## Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

**Medicines and Medical Devices: risk of non-compliance**



Authority	Area	Regulatory Authority	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)
Belgrade	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
Novi Sad	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
Kragujevac	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100

Legend: 100% (blue), 100% (green), 100% (red)

**Medicines and Medical Devices: risk of non-compliance**



Authority	Area	Regulatory Authority	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)	Non-compliance with the Law (per 1000 units)
Belgrade	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
Novi Sad	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
Kragujevac	General Public Health	General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100
		General Public Health (Risk)	100	100	100	100	100	100

Legend: 100% (blue), 100% (green), 100% (red)



## BLACK SEA JDP

(Report based on data registered in EFCA JDP information system on 30/01/2020)

<b>Joint Deployment Plan</b>	Black Sea JDP 2019
<b>Reporting period</b>	1 January to 31 December 2019
<b>Participation</b>	BG, RO, EFCA, FRONTEX
<b>Operational area</b>	FAO 37.4.2

Coordination Centre (CC)	Campaign	Member States	Number of Experts	Man-days
	Black Sea Turbot Campaign	BG	1	7
		RO	1	7

A – DEPLOYED CONTROL MEANS							
Member State	Patrol Vessel		Aircraft	Exchange of Inspectors			
	Days at sea			Joint Teams at Sea		Mixed Teams ashore	
	Core	Associated	No of Flights	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted	Man-days Deployed	Man-days Hosted
BG	56			15	9	49	57
RO	30			9	15	57	49
Frontex			3				
Total	86	0	3	24	24	106	106

B - ACTIVITY CARRIED-OUT							
Type of Activity	Type of Deployment	Type of Object	Indicator	Patrol coordinator			
				BG	RO	FRONTEX	Total
Surveillance	Air		Sightings reported			3	3
	Sea		Sightings reported	43	53		96
Inspections	Land	Vessel	Number of inspections	1452	250		1702
		Transport	Number of inspections	8	38		46



		<b>Business</b>	<b>Number of inspections</b>	191	131		<b>322</b>
	<b>Sea</b>	<b>Vessel</b>	<b>Number of inspections</b>	48	26		<b>74</b>

<b>C - RESULTS OF CONTROL ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Type Deployment</b>	<b>Object</b>	<b>Indicators</b>	<b>Country in which the Object is registered</b>		
			<b>BG</b>	<b>RO</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Land</b>	<b>Business</b>	Number of Inspections	191	131	<b>322</b>
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	3	1	<b>4</b>
		% of inspections with infringements	1.57	0.76	<b>1.24</b>
		Total number of suspected infringements	3	1	<b>4</b>
	<b>Transport</b>	Number of Inspections	12	34	<b>46</b>
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	3	0	<b>3</b>
		% of inspections with infringements	25	0	<b>6.52</b>
		Total number of suspected infringements	6	0	<b>6</b>
	<b>Vessel</b>	Number of Inspections	1452	250	<b>1702</b>
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	2	7	<b>9</b>
		% of inspections with infringements	0.14	2.80	<b>0.53</b>
		Total number of suspected infringements	3	7	<b>10</b>
<b>Sea</b>	<b>Vessel</b>	Number of Inspections	49	25	<b>74</b>
		Number of inspections with suspected infringements	1	4	<b>5</b>
		% of inspections with infringements	2.04	16	<b>6.76</b>
		Total number of suspected infringements	1	4	<b>5</b>

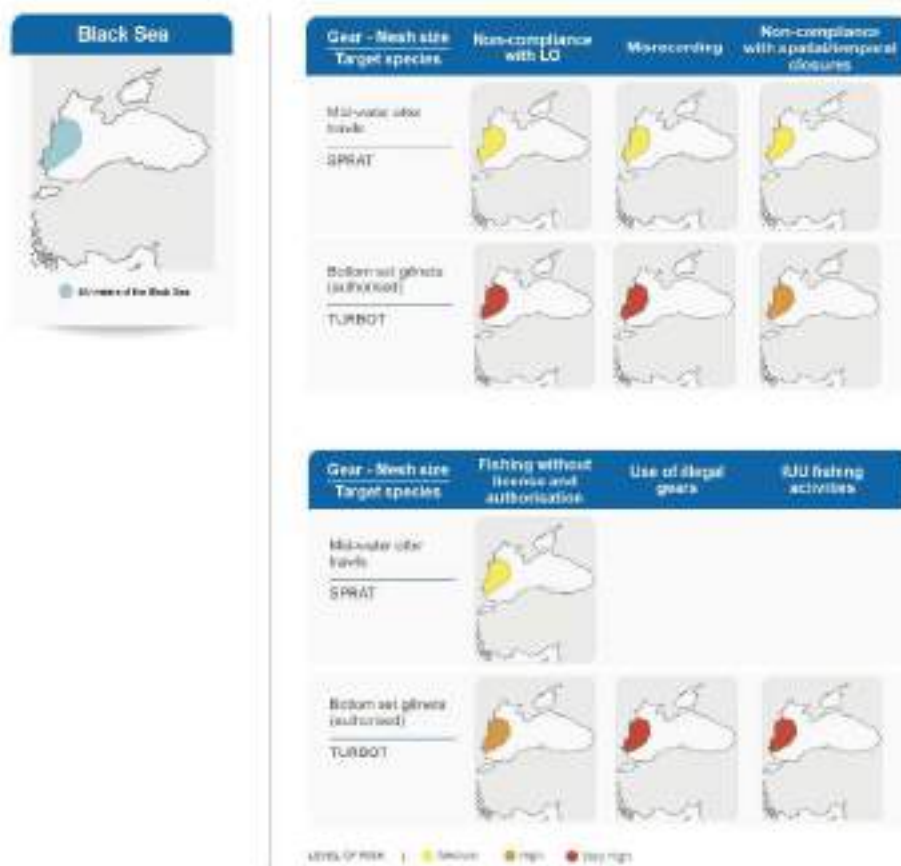


D - TYPE OF SUSPECTED INFRINGEMENTS DETECTED DURING THE JDP			
Suspected Infringement Category		Total	% Total
Landing Obligation	Illegal sales - below MCRS	1	4%
Misrecording	Misrecording - logbook	3	12%
	Misrecording - sales notes	3	12%
	Misrecording - transport documents	3	12%
	Non-compliance - MoT	1	4%
	Non-compliance - notification rules	1	4%
Technical Measures	Illegal fishing - closed area/period	1	4%
	Retain / land prohibited species	4	16%
Others	Fishing without authorization / licence	2	8%
	Missing mandatory documents	4	16%
	Others not specified	2	8%
Total		25	100%





## Results of risk assessment of non-compliance





## TRAINING ACTIVITIES IN 2019

Area	Action	Date(s)	Place	No of participants	Satisf. % (good/very good)
Med. Black Sea	Support to national training for inspectors (IT)	26-28/03	Livorno	19	n/a
	MED JDP training for MS inspectors	02-05/04	Athens	32	100
	Support to national training for inspectors (FR)	09-10/04	Nantes	8	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (CY)	09-11/04	Nicosia	16	n/a
	MED JDP training for MS inspectors (Adriatic Sea)	16-17/04	Izola	21	100
	Support to national training for inspectors (HR)	16-17/05	Zagreb	22	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (IT)	05-06/09	Livorno	16	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (BG)	11/10	Burgas	24	100
	Support to national training for inspectors (CY)	5-6/11	Limassol	13	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (ES)	12-13/11	Sevilla	34	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (HR)	19-20/11	Gospic	22	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (IT)	20/22/11	Livorno	17	n/a
	Support to national training for inspectors (RO)	05/12	Busteni	80	100
	Support to national training on IUU Reg. GR+CY)	11-12/12	Athens	13	100
NAFO-NEAFC	Support to national training for inspectors (IE)	26/02 28/02	KillyBegs Haulbowline	17	n/a
	NAFO training for MS inspectors	29-31/01	Vigo	28	95
	NEAFC training for MS inspectors	26-27/03	Vigo	25	95
	Support to national training for inspectors (PT)	26-28/03	Horta	17	n/a
Western Waters/ North Sea/Baltic Sea	IUU regional training for DE, DK, FI, NL, SE	4-5/06	Stockholm	16	94
	WW JDP training for EU inspectors	12-13/06	Vigo	14	100
	NS JDP training for EU inspectors	7-8/05	Vigo	7	100
	BS JDP training for EU inspectors	16-17/10	Stockholm	26	100
Landlocked	-	-	-	-	-
All MS	IUU training for newcomers	12-14/03	Vigo	18	100
	Joint course EFCA-EMSA	4-6/06	Vigo	20	100
	IUU advanced course	16-17/10	Brussels	22	95
	Subtotal EU inspectors	25 events		547	98
Third countries	PESCAO support to national inspection training	12-14/03	Conakry	21	100
	PESCAO support to national inspection training	18-20/09	Banjul	20	100
	PESCAO regional training for FMC operators (PT)	2-4/10	Praia	12	n/a
	PESCAO support to national inspection training	2-4/10	Abuja	20	95
	PESCAO regional training for FMC operators (FR)	19-21/11	Abidjan	18	88
	Subtotal non-EU inspectors	5 events		91	96
MS + third countries + EU org.	Registered users to the EFCA e-learning platform			1117	n/a
TOTAL		No of events: 30		No of participants: 1755	-----



## COAST GUARD COMMON REPORT OF THE ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLAN

Objectives 2019	Outcomes
Strategic / Horizontal	
To hold the annual joint European Coast Guard Event (AECGE) under the coordination of Frontex in line with the experience gained at the previous annual event.	In 2019, in accordance with the conclusions of the 1ST AECGE, 2nd AECGE was organized under the coordination of Frontex in cooperation with EFCA and EMSA in Swinoujscie (15-17 April 2019) and focused on Coast Guard topics. 127 participants coming from different EU Member States (MS) and Schengen Associated Countries (SAC), from each Agency and the EU Commission attended the event.
To promote further European cooperation with national authorities on coast guard functions considering the specificities of EU sea basins.	<p>EFCA, EMSA and Frontex organised an interagency stand at the European Maritime Day on 16-17 May 2019 in Lisbon, where they delivered a joint workshop, promoting European cooperation on Coast Guard Functions amongst European maritime community.</p> <p>EFCA, EMSA and Frontex participated in various regional initiatives related to the Coast Guard Functions and especially European Coast Guard Functions Forum strengthening the cooperation with maritime community in EU. Three joint workshops have been organized in 2019 under the Italian Chairmanship of the forum. The 1st under the coordination of EMSA in Lisbon on "A new European environmental commitment", the 2nd under the coordination of Frontex in Rome, on "Coast Guard Functions in the framework of Maritime Security" and the 3rd practical exercise "Coastex 19" in Catania, under coordination of EFCA.</p>
To carry out coordinated communication/media activities related to the implementation of the European interagency cooperation on coast guard functions.	<p>In 2019, the following communication activities have been performed:</p> <p>Following the Annual European Coast Guard Event, an interagency video on cooperation on Coast Guard Functions has been prepared by Frontex. The video is presenting and promoting the cooperation between the three Agencies in maritime domain. The video had its premiere at ECGFF Plenary Conference in Venice in November 2019.</p> <p>In the framework of the AECGE an interagency booklet on EU cooperation on Coast Guard Functions prepared by Frontex in cooperation with EFCA and EMSA was published.</p>
To harmonise the format and implementing modalities of the interagency Service Level Agreements.	Interagency cooperation was strengthened following the adoption of the Annual Strategic Plan (ASP) 2019 of the Tripartite Working Arrangement (TWA) on Coast Guard functions. The three technical subcommittees chaired by EMSA (TSC 1 for Area 1 & 2), EFCA (TSC 2 for Area 3 & 4) and Frontex (TSC 3 for Area 5) continued their regular activities.
Area 1 Information sharing	
To further enhance cooperation among the Agencies in the field of information sharing.	A first draft of an inventory with the data collected by all three Agencies was developed with the objective to provide an overview of what data sets are available and trigger discussions for sharing these data with the Member States



	Coast Guard Authorities. The Agencies continued working on the development of the “data sharing Table” and promoted the further sharing of data/services between the Agencies.
To provide a maritime awareness picture in customized interfaces that include/integrate all relevant data sources available across policy areas.	Following the feedback received by the AECGE 2019, the Agencies worked further on the inventory to describe the data sets with additional information (such as the technicalities including type of interfaces) and the access rights policies associated to each data set. The 3 Agencies provided further information related to the conditions associated with the use of the data sets (e.g. data update rate, reliability, technical issues and access conditions). The Agencies committed to continue their work to further increase the awareness of user communities about the possible use of the available data sets.
To continue working on analysing information needs and any gap in dialogue with relevant national authorities, continuing to ensure a sound and secure implementation of data access rights.	The IMS maritime picture provided by EMSA, with vessel information and positions (including SSN, S-AIS and additionally VMS received from EFCA) and Automatic Behaviours Monitoring (ABM) tools have been shared in 2019 with EFCA and Frontex. The IMS maritime picture has been further developed to integrate requirements from all CG stakeholders.
To further work on common tools for data mining and exploitation (such as automated behaviour monitoring tools and historical data analysis tools).	Growing requirements in machine learning at EMSA and how machine learning can be integrated into the processes of EMSA and the other Agencies should become a key question in the coming years. The Agencies will continue exploring machine learning options applied to the maritime surveillance.
<b>Area 2 Surveillance and communication services</b>	
To further enhance cooperation between the three Agencies in the area of surveillance and communication services.	The EMSA Earth Observation services have increased for all CG stakeholders (both in numbers and quality). EMSA further developed and shared with the EFCA and Frontex Near Real time and Quasi real time Earth observation services allowing for an essential and unique monitoring at sea by Maritime authorities.
To analyse the possibility to increase specific surveillance and communication services to relevant stakeholders.	EMSA provided to EFCA more than 300 Earth Observation images in 2019 under Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS) service to support operational fisheries control activity. EMSA also provided to Frontex two earth observation-based services: Vessel Detection Service to detect non reporting vessels (more than 1700 Synthetic Aperture Radar images in 2019) and the Activity Detection Service (ADS) with information on border surveillance activities (more than over 630 very high-resolution optical images in 2019). Both Agencies benefit from the sharing of images with each other and have access to all the EMSA CleanSeaNet images tasked regularly for pollution monitoring (over 7200 in 2019).
Follow up the developments of Air Traffic Control rules for RPAS.	In the Framework of RPAS operations, Member States shared their experiences regarding the developments of Air Traffic Control rules for RPAS in their respective countries.
To avoid duplication and overlap of surveillance and communication cross-sectoral services, in particular in the area of RPAS services.	The procurement procedures completed in 2018 increased the available portfolio of RPAS of the three Agencies in 2019 and of needed contracting of Satellite communication services. EMSA provided RPAS services to Frontex (in Portugal and Greece) and to EFCA (on Board Lundy Sentinel) in support of the CG functions. New capabilities for Satellite communication were used in all cases for the transmission of the RPAS data



	in real time. At present, as a result of the continuous cooperation between the three Agencies, the RPAS data streams are integrated with other data layers of the IMS in the RPAS Data Centre that is shared with all users of the RPAS services.
<b>Area 3 Capacity building</b>	
To continue collecting and assessing cross-sector training needs of national authorities performing coast guard functions.	<p>Each Agency presented the objectives and ongoing work of the inter-agency cooperation and consulted its own community on possible future training needs (Consultative Network on Technical Assistance CNTA of EMSA, Steering Group on Training and Exchange of Experience SGTEE of EFCA, Annual Training Conference of Frontex).</p> <p>Each Agency usually invites the other two agencies to participate as observers to its annual training event, Steering Group or Conference.</p> <p>All entities were made aware of the possibility to organise joint training sessions programmes between 2/3 Agencies.</p> <p>The EFCA community referred some possible joint training subjects such as safety of boarding of (fishing) vessels, risk assessment, engine power checking, Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) and other on-board systems integrity.</p>
To coordinate the preparation of the Handbook on European Cooperation on Coast Guard Functions.	<p>The Agencies requested their Governing Boards to designate experts and a total of 43 experts were nominated to take part in the drafting process. A kick off meeting was held in January 2019 with the participation of 32 experts. The Handbook would have essentially three parts: 1) Catalogues of services, training and best practices, 2) regional cooperation part and 3) Member States fact sheets. An information point was delivered during the Annual Coast Guard Event. In August 2019, a first draft of the handbook was circulated to the Member States designated experts. Feed-back was received by October 2019 and a review meeting was hosted by EFCA in November 2019. The drafting process is expected to conclude early 2020.</p>
To ensure consistency between the ECGFF Sectorial Qualification Framework and the relevant EU and international standards.	<p>Representatives from the three Agencies participated in the SQF working group meetings of the project and supported the revision of the SQF tables. The Agencies also supported the stakeholder consultation through distributing a dedicated questionnaire to their communities. The three Agencies participated and contributed to the final meeting and closing seminar of the ECGFA Net project that developed the SQF for ten coast guard functions. EFCA started to host the coast guard training portal with the SQF visual tool.</p>
To provide joint cross-sectoral training by the relevant Agencies related to coast guard functions	<p>Existing cross-function training activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training on 'Maritime safety and fisheries control rules applicable to fishing vessels' was delivered on 4-6 June 2019 in Vigo for the EMSA and EFCA Communities. .</li> <li>• 'Air Crew preparation for Joint Operations' training was delivered for the Frontex Community. Representatives of EMSA and EFCA contributed to the course delivery. A total of 4 sessions were delivered in 2019, namely in February, May, August and October.</li> <li>• EFCA contributed to the development of briefings for the Frontex Joint Operations - for the Frontex Community. A total of 14 briefings were delivered in 2019.</li> </ul>



<p>To map the ongoing relevant cross-sectoral cooperation projects with third countries.</p>	<p><b>Middle East &amp; North Africa:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frontex through <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o EU4BorderSecurity Project</li> <li>o EU Border Assistance Missions.</li> <li>o SAR workshop in Greece (JO Poseidon) with participation from Egypt.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- EFCA through the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Pilot project Strait of Sicily</li> <li>o Pilot project Ionian Sea</li> <li>o Pilot project Levant Sea</li> </ul> </li> <li>- EMSA through the SAFEMED Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o First Union for Mediterranean Ad-Hoc Senior Officer Meeting on Transport</li> <li>o Training for Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) inspectors.</li> <li>o MARPOL Annex VI and EU Legislation training.</li> <li>o VTS training</li> <li>o Training on Marine Environmental Protection</li> <li>o Med MoU Port State Control seminar</li> <li>o STCW training</li> <li>o Training on Search &amp; Rescue</li> <li>o Training on Ballast Water Management</li> <li>o Maritime Law and IMO Conventions</li> <li>o Training on ISPS</li> <li>o Preparation and follow-up on IMSAS</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>EU Enlargement Countries:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Frontex: Workshop on European IBM Strategy in October in cooperation with the European Commission (DG Migration &amp; Home).</li> <li>- EFCA through the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).</li> <li>- EMSA: Implements a DG NEAR financed Project entitled: "Preparatory measures for the participation of enlargement countries in EMSA's work": training activities to support the implementation of associating EU legislation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Black Sea</b></p> <p>Frontex: Technical assistance projects.</p> <p>EFCA through the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Pilot project Black Sea</li> </ul> <p>- EMSA: Held several trainings and seminars on flag state implementation, port state control, VTS, VTMS, protection of environment and pollution response, human element, security of ships and port facilities, communication and visibility, and provision of tools and services.</p> <p><b>Gulf of Guinea</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EFCA through PESCAO Project</li> <li>- EMSA (cf. SWAIMS Project/UNODC cooperation with EMSA/Copernicus)</li> </ul>
<p>To jointly support future EU capacity building cooperation programmes with third countries, where relevant.</p>	<p>EMSA has a specific training module on fishing vessel safety for EU and non-EU partner countries. EFCA was invited to deliver a presentation on fisheries control during this training. This is a first example of cooperation in the context of non-EU countries.</p> <p>Frontex started to organise an IBM training for third countries. In 2019 it was delivered in the Western Balkans and in 2020 it will be in eastern countries. There is the possibility to explore presentations from EMSA and EFCA during these trainings.</p>





	EFCA has also experience and developed courses in eastern countries.
<b>Area 4 Risk Analysis</b>	
To further enhance cooperation between the relevant EU agencies on cross-sector risk management cooperation.	<p>The three Agencies developed their own risk analysis frameworks within their mandate, which also support national authorities performing coast guard functions (e.g. providing risk assessment tools, risk assessment analysis and products and/or Abnormal Behaviour Monitoring).</p> <p>The three Agencies exchanged information about the types of data, methodologies (steps, levels and objective of risk assessment) and analytical products that are currently used by each agency.</p> <p>The Agencies discussed possible levels of integration and respective analytical products, considering advantages and disadvantages of each level. The adequate spatial and temporal dimensions would be important to consider. The levels of planning between strategic planning vs tactical day-to-day monitoring were also considered. The identification of complementarities that could be relevant for each agency (data poor situations, low risks with high impacts) was also considered.</p> <p>A glossary/terminology on risk assessment related with coast guard functions was elaborated.</p>
To enhance tailored cross-sector risk analysis services provided to relevant authorities responsible for coast guard functions where relevant and according to each Agency's mandate.	<p>The Agencies initiated an exploratory analysis of joining a risk assessment outcome for fisheries (strategic risk assessment outcome from EFCA), incident reports off illegal border crossings and smuggling of goods (data from Frontex) and likelihood of oil spills (from the EMSA Clean Sea Net). Different maps were explored for the Mediterranean Sea by plotting the different data or information from the three agencies. This was a preliminary exercise of trying to combine data or information from the three agencies.</p> <p>Additional data sets that could be considered, from EMSA, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Non-correlated VDS: identification of targets from satellite remote sensing imagery;</li> <li>- Vessel Traffic Density Maps: annual, seasonal and monthly density maps by vessel types;</li> <li>- SSN Incidents: different categories.</li> </ul>
<b>Area 5 Capacity sharing</b>	
To elaborate a concept for a European multipurpose maritime activities while using existing, planned, outsourced capacity of each Agency.	<p>The concept draft of the European Multipurpose Maritime Activities (EMMA), with the integration in operational modules of operations, is under development. The Interagency concept has been discussed with Member States during the 2nd Annual European Coast Guard Event. Comments have been taken in consideration and the concept focused on MMO is under discussion in the frame of TSC3 chaired by Frontex.</p>
To further enhance cooperation modalities between EU Agencies on capacity sharing issues including sharing assets beyond multipurpose operations.	<p>Following the extension of the scope of the SLA between EMSA and EFCA, EMSA provided some oil pollution response equipment and supplies, including relevant training to EFCA chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel. Consequently the OPV Lundy Sentinel is a vessel of opportunity and has been added to the Common Emergency Communication and Information System managed by the Commission.</p> <p>Cooperation with EFCA in the use of Frontex's RPAS pilot was established. Other cooperation examples on capacity sharing (RPAS provided by EMSA) are mentioned in Area 2.</p>



	Frontex and EFCA have established operational contacts and exchange information on periodical basis in connection with EFCA OPV operational activity.
To identify the legal and operational regimes that apply to multipurpose operations led/supported by the Agencies;	Legal issues reflecting the “flag state” enforcement powers in the international waters have been explored and discussed. , also in relation to leasing/chartering of the agencies’ equipment.
To further enhance cooperation between Agencies and National Operational Centres for exchange of information in real time and provision of responses to threats in the areas of operation (also relevant for Area 1).	<p>A mapping exercise of the existing authorities performing coast guard functions has been conducted. The mapping is based on the authorities participating at the agencies’ level but it also relies on European and international forums related to coast guard functions (BSRBCC, ECGFF, NACGFF, MCGFF, and CGGS). The document is under finalisation.</p> <p>The mapping of Agencies Operational Centres for exchange of information in real time has been conducted. The document is under finalisation.</p>





## PERFORMANCE REPORT OPV LUNDY SENTINEL

### 1. Introduction

In 2017, following the publication of an open call for tenders, the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) awarded a contract for chartering an offshore EU fisheries patrol vessel to a consortium led by Sentinel Marine Ltd with a duration of 2+1+1 years, i.e. until December 2021. According to Articles 9 and 10 of the EFCA founding regulation<sup>95</sup> the *Agency may acquire, rent or charter the equipment that is necessary for the implementation of the joint deployment plans*. According 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.

The charter contract was launched to hire 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. The requirements of the charter favoured a cost-effectiveness platform, with more interest in long endurance over speed equipped with fast boats, and capable of providing multiple services. A certification for drone operation was also required. The vessel selected for charter, the OPV Lundy Sentinel, is a Portuguese flagged vessel built in 2015. Under the charter arrangements the vessel is primarily deployed as a fisheries patrol vessel but is available for multipurpose tasks in the framework of the European cooperation on coast guard functions, such as search and rescue, and pollution response, in cooperation with Member States authorities and/or Frontex and EMSA. This report provides a summary of the performance of the OPV Lundy Sentinel, *inter alia* on the technical, operational and costs related aspects for 2018 and 2019.

### 2. Technical specification

#### 2.1. General overview

The EFCA chartered OPV is a Multi-Role Field Support Emergency Response and Rescue Vessel (ERRV) providing a multipurpose platform for reconnaissance, surveillance and inspection missions at sea, meeting the majority of the operational requirements of various authorities performing Coast Guard functions in the EU. The main technical specifications of the vessel are the following:

- Type: ERV
- Built: 2015
- L.O.A.: 61 m - Beam: 15 m – Max Draft: 5.014 m
- Gross Tonnage: 1944
- Autonomy: with full bunkers, approximately 60 days
- Cruising speed: 10 kn – Max Speed: 13 kn
- Crew: 12
- Boarding equipment: Fast Rescue Boats (FRB) Palfinger 7 m – DC Palfinger 10 m – RHIB
- Operational presence within various EU sea basins – 12 months

#### 2.2. Specific functionalities

##### State of the art navigation and communication equipment

The satellite communication (SatCom) allows permanent internet access to fisheries control surveillance systems on board (IMS, JaDE, FISHNET, Copernicus acquisitions, etc.). As such the OPV can be considered as a 'mobile office of EFCA'.

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<sup>95</sup> Regulation (EU) No 2019/473 of the European Parliament and of the Council



In addition, EFCA has provided a satellite phone in order to ensure that at any moment there is connectivity with the EFCA deployed personnel (EFCA officers and Member States inspectors) as well as ensuring there are means to communicate information via a secured and confidential channel.

#### Boarding crafts

The OPV Lundy Sentinel is equipped with three boarding crafts, which can perform boarding or surveillance operations in diverse weather conditions. One of the boarding crafts is a daughter craft that can reach a speed of 30 knots and has an authorised deployment range of 10 nm from the mother ship.

The three boarding crafts ensure majority of boarding scenarios required for fisheries control are covered.

#### Special winching area for helicopter and RPAS operations

The OPV Lundy Sentinel has a special winching area for helicopter operations (e.g. MEDEVAC or other), which has also proven to be suitable for 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. In 2019, on two occasions the OPV participated in helicopter drills while operating inside designated patrol areas.

Making significant progress, in the context of interagency cooperation, since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, RPAS and pilot have been deployed on board of OPV. EFCA is testing the use of RPAS as a new tool for enhancing fisheries surveillance and control, provided by EMSA as a service free of charge. This deployment of PRAS was possible due to the special winching area of the OPV.

#### Readiness for environmental protection and specific oil pollution response capacity - Vessel of opportunity.

Also, thanks to the interagency cooperation, since 2 May 2019 the OPV has been equipped with a trawl net system, installed in a container to be used (deployed) for heavy oil recovery. From 15 July 2019, the OPV was equipped with dispersant (5 tons) to be used for situations of when there is a light oil detected at the sea surface.

Besides the aforementioned capacity, the OPV is fit for towing and providing assistance to stricken or disabled vessels, as well as to provide support for Vessel Traffic Service (VTS) in specific sea areas.

#### Readiness for Search and Rescue

The OPV has specific equipment and capacity for Search and Rescue, including of mass-rescue operations, as follows:

- readiness for the role of On Scene Coordinator' (OSC) for Search and Rescue (SAR) operations including other on standby or constant state of readiness duties,
- availability of a mechanical recovery device and a crane-operated rescue net for recovery of survivors or casualties directly from the sea in severe conditions,
- enhanced survivor reception and modern medical after-care facilities with presence with one medical staff,
- Surplus medical supplies (e.g. 500 units of oral rehydration salts; pocket masks for cardiopulmonary resuscitation; burn wound dressings; cooling balm; defibrillators; body bags);
- Additional equipment related to SAR: 230 life vests; 4 inflatable light weight rafts; 200 foil rescue blankets; Portable Night Vision Goggles; Portable Thermo / Infra-Red (IR) Camera; extreme/heavy duty flashlights; Megaphone.
- Additional food and water supplies for 200 persons for two days as well as nutritional drinks for children.

The use of the OPV is consistently available to Member States in line with international SAR obligations. Of note, the OPV was requested in June 2019 by the Italian Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) to assist in the search and rescue of one missing person in the area where the OPV was operating. Also, due to some unfortunate events there were three occasions when EFCA deployed medical staff aboard the OPV provided assistance (two cases involving fisherman and one case involving a Member State inspector).



### 3. Assessment of performance

The current assessment covers the period between the 01/02/2018 and 31/12/2019 and is presented by Joint Deployment Plan areas: Baltic, North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean, Black Sea.

#### 3.1. Mission

Mission: fisheries MCS operations in a Multipurpose Maritime Operations framework (fisheries MCS, training (including for PASSEX with navies (*Marina Militare* helicopters)), inter MS and TC cooperation, multipurpose capacity: search and rescue, assistance, environmental protection (VOO), medical assistance, test bed for new technologies such as EMSA RPAS, etc.);

#### 3.2. Technical performance

The OPV has been fulfilling the main purpose of providing a fisheries inspection platform to Member States all year around, except during the period from end of December to mid-January. Annual deployment is arranged as such for the OPV to spend two weeks at sea and a maximum of 48 hours in port for crew and inspector' exchange and for bunkering as required. Therefore, through patrols the OPV is close to fulfilling 100% of the planned activities. In 2018 and 2019, there were only a few occasions when the OPV had to advance its entry to port or to delay its exit due to adverse weather conditions, or due to logistical issues preventing the crew/inspectors embarking on time (e.g. flight cancellations, delays). The crew is highly trained and has demonstrated a high level of professionalism and the ship owner has a service-oriented approach.

#### 3.3. Operational performance

The OPV contributed to the implementation of the JDP's in all EU sea basins. Of note, the OPV has 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 in to the status of compliance in fisheries and offers the capacity to address them through the SG and TJDG, and also to facilitate a 'fine tuning' the risk assessments.

Considering inspections (see Table 1), the overall number completed using the OPV is relatively high. However, in some sea basins (e.g. WW) due to seasonal fishing and weather patterns, the inspection rate was lower.

The ratio of suspected infringements discovered through inspection are much higher than the general JDP ratio. This can be considered to indicate 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 1** - Days at sea, number of inspections and number of suspected infringements (SI) by year and sea basin with related %.

	Days at sea	Number of inspections	Number of SI	(%) of inspection per day	(%) of inspections with SI
<b>2018</b>					
<b>Baltic Sea</b>	43	21	1	49%	5%
<b>North Sea</b>	43	13	0	30%	0%
<b>Western Waters</b>	16	3	0	19%	0%
<b>Transit -Med</b>	12				
<b>Mediterranean</b>	160	132	65	83%	49%
<b>Black Sea</b>	27	19	0	70%	0%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>301</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>62%</b>	<b>35%</b>



<b>2019</b>					
<b>Baltic Sea</b>	45	22	5	49%	23%
<b>North sea</b>	41	8	2	19%	25%
<b>Western Waters</b>	62	33	13	53%	39%
<b>Mediterranean</b>	160	184	116	115%	63%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>136</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>55%</b>
<b>Overall Total</b>	<b>609</b>	<b>435</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>46%</b>

Regarding the experience of using the Remote Piloted Aircraft System on board the OPV, Table 2 provides information about the number of flights performed, the indicated dates and the geographical area covered.

It should be noted that this has been the first experience in the deployment of a light quadcopter (weight of 2300g, battery powered) from on board the OPV. The endurance of the RPAS is limited to around 35 minutes and the working range is 2,5 Nm (4,5 km) from the target. The RPAS sensors has proven to be able to provide good image and video footage quality.

**Table 2** – Number of RPAS flights by patrol dates and geographical area.

<b>Dates</b>	<b>Geographical Area</b>	<b>Number of RPAS flights</b>
1 – 14 Sep 19	Central Med	5 surveillance flights 9 test/training flights Totals 14 flights
16 – 29 Sep 19	Central Med / Adriatic Sea	9 surveillance flights 1 test/training flight Totals 10 flights
01 – 13 Oct 19	Central Med / Adriatic Sea	13 surveillance flights 6 test/training flights Totals 19 flights
15 – 29 Oct 19	Western Med North Atlantic	9 surveillance flights 1 test/training flight Totals 10 flights
31 Oct – 20 Nov 19	North Atlantic Gulf of Biscay North Sea	4 surveillance flights 1 test/training flight Totals 5 flights
22 Nov – 04 Dec 19	Baltic Sea	8 surveillance flights 1 test/training flight Totals 9 flights

The use of the RPAS aims at improving the safety and the security of the boarding team and has been recognised as an added value.

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.



### 3.4. Exchange of inspectors

The OPV has also provided a platform for the exchange of inspectors between Member States. Table 3 indicates the number of inspectors deployed on board the OPV in 2018 and 2019 by Member State and 3<sup>rd</sup> country.

**Table 3** – Number of inspectors on board the OPV during 2018 and 2019

#### 2018

##### Member States

<b>BE</b>	5	<b>ES</b>	9	<b>IT</b>	16	<b>PL</b>	3
<b>BG</b>	5	<b>FR</b>	2	<b>LV</b>	4	<b>RO</b>	4
<b>CY</b>	1	<b>GR</b>	4	<b>LT</b>	1	<b>SE</b>	2
<b>DE</b>	3	<b>HR</b>	3	<b>MT</b>	5		
<b>DK</b>	3	<b>IR</b>	3	<b>NL</b>	4		

##### 3<sup>rd</sup> countries

<b>UA</b>	2	<b>DZ</b>	8	<b>TN</b>	8
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#### 2019

##### Member States

<b>BE</b>	2	<b>ES</b>	3	<b>IT</b>	17	<b>PL</b>	2
<b>CY</b>	2	<b>FI</b>	2	<b>LV</b>	4	<b>PT</b>	3
<b>DE</b>	3	<b>FR</b>	4	<b>LT</b>	1	<b>SE</b>	2
<b>DK</b>	3	<b>GR</b>	5	<b>MT</b>	6		
<b>ES</b>	6	<b>HR</b>	3	<b>NL</b>	1		

##### 3<sup>rd</sup> countries

<b>AL</b>	2	<b>DZ</b>	2	<b>ME</b>	1
<b>BA</b>	1	<b>LY</b>	1	<b>TN</b>	2

Due to the availability of the OPV for the deployment of various MS inspectors, it has contributed to the standardisation of inspection, 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 OPV; 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 are duly addressed by EFCA and discussed with the company Sentinel Marine Ltd and the flag state (Portugal).

### 3.5. Cooperation with other EU Agencies

Beside its primary role the OPV has been successfully performing in the area of interagency cooperation. The EFCA is always ready to assist MS authorities in areas besides fisheries, in particular in other Coast Guard functions. As such, the OPV has been associated and supported Frontex joint operations (Indalo, Themis and Poseidon), the operations of other agencies EUROPOL, Interpol operations (30 Days at Sea) as well as regional operations, exercises e.g. ECGFF (Coastex19).



Number of days during 2019 when Lundy Sentinel was also associated to other Coast Guard functions in cooperation with EMSA and Frontex<sup>96</sup>:

Coast Guard function	EMSA	Frontex
Environmental protection	227	
RPAS operations	105	
Maritime border surveillance		160



#### 4. Overall assessment

Considering the above mentioned technical and operational performance elements, alongside the tender specifications upon which the contract was signed, it is concluded by EFCA that the EFCA chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel is efficient, cost-effective and performing well.

The OPV has proven to be an important platform for the exchange of experience and is serving as a testbed for emerging technologies (such as the use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems) for fisheries control. Also, the OPV provides 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 OPV.

<sup>96</sup> Assistance was also provided for 2 days in SAR operation and 91 days a medical support was available



## ANNEX V: STATISTICS ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Description	Result/ Figures of the period	
	2019	2018
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations (C1)	99.9%	99.7%
Budget implementation % of payment appropriations (C1)	85.7%	86.7%
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations excluding salaries (chapters 11 and 12) (C1)	100.9%	97.6%
Implementation of carried over appropriations (C8)	93.5%	95.4%
Budget implementation % of PESCAO grant (R0 to implement in 2018-2022)	73%	79%
Budget implementation % of commitment appropriations (C1, R0, C4)	98.8%	99.3%
Budget implementation % of payment appropriations (C1, C8, R0, C4)	85.8%	98.5%
Payment delay	0.6%	4%





## Budget Implementation (C1)

STAFF EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2019	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
1.1	Staff in active employment	7,780,000	-66,850	7,713,150	7,712,723	100%	7,713,150	7,671,340	99%	41,383	1%
1.2	Expenditure related to recruitment	134,000	-37,900	96,100	95,234	99%	96,100	95,234	99%	0	0%
1.3	Administrative missions and duty travel	65,000	-14,600	50,400	49,813	99%	50,400	44,592	88%	5,221	10%
1.4	Socio-medical infrastructure, training	140,000	-36,350	103,650	100,936	97%	103,650	58,056	56%	42,881	41%
1.7	Reception and representation expenses	1,000	0	1000	89	9%	1000	89	9%	0	0%
	<b>TOTAL TITLE I</b>	<b>8,120,000</b>	<b>-155,700</b>	<b>7,964,300</b>	<b>7,958,796</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,964,300</b>	<b>7,869,311</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>89,484</b>	<b>1%</b>

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2019	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
2	Rental of building and associated costs	391,000	-19,070	371,930	370,336	100%	371,930	331,615	89%	38,721	10%
2.1	Data processing expenditure and associated costs	675,000	-14,380	660,620	658,571	100%	660,620	452,892	69%	205,679	31%
2.2	Movable property and associated costs	72,000	7,250	79,250	78,111	99%	79,250	33,205	42%	44,907	57%
2.3	Current administrative expenditure	40,000	1,400	41,400	41,398	100%	41,400	34,258	83%	7,141	17%
2.5	Meeting expenses	72,000	1500	73,500	73,500	100%	73,500	68,386	93%	5114.45	7%
2.6	Supplementary Services	329,000	-74,960	254,040	253,751	100%	254,040	203,279	80%	50,472	20%
2.7	General Info/Communications	55,000	5,360	60,360	60,348	100%	60,360	32,253	53%	28,096	47%
	<b>TOTAL TITLE II</b>	<b>1,634,000</b>	<b>-92,900</b>	<b>1,541,100</b>	<b>1,536,015</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,541,100</b>	<b>1,155,886</b>	<b>75%</b>	<b>380,129</b>	<b>25%</b>





OPERATIONAL EXPENDITURE				Commitments (€)			Payments (€)			Carried Forward	
Chapter	Description	Budget 2019	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
3.3	Coordination	600,000	-87,400	512,600	509,303	99%	512,600	437,445	85%	71,858	14%
3.4	Assistance and Expertise	1,185,000	144,000	1,329,000	1,326,719	100%	1,329,000	755,611	57%	571,108	43%
3.5	Harmonisation and Standardisation	5,208,000	192,000	5,400,000	5,396,543	100%	5,400,000	4,132,262	77%	1,264,281	23%
	<b>TOTAL TITLE III</b>	<b>6,993,000</b>	<b>248,600</b>	<b>7,241,600</b>	<b>7,232,564</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>7,241,600</b>	<b>5,325,318</b>	<b>74%</b>	<b>1,907,246</b>	<b>26%</b>

Description	Budget 2019	Transfers	CA (€)	Committed	%	PA (€)	Paid	%	€	%
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>16,747,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16,747,000</b>	<b>16,727,375</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>16,747,000</b>	<b>14,350,516</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>2,376,860</b>	<b>14%</b>



### Budget Implementation (C8)

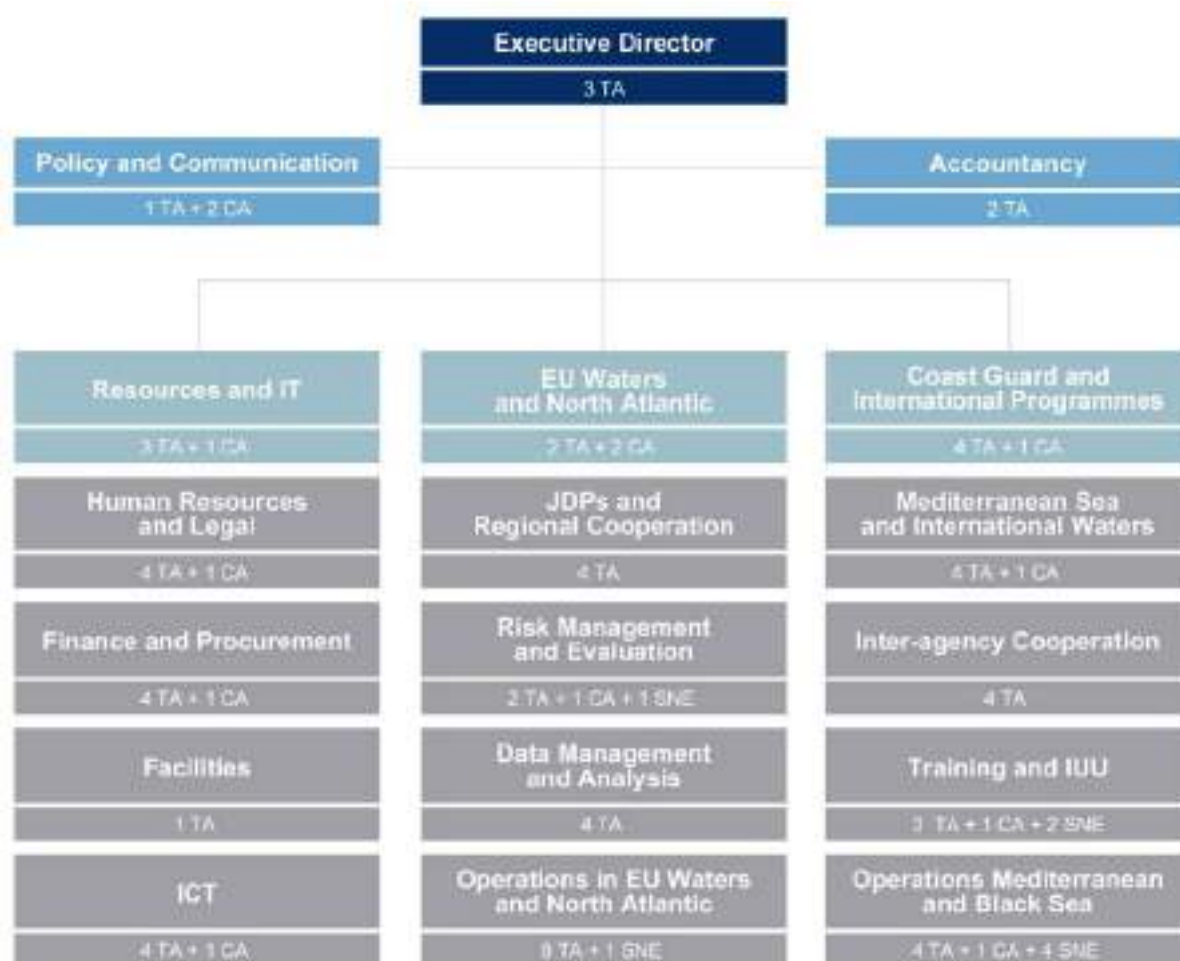
	Carried forward 2018-2019	C8 Paid	Cancelled	% Paid	% <i>Cancelled</i>
TITLE I	31,582	24,262	7,320	77%	5%
TITLE II	483,663	463,677	19,986	96%	15%
<b>TOTAL TITLE I AND II</b>	<b>515,244</b>	<b>487,938</b>	<b>27,306</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>TITLE III</b>	<b>1,593,043</b>	<b>1,484,245</b>	<b>108,798</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>80%</b>
Coordination	52,312	37,521	14,791	72%	11%
Assistance and Expertise	453,548	441,383	12,165	97%	9%
Harmonisation and Standardisation	1,087,183	1,005,341	81,841	92%	60%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,108,287</b>	<b>1,972,183</b>	<b>136,104</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>6%</b>

### Budget Implementation (R0)

	APPROPR. CF	Transfers	Appropriations	Committed	Paid
TITLE I	200,733		200,733	188,905	188,904
TITLE III	506,605		506,605	323,615	277,828
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>707,338</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>707,338</b>	<b>512,520</b>	<b>466,732</b>
			<b>Total R0 %</b>	<b>73%</b>	<b>66%</b>



## ANNEX VI: ORGANISATION CHART





## ANNEX VII: ESTABLISHMENT PLAN

Category	2019			
	Authorised under the EU Budget		Filled as of 31/12/2019 <sup>97</sup>	
	Officials	TA	Officials	TA
AD 16				
AD 15		1		1
AD 14		2		2
AD 13		1		1
AD 12		2		2
AD 11				
AD 10		6		6
AD 9		6		6
AD 8		13		13
AD 7		1		1
AD 6				
AD 5				
<b>TOTAL AD</b>		<b>32</b>		<b>32</b>
AST 11				
AST 10		6		6
AST 9		3		3
AST 8		3		3
AST 7		8		8
AST 6		2		2
AST 5		6		6
AST 4		1		1
AST 3				
AST 2				
AST 1				
<b>TOTAL AST</b>		<b>29</b>		<b>29</b>
<b>TOTAL AST/SC</b>				
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61</b>		<b>61</b>	

<sup>97</sup> Job offers sent before 31 December 2019 concerning 2 posts are counted here as posts filled.



## ANNEX VIII: 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
<b>Operational</b>			
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
<b>Support</b>			
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	CA	FG II	Support
Mail Clerk	Not applicable		
Data Protection Officer	TA, CA	AD/ AST 6, FG IV	Support
Accounting Officer	TA	AD9	Neutral
Internal Auditor	Not applicable		



## ANNEX IX: HUMAN RESOURCES BY JOB TYPE

**Human resources by job type 2018 and 2019**

EFCA carried out a benchmarking exercise following the *Methodology for agencies job screening*. The analysis was made for the situation of 2018 and 2019. 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	2018	2019
<b>Administrative support and Coordination</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>25.2%</b>
Administrative Support	25.7%	22.1%
Coordination	2.3%	3.1%
<b>Operational</b>	<b>63.1%</b>	<b>66.2%</b>
Top level Operational Coordination	2.3%	2.5%
Programme management & Implementation	42.8%	47.7%
Evaluation & Impact assessment	6.1%	4.4%
General Operational	11.9%	11.6%
<b>Neutral</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>8.6%</b>
Finance/Control	8.9%	8.6%
Linguistics	0%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>



## ANNEX X: PROCUREMENT

Table 1. Contracts signed in 2019 (figures only)

Legal commitments 2019	
<b>Framework Contracts awarded</b>	<b>8</b>
Of which from an Open Call for Tenders	4
Of which negotiated procedures	4
<b>Contracts implementing Framework Contract</b>	<b>215</b>
Of which Order Forms	185
Of which Specific Contracts	30
<b>Contracts (not framework contracts) awarded</b>	<b>43</b>
Of which Purchase Orders	25
Of which Direct Contracts	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>266</b>

Table. 2 Open calls (25 % of all procedures 2019)

List of Open procedures (above €144 000)		
Reference	Volume as per Contract Notice (€)	Title
EFCA/2019/OP/01	400.000	Provision of communication services and material for EFCA
EFCA/2019/OP/02	3 100.000	Multiple framework contract in cascade for software development and IT services with 2 contractors



**Table 3. Negotiated procedures (75 % of all procedures 2019)**

List of Negotiated procedures between €15.000 and €144.000		
Reference	Volume (€)	Title
EFCA/2019/NP/01	110.000	Provision of medical services on board EFCA's chartered vessel
EFCA/2019/NP/02	89.000	Supply of operational sea mission equipment
EFCA/2019/NP/03	40.000	Provision of STCW (Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping) Basic Safety Training to EFCA staff
EFCA/2019/NP/04	100.000	Insurance brokerage services for EFCA: chartered vessel, building and other professional liability
EFCA/2019/NP/05	35.000	Subscription services for EFCA
EFCA/2019/NP/08 and 09	15.000	Banking services



## ANNEX XI: ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD DECISIONS

10.01.2019	Decision No 19-W-1	1. Amendment to the EFCA Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2019-2020 and the Annual work programme for year 2019 and of the Final Budget and Establishment Plan of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2019
10.01.2019	Decision No 19-W-2	2. Amendment to the EFCA draft Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2020-2024 and the Annual work programme for year 2020.
20.06.2019	Decision No 19-W-3	Adoption of the Final Annual Accounts for financial year 2018
10.04.2019	Decision No 19-I-3	EFCA Annual Report 2018
10.04.2019	Decision No 19-I-6	Amending AB Decision No 18-II-4 - Amendment PD 2019-2020
10.04.2019	Decision No 19-I-8	Reporting officers annual appraisal of ED
10.04.2019	Decision No 19-I-9	EFCA Internal Control Framework
10.04.2019	Decision No 19-I-10	Types of posts and post titles in EFCA
20.06.2019	Decision No 19-W-4	The general provisions for implementing Article 79(2) of the Conditions of Employment of Other Servants of the European Union, governing the conditions of employment of contract staff employed under the terms of Article 3a thereof
29.08.2019	Decision No 19-W-5	Adoption of Financial Regulation of the EFCA
29.08.2019	Decision No 19-W-6	Adoption of the endorsement of a Service Level Agreement between EMSA and EFCA on Accounting Services for mutual backup and support
22.10.2019	Decision No 19-II-4	Adoption of the Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2020 - 2024 and Annual work programme for 2020 and of the Budget and the Establishment plan of the European Fisheries Control Agency for year 2020
22.10.2019	Decision No 19-II-5	Adoption of the Draft Single Programming Document containing the Multiannual work programme 2021-2025 and Annual work programme for 2021
22.10.2019	Decision No 19-II-7	Adoption on the non-application of a Commission decision adopting implementing provisions of the Staff Regulations under the procedures for implementing Article 110 of the Staff Regulations



## ANNEX XII: 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 Authorizing Officer is enabled to determine significant deficiencies that would lead to a formal reservation in the declaration of assurance.

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.

Based on statistical information derived from the magnitude of Agency's financial transactions, EFCA has also defined a practical threshold for disclosing the weaknesses and exceptions in the Annual Report if the financial impact or loss is estimated of being more than EUR 10,000.

Both the materiality level and the threshold for disclosure are subject for yearly review.

ANNEX XIII: ANNUAL ACCOUNTS<sup>98</sup>

BALANCE SHEET @ 31 December 2019	31.12.2019 (provisional)	31.12.2018 (final)	Variation
<b>ASSETS</b>			
NON- CURRENT ASSETS	<b>358,702</b>	<b>580,240</b>	<b>-221,538</b>
Intangible assets	28,455	76,729	-48,274
Property, plant and equipment	330,247	503,511	-173,264
CURRENT ASSETS	<b>3,207,436</b>	<b>2,923,826</b>	<b>283,610</b>
Short-term pre-financing	80,000	5,799	74,201
Short-term receivables	370,098	439,600	-69,502
Cash and cash equivalents	2,757,338	2,478,427	278,911
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>3,566,138</b>	<b>3,504,066</b>	<b>62,072</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			<b>0</b>
NON- CURRENT LIABILITIES	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
CURRENT LIABILITIES	<b>940,232</b>	<b>1,040,570</b>	<b>-100,338</b>
Provisions for risks and charges	2,644	2,644	0
Accounts payable	529,614	738,706	-209,092
Other financial liabilities	180,479	71,725	108,754
Accounts payable with EC	227,495	227,495	0
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>940,232</b>	<b>1,040,570</b>	<b>-100,338</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>2,625,906</b>	<b>2,463,496</b>	<b>162,410</b>
Accumulated surplus/deficit	<b>2,463,496</b>	<b>3,820,186</b>	<b>-1,356,690</b>
Result of the Year	<b>162,410</b>	<b>-1,356,690</b>	<b>1,519,100</b>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (SFP)	2019 (provisional)	2018 (final)	Variation
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Revenues from EU subsidy	16,488,044	16,686,007	-197,963
Other non-exchange operating revenue	413,978	445,274	-31,296
<b>TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>16,902,022</b>	<b>17,131,281</b>	<b>-229,259</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			<b>0</b>
<u>Operational expenses</u>	<u>-6,198,312</u>	<u>-7,280,103</u>	<u>1,081,791</u>
<u>Administrative expenses</u>	<u>-10,541,655</u>	<u>-11,207,760</u>	<u>666,105</u>
All Staff expenses	-7,969,435	-7,725,623	-243,812
Fixed assets related expenses	-260,197	-338,428	78,231
Other administrative expenses	-2,311,695	-3,143,135	831,440
Net foreign exchange result	-328	-574	246
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES</b>	<b>-16,739,967</b>	<b>-18,487,863</b>	<b>1,747,896</b>
Interest Income	1,059	469	590
Other Financial expenses	-704	-577	-127
<b>TOTAL FINANCIAL RESULT</b>	<b>355</b>	<b>-108</b>	<b>463</b>
<b>SFP – Result of the Year</b>	<b>162,410</b>	<b>-1,356,690</b>	<b>1,519,100</b>

<sup>98</sup> The information presented above is an extract of the EFCA 2019 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 XIV: 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%	99%
Timely achievement of objectives of the AWP	> 80%	99%
KPIs in Relation to Management of Financial and Human Resources		
a) <i>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%	99.9%
Rate (%) of cancellation of Payment Appropriations	<5%	0.8%
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%	1.4%
Rate (%) of payments executed within the legal/contractual deadlines	> 98%	99.6%
b) <i>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%
c) <i>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%	0%
Annual average number of days of short term sick leave per staff member (excluding week ends and public holidays)	<6	4.6
Number of complaints under Article 90 (2) SR with a positive outcome per 100 staff members	≤ 5	0



## ANNEX XV: LIST OF THE MOST RELEVANT ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AIS	Automatic Identification Systems
AB	Administrative Board
ABAC	Accrual Based Accounting
ABB	Activity Based Budgeting
ABMS	Activity Based Management System
AC	Advisory Council
ACTREP	Activity Report
AD	Administrator (Staff)
AGM	Advanced Gateway to your Meetings
AO	Authorising Officer
AOD	Authorising Officers by Delegation
AR	Annual Report
ARSTM	Regional Academy of Sciences and Technics of the Sea (L'Académie régionale des sciences et techniques de la mer)
AST	Assistant (Staff)
AWP	Annual Work Programme
BALTFISH	Baltic Sea Control Expert Group
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
BMS	Below Minimum Size
BSAC	Baltic Sea Advisory Council
BSRBCC	Baltic Sea Region Border Control Cooperation
BFT	Bluefin Tuna
CA	Contract Agent
CC	Coordination Centre
CC	Core Curricula
CCTV	Closed-circuit television
CEG	Control Expert Group
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy
CG	Coast Guard
CGF	Coast Guard Functions
CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment
CMS	Copernicus Maritime Surveillance
CP	Contracting Party
CPB	Coastal Patrol Boat
CPV	Coastal Patrol Vessel
COUNTRY CODES	EU Interinstitutional style guide <sup>99</sup>
CS	Coastal State
DoI	Declarations of interests
DPO	Data Protection Officer
eBCD	Electronic Bluefin Catch Document Programme
EC	European Commission
ECA	European Court of Auditors
ECGFA	European Coast Guard Functions Academic Network

<sup>99</sup> <http://publications.europa.eu/code/en/en-000100.htm>



ECGFF	European Coast Guard Function Forum
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDPS	European Data Protection Supervisor
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EFSA	European Food Safety Authority
EIR	Electronic Inspection Report system
EFCA	European Fisheries Control Agency
EMAS	EU Eco-Management and Audit Scheme
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
EMPACT	European multidisciplinary platform against criminal threats
EMSA	European Maritime Safety Agency
EP	European Parliament
ERS	Electronic Reporting System
EU	European Union
EUAN	European Union Agencies' Network
EUCG	European Union Coast Guard
EU GOVSATCOM	European Union Governmental Satellite Communications
EUIPO	European Union Intellectual Property Office
EUMSS	European Union Maritime Security Strategy
EUROJUST	European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation
EUROPOL	European Police Office
ERRV	Emergency Rescue & Response Vessel
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FCWC	Fisheries Committee for the Western Central Gulf of Guinea
FFR	Framework Financial Regulation
FIS	Fisheries Information System
FLUX	Fisheries Language for Universal Exchange
FMC	Fisheries Monitoring Centre
FR	Financial Regulation
FRB	Fast Rescue Boats
FRONTEX	European Border and Coast Guard Agency
FTE	Full-time equivalent (Unit to measure the use of human resources)
FWA	Fixed Wing Aircraft
FWC	FrameWork Contract
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for Mediterranean
GIP	General Implementing Provisions
IAS	Internal Audit Service
ICC	Internal Control Coordinator
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tuna
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICS	Internal Control Standards
ICT (also IT)	Information and Communication Technologies
IMP	Integrated Maritime Policy
IMS	Integrated Maritime Service (former MARSURV)
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
ISMI	Inter-regional Maritime Security Institute
ISMS	Information Security Management System
ISO	International Standard Organization
ITSC	Information Technology Steering Committee



IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing
JAD	Joint Action Day
JDP	Joint Deployment Plan
JISS	Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme
KPI(s)	Key Performance Indicator(s)
LCK	Legal Commitment Kernel (LCK)
LH	Last haul
LO	Landing Obligation
LRIT	Long Range Identification and Tracking
MAS	Multipurpose Aerial Surveillance
MedAC	Mediterranean Advisory Council
MCRS	Minimum Conservation Reference Size
MCS	Monitoring, control and surveillance
MED	Mediterranean
MEDEVAC	Medical Evacuation
MIPS	Missions Integrated Processing System
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MMO	Multipurpose Maritime Operation
MoT	Margin of Tolerance
MRCC	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre
MS	Member States
MWP	Multiannual work programme
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
NAFO CEM	NAFO Control and Enforcement Measures
NAFO RA	NAFO Regulatory Areas
NEAFC	Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission
NPOA	National Plan of Action
NS	North Sea
NWW	North Western Waters
NWWAC	North Western Waters Advisory Council
OJ	Official Journal
OLAF	European Anti-Fraud Office (Office européen de lutte antifraud)
OPV	Offshore Patrol Vessel
PACT	Partnership, Accountability, Cooperation and Transparency
PD	Programming document
PDN	Performance Development Network
PECMAC	Permanent Committee on Monitoring and Compliance
PMO	Paymaster's Office
PV	Patrol Vessel
REM	Remote Electronic Monitoring
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
RAP	Rules of application
RPA	Remoted Pilot Aircraft
RSG	Regional Steering Group
SAP	Systems, Applications and Products
SAR	Synthetic Aperture Radar
SATCEN	European Union Satellite Centre
SCIP	Specific Control and Inspection Programme
SFPA	Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement





SG	Steering Group
SGTEE	Steering Group on training and exchange of experience
SITREP	Situation Report
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SMT	Special Mixed Team
SNE	Seconded National Expert
SOP	Standard operational procedures
SPD	Single Programme Document
SQF	Sectoral Qualification Framework
SRFC	Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission
STACTIC	Standing Committee on International Control
STCW	Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping
SWW	South Western Waters
SWWAC	South West Waters Advisory Council
TA	Temporary Agent
TC	Third Country
TJDG	Technical Joint Deployment Group
ToR	Terms of Reference
TWA	Tripartite Working Arrangement
TWG	Technical Working Group
UN/CEFACT	The United Nations Centre for Trade Facilitation and Electronic Business
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System
VOO	Vessel of Opportunity
WATF	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program
WGTEE	Working Group on training and exchange of experience



## ANNEX XVI: LIST OF TERMS AND PROJECTS

### **Capacity Building** (operational activity)

Assistance to the Member States and the European Commission in the area of control, inspection and surveillance, with specific regard to activities enhancing the potential of national enforcement services to apply the rules of the CFP in a uniform and effective manner. These activities include reporting and exchange of data on fishing, control and inspection activities, arranging the accessibility of those data to the Coordination Centre (CC) and Associated Coordination Centres (ACCs), developing and coordinating training programmes, fighting against IUU and the possible acquisition of equipment necessary for the implementation of JDPs or on the request of Member States.

### **EFCA Corporate systems**

They include EFCA website, intranet, e-mail services, file servers and any application developed or used internally in support to internal EFCA activities.

### **EFCA Electronic Reporting System (ERS)**

This system will allow EFCA to receive and parse ERS messages, exchange them with the stakeholders involved in JDP operations (CC), ensure data quality, integrity and reliability through validation operations, and to provide the user with a set of tools, accessible through a web user interface, to view, search, analyse and produce statistics and reports based on specific criteria.

### **EFCA Electronic Inspection Report System (EIR)**

This system will allow EFCA to receive and parse EIR messages, exchange them with the stakeholders involved in JDP operations (CC), ensure data quality, integrity and reliability through validation operations, and to provide the user with a set of tools, accessible through a web user interface, to view, search, analyse and produce statistics and reports based on specific criteria.

### **EFCA E-Learning platform**

The EFCA e-learning platform makes available interactive courses and modules, video tutorials and other training resources to EU and non-EU officials involved in fisheries control and inspection activities.

The “experts’ corner” in the platform supports the collaboration of external experts, Member States (MS), the European Commission and EFCA for the development of training materials. Authorised users are able to exchange, to track comments of the different versions of the documents, and to manage meetings, discussion groups, calendar, news, or announcements.



### **EFCA Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)**

This system allows EFCA to receive and to exchange VMS data (identity, position and speed of fishing vessels larger than 12 m) to support JDP operations, hence providing a complete EU picture within the geographical areas covered by the relevant SCIPs.

### **FISHNET**

It is the portal to most of EFCA applications (ERS, VMS, EIR, DMS, CCDP<sup>100</sup>, E-training, JaDE) and the portal to provide EFCA stakeholders with collaboration tools (e.g. sharing data and documents, exchange information, teleconferencing). This system is designed to support decision making, planning, operational coordination, and assessment of joint control operations, and to promote remote collaboration in support to EFCA activities.

### **Governance and Representation (functional activity)**

For the purpose of the functioning of EFCA as an independent EU body, all activities deployed in support of the Administrative Board, the Advisory Board, inter-agency cooperation, representation and communication are considered as EU governance activities. The resources allocated to EFCA's functional activity are linked to the general objectives and are carried out in close connection with its operational activities.

### **Grade size**

Fish size category by individual weight as defined in Annex II in Council Regulation (EC) No 2406/96 of 26 November 1996 laying down common marketing standards for certain fishery products.

### **Gramme size**

Average weight in grams of the individual fishes determined through sample weighing of individuals in a catch or fishing operation in pelagic fisheries.

### **Inspection**

EFCA understand as an “inspection” a critical appraisal of fishing vessels, in ports or at sea, by competent inspectors for the purpose of determining that the vessel carried out fishing activities in accordance with conservation and management measures. It should imply detailed examination, measurement, testing, gauging, and comparison of all the items identified as compulsory by the Annex XXVII of the Regulation (EU) 414/2011. The same applies to other types of inspections as markets, vehicles and premises.

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<sup>100</sup> Core Curriculum Development platform.

**JaDE**

JaDE is a web application internally used by the EFCA coordinators to record, manage and report activity on JDPs. JaDE stands for Joint deployment plan Activity Database.

**Last haul**

Last observed haul during a sea inspection where catch composition is recorded (sampled) by the inspector on board.

**Landing Obligation**

Obligation to land all catches of applicable species, according to article 15 of the Regulation (EU) No 1380/2013 and associated discard plans.

**Maritime Surveillance Information Systems**

Information systems developed in cooperation with external stakeholders to integrate available information sources and data sets within the framework of Integrated Maritime Policy, inter-agency cooperation and the CISE (Common Information Sharing Environment).

**Operational Coordination (operational activity)**

Organisation of the operational coordination of control activities by Member States for the implementation of specific control and inspection programmes, international control and inspection schemes adopted by Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), and Operational Plans upon request of two or more Member States.



## ANNEX XVII: LIST OF ISO COUNTRY CODES

<b>Albania</b>	<b>AL</b>	<b>Latvia</b>	<b>LV</b>
<b>Algeria</b>	<b>DZ</b>	<b>Lebanon</b>	<b>LB</b>
<b>Austria</b>	<b>AT</b>	<b>Liberia</b>	<b>LR</b>
<b>Belgium</b>	<b>BE</b>	<b>Libya</b>	<b>LY</b>
<b>Benin</b>	<b>BJ</b>	<b>Lithuania</b>	<b>LT</b>
<b>Bosnia and Herzegovina</b>	<b>BA</b>	<b>Luxembourg</b>	<b>LU</b>
<b>Bulgaria</b>	<b>BG</b>	<b>Maldives</b>	<b>MV</b>
<b>Cabo Verde</b>	<b>CV</b>	<b>Malta</b>	<b>MT</b>
<b>Canada</b>	<b>CA</b>	<b>Mauritania</b>	<b>MR</b>
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>	<b>CI</b>	<b>Mauritius</b>	<b>MU</b>
<b>Croatia</b>	<b>HR</b>	<b>Montenegro</b>	<b>ME</b>
<b>Cyprus</b>	<b>CY</b>	<b>Morocco</b>	<b>MA</b>
<b>Czech Republic</b>	<b>CZ</b>	<b>Netherlands</b>	<b>NL</b>
<b>Denmark</b>	<b>DK</b>	<b>Nigeria</b>	<b>NG</b>
<b>Ecuador</b>	<b>EC</b>	<b>Norway</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Egypt</b>	<b>EG</b>	<b>Panama</b>	<b>PA</b>
<b>Estonia</b>	<b>EE</b>	<b>Poland</b>	<b>PL</b>
<b>Faroe Islands</b>	<b>FO</b>	<b>Portugal</b>	<b>PT</b>
<b>Finland</b>	<b>FI</b>	<b>Romania</b>	<b>RO</b>
<b>France</b>	<b>FR</b>	<b>Russian Federation</b>	<b>RU</b>
<b>Gambia</b>	<b>GM</b>	<b>Senegal</b>	<b>SN</b>
<b>Georgia</b>	<b>GE</b>	<b>Serbia</b>	<b>RS</b>
<b>Germany</b>	<b>DE</b>	<b>Sierra Leone</b>	<b>SL</b>
<b>Greece</b>	<b>GR</b>	<b>Slovakia</b>	<b>SK</b>
<b>Greenland</b>	<b>GL</b>	<b>Slovenia</b>	<b>SI</b>
<b>Guinea</b>	<b>GN</b>	<b>Spain</b>	<b>ES</b>
<b>Guinea Bissau</b>	<b>GW</b>	<b>Sweden</b>	<b>SE</b>
<b>Hungary</b>	<b>HU</b>	<b>Togo</b>	<b>TG</b>
<b>Iceland</b>	<b>IS</b>	<b>Tunisia</b>	<b>TN</b>
<b>Iran</b>	<b>IR</b>	<b>Turkey</b>	<b>TR</b>
<b>Ireland</b>	<b>IE</b>	<b>Ukraine</b>	<b>UA</b>
<b>Italy</b>	<b>IT</b>	<b>United Kingdom</b>	<b>GB/UK</b>
<b>Japan</b>	<b>JP</b>	<b>USA</b>	<b>US</b>
<b>Jordan</b>	<b>JO</b>	<b>Vietnam</b>	<b>VN</b>