


**EFCA 2018**  
A year in review





This publication summarises the main results as gathered in the Annual Report 2018, the full text of which can be found at [www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/annual-report-2018](http://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/annual-report-2018)


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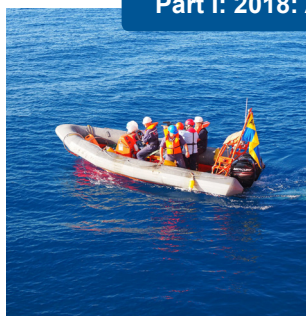


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– Ensure the rationalisation, simplification, scalability and streamlining of EFCA's processes	

## List of acronyms

AC	Advisory Council
AIS	Automatic Identification Systems
AR	Annual Report
AWP	Annual Work Programme
CA	Contract Agent
CC	Core Curricula
CEG	Control Expert Group
CFP	Common Fisheries Policy
EC	European Commission
EIR	Electronic Inspection Report
EFCA	European Fisheries Control Agency
ERS	Electronic Reporting System
EUCG	European Union Coast Guard
FCWC	Fisheries Committee for the Western Central Gulf of Guinea
FIS	Fisheries Information System
FPA	Fisheries Partnership Agreement
GFCM	General Fisheries Commission for Mediterranean
HR	Human Resources
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of the Atlantic Tuna
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICT (also IT)	Information and Communication Technologies
IMP	Integrated Maritime Policy
IMS	Integrated Maritime System
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (Fishing)
JDP	Joint Deployment Plan
JISS	Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme
LO	Landing Obligation
MOC	Maritime Operations Centre
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MS	Member States
NAFO	Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation
NEAFC	Northeast Atlantic Fisheries Commission
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
OPV	Offshore Patrol Vessel
PACT	Partnership, Accountability, Cooperation and Transparency
RA	Regulatory Area
REM	Remote Electronic Monitoring
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organisation
RSG	Regional Steering Group
SCIP	Specific Control and Inspection Programme
SFPA	Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement
SG	Steering Group
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNE	Seconded National Expert
SPD	Single Programming Document
SRFC	Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission
TA	Temporary Agent
TJDG	Technical Joint Deployment Group
TWG	Technical Working Group
VMS	Vessel Monitoring System



### Foreword

#### Pascal Savouret, Executive Director

The second issue of *A Year in Review* provides a summarised version of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) Annual Report 2018.

2018 was a year of intense activity, marking the tenth anniversary of the EFCA in Spain (Vigo). Throughout last year, EFCA combined its core tasks of operational coordination and fisheries control with its contribution to the European Union (EU) cooperation on Coast Guard.

In its primary role, organising operational coordination of fisheries control and inspection activities by the Member States and assisting them to comply with the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) rules, EFCA has contributed to create a level playing field for better compliance. In cooperation with the Member States and the European Commission, through its joint deployment plans and the application of standardised methodologies, EFCA has significantly contributed to a more uniform and efficient implementation of the CFP rules.

Concerning the support to national authorities in coast guard functions, EFCA hosted the first Annual European Coast Guard event in La Toja (Spain) and continued to coordinate the Capacity Building and Risk Assessment cooperation areas. In the areas of Surveillance and Communication services, Capacity Sharing and Sharing of information, EFCA has played a supportive role.

Regarding the international dimension of the CFP, EFCA assisted the European Union to help combat illegal fishing. In 2018, the five-year EU funded development project PESCAO commenced, including a component aiming at improving the fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing (IUU) activities in Western Africa, contributing to sustainable fisheries management and the

reduction of food insecurity in the region. As part of this project, EFCA provided technical assistance.

Another important area in EFCA's work is training, as a capacity-building tool. In 2018, EFCA continued to provide training to Member States' inspectors and to promote exchanges between Member States' inspectors. Moreover, EFCA provided support to Member States' training on request, in cooperation with other EU agencies and through e-learning.

This publication was designed with the aim to ensure that the public and any interested party are rapidly given objective, reliable and easily understandable information with regard to the Agency's activity. I am confident that the reader will gain a better understanding of the EFCA's role in the fisheries domain and appreciate the dedication of the Agency to provide high-level services to the EU, namely, the European Commission, the Member States authorities and their citizens.



## Getting to know the EFCA



### MISSION

The objective of the Agency 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, contributing to ensure its effective and uniform application.



### VISION AND VALUES

The EFCA will function at the highest level of excellence and transparency with a view to developing the necessary confidence and cooperation of all parties involved and, in so doing, to ensure effectiveness and efficiency of its operations.

The added value of the work of the agency lies in its contribution to a European-wide level playing field for the fishing industry so that European obligations are observed by everyone and everyone in the sector is treated equally, wherever they might be operating.

Secondly, it contributes towards sustainable fisheries by enhancing compliance with existing conservation and management measures to the benefit of present and future generations.

### WHAT IS THE AGENCY'S HISTORY?

EU governments agreed to establish the Agency in the 2002 reform of the CFP as part of the drive to instil a culture of compliance within the fisheries sector across Europe. In April 2005, they adopted the necessary legislation with Council Regulation (EC) No 768/2005\*.

In 2016 EFCA's mandate was extended by Regulation (EU) 2016/1626 of the European Parliament and of the Council strengthening the cooperation on coast guard functions with the European Border and Coast Guard Agency (Frontex) and the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA).

Therefore, in cooperation with Frontex and EMSA, each within its mandate, the EFCA supports the national authorities carrying out coast guard functions by providing them with services, information, equipment and training, as well as by coordinating multipurpose operations.

The EFCA has its official seat in Vigo, Spain.

\* See 2019 update at [www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/legal-basis](http://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/legal-basis)







## HOW DOES EFCA COORDINATE THE MEMBER STATES?

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

The Joint Deployment Plans
Referred to as EU or international waters, JDPs are the <b>principal instrument of coordination</b>
<b>EU waters</b> to which a Specific Control and Inspection Programme (SCIP) adopted by the Commission in concert with the Member States applies
<b>International waters</b> under the competence of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO), where EFCA is requested to coordinate the implementation of the EU obligations under an International Control and Inspection Programme
The PACT approach
Partnership, Accountability / Compliance, Cooperation & Transparency
An additional option of assistance when requested by one or more Member States in accordance with EFCA's Regulation

## WHAT IS A JDP?

The Joint Deployment Plans are established for fisheries and areas that are considered a priority by the European Commission and the concerned Member States.

## WHAT IS A SCIP?

The Specific Control and Inspection Programmes are Commission Implementing Regulations pursuant to Article 95 of the Control Regulation which provide the legal basis for the scope of the Joint Deployment Plans.

For the fisheries that are covered by a SCIP, according to the EFCA Founding Regulation, EFCA shall coordinate the joint inspection and surveillance activities through a JDP.

The SCIPs and JDPs for 2018 applied to:

- Baltic Sea
- North Sea
- Western Waters
- Mediterranean and Eastern Atlantic

## JDP lifecycle

### 1 PLANNING

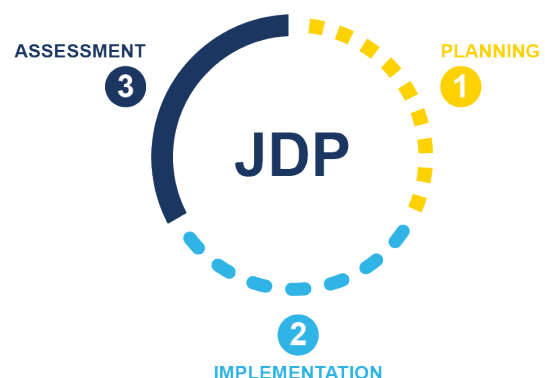
The JDPs establish the planning of the deployment of fisheries control means of the Member States at sea, in the air and ashore based on a regional risk assessment developed by the Member States and EFCA; the information to be shared; the communication details and common rules to ensure a cooperative deployment of the control means in the area.

### 2 IMPLEMENTATION

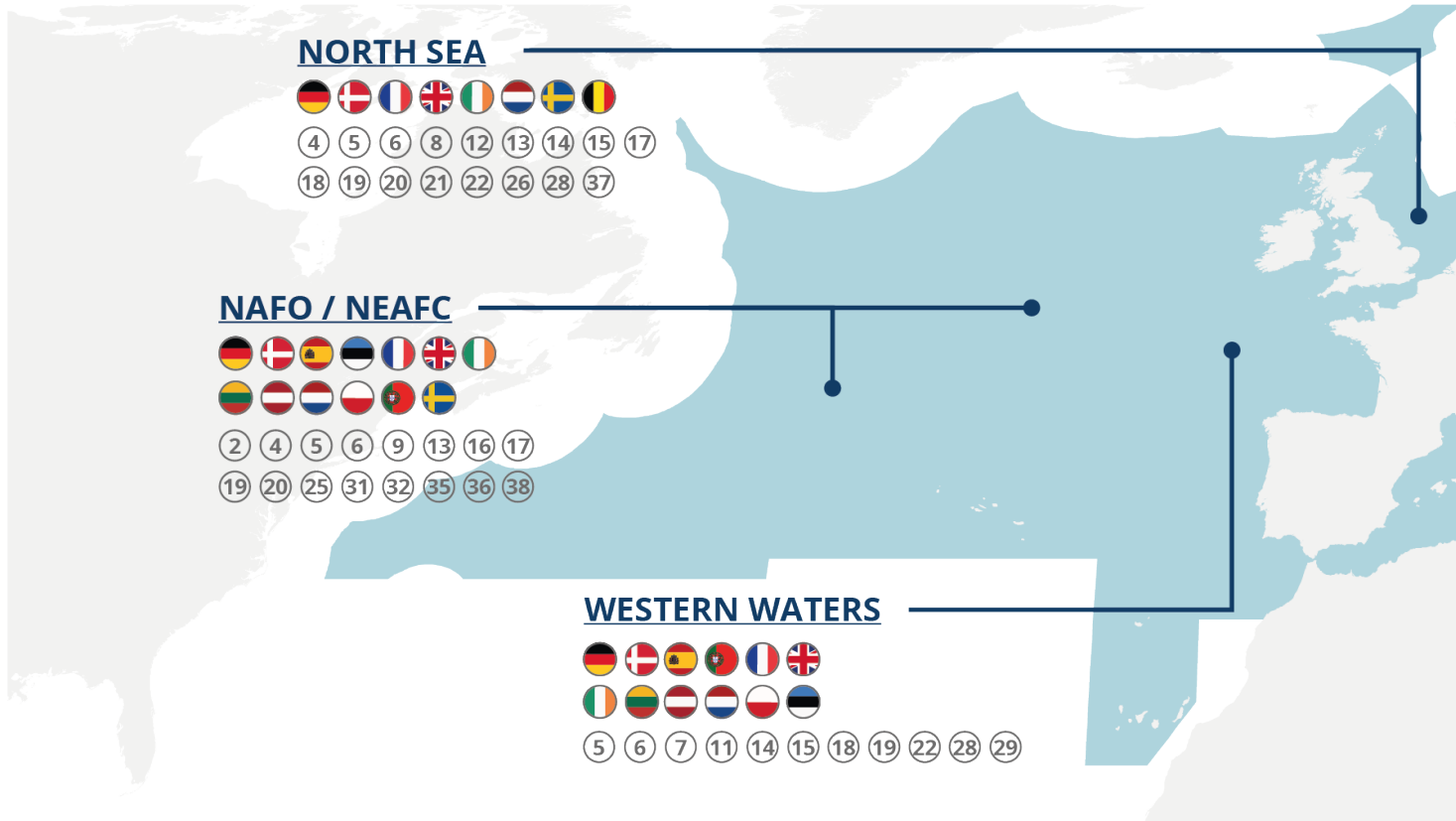
The JDPs establish that the deployment of pooled national means is coordinated from EFCA coordination centre with the presence of national coordinators.

### 3 ASSESSMENT

The JDPs establish that the deployment of pooled national means is coordinated from the EFCA coordination centre with the presence of national coordinators.

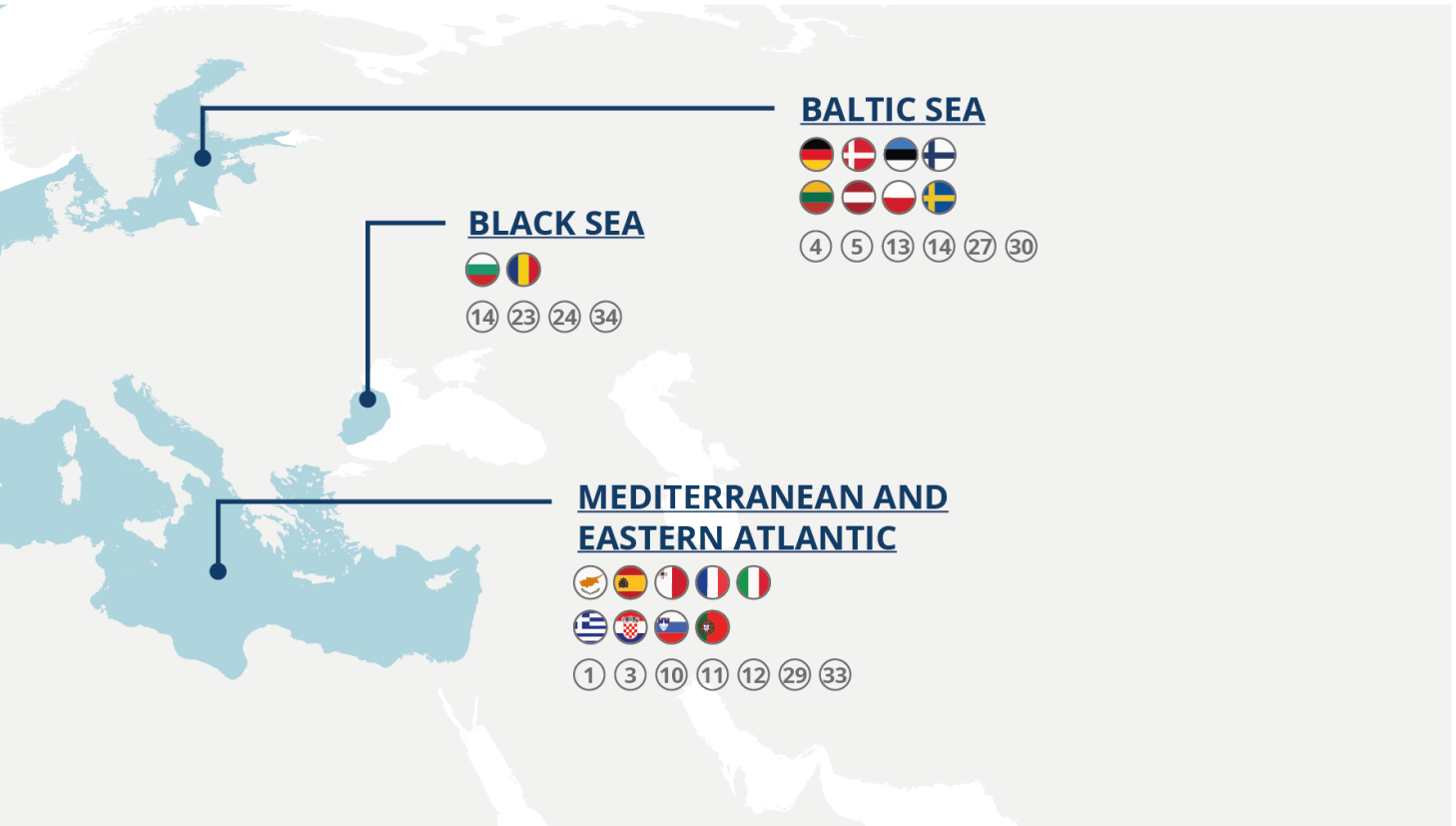


Implementation of JDP and operational plans in EU Waters and International Waters



Species

- |                             |                              |                     |                          |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| (1) Albacore                | (11) European anchovy        | (21) Norway lobster | (31) Shortfinned squid   |
| (2) American plaice         | (12) European hake           | (22) Norway pout    | (32) Skates              |
| (3) Atlantic Bluefin tuna   | (13) European plaice         | (23) Picked dogfish | (33) Swordfish           |
| (4) Atlantic cod            | (14) European sprat          | (24) Rapa welch     | (34) Turbot              |
| (5) Atlantic herring        | (15) Greater argentine       | (25) Redfish        | (35) Yellowtail flounder |
| (6) Blue whiting            | (16) Greenland halibut       | (26) Saithe         | (36) White hake          |
| (7) Boarfish                | (17) Haddock                 | (27) Salmon         | (37) Whiting             |
| (8) Common sole             | (18) Jack and horse mackerel | (28) Sandeels       | (38) Witch flounder      |
| (9) Deep sea species        | (19) Mackerel                | (29) Sardine        |                          |
| (10) Deep-water rose shrimp | (20) Northern prawn          | (30) Sea trout      |                          |



*Member States*

- |               |                |                     |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Belgium (BE)  | Finland (FI)   | Netherland (NL)     |
| Bulgaria (BG) | France (FR)    | Poland (PL)         |
| Cyprus (CY)   | Croatia (HR)   | Portugal (PT)       |
| Germany (DE)  | Ireland (IE)   | Romania (RO)        |
| Denmark (DK)  | Italy (IT)     | Sweden (SE)         |
| Estonia (EE)  | Lithuania (LT) | Slovenia (SI)       |
| Greece (EL)   | Latvia (LV)    | United Kingdom (UK) |
| Spain (ES)    | Malta (MT)     |                     |

**HOW HAVE JDPS EVOLVED OVER THE YEARS?**

JDPs are implemented as year-round joint operations covering a wide range of species as defined in the relevant SCIP decisions. Currently, all JDPs are multiannual operations following the time framework defined in the SCIPs with control activities planned for each year on the basis of the results of regional risk assessment:

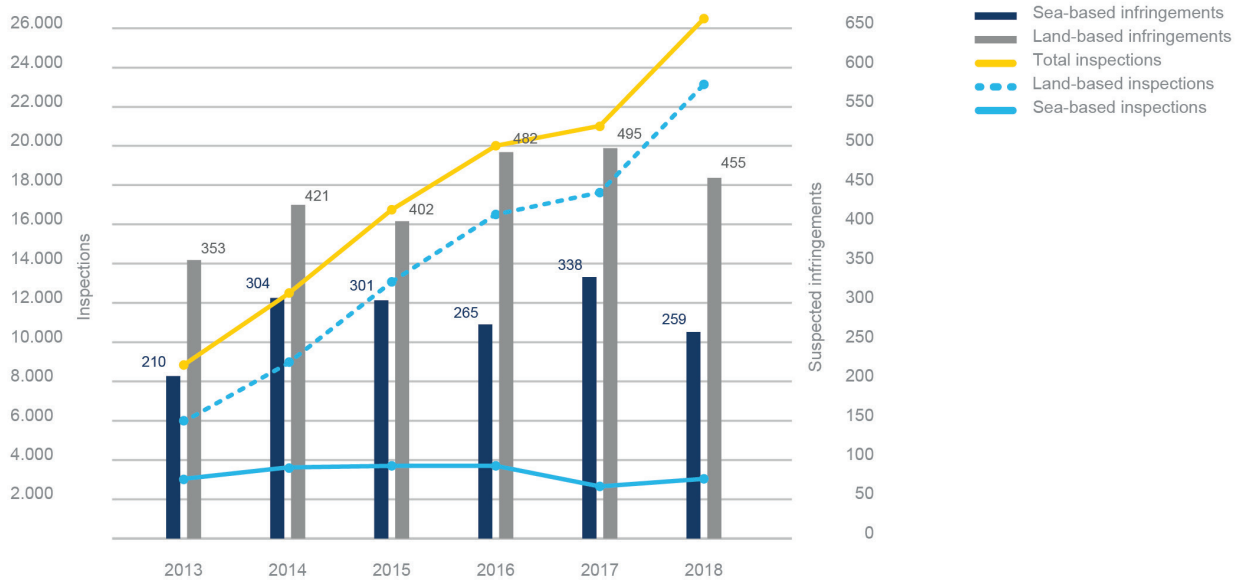
Member States assess the existing risks with regard to fish stocks, areas, periods and fleet segments exploiting these stocks, in accordance with the methodology established in cooperation with EFCA.

The JDPs have continued to be a platform for information exchange and for collecting reference data on catch composition, which are key inputs for risk assessment and contribute to compliance evaluation.

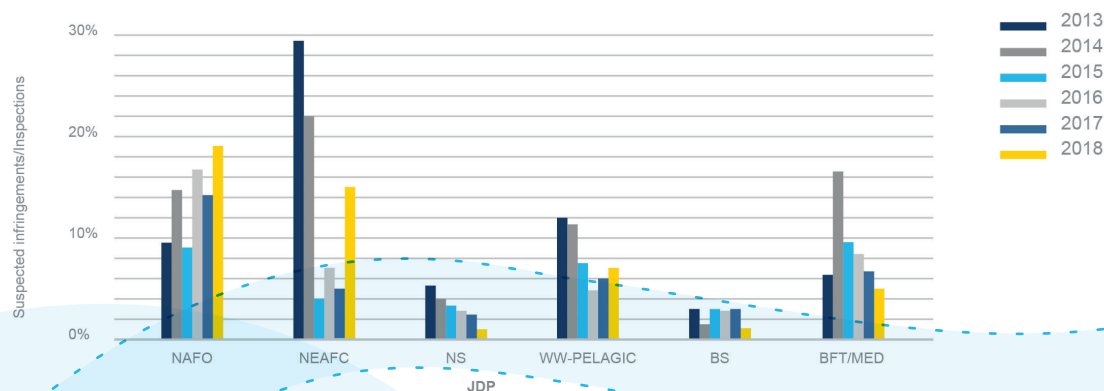
This joint coordination has contributed to Member States making optimal use of human and other resources, and enhanced the potential of national enforcement services in the application of CFP rules in a uniform and effective manner.

**JDP FIGURES FROM 2013**

**JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution\***



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



\* Data available on 31 January 2019.

PART I

## ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE YEAR



**A YEAR IN REVIEW**  
MAIN RESULTS 2018

**JDP MAIN RESULTS**

Through the use of Joint Deployment Plans and Operational Plans EFCA has provided assistance to Member States and the European Commission in the area of control, inspection and surveillance. Specifically, the activity was centred on joint coordination and enhancing the potential of national enforcement services in the application of CFP rules in a uniform and effect manner. As a result, this has contributed to Member States making optimal use of human and other resources.

In 2018, the cooperative efforts have led to 26 922 coordinated inspections, an increase in comparison to 2017 (20 956), and 714 suspected infringements detected, a decrease compared to 2017 (833).

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.

The Agency provided its capacity in a form of the Coordination Centre, chartered means (airborne and seaborne, e.g. OPV Lundy Sentinel), access to relevant systems (e.g. IMS, FISHNET, etc.), as well as coordinated planning of Member States means within the scope of JDP. EFCA was also able to offer the sharing of this operational capacity (e.g. OPV Lundy Sentinel) with other EU Agencies (e.g. Frontex) during its operational activities, as well as to receive support from other Agencies related to increased fisheries surveillance, especially in the Mediterranean Sea.

After the expiration of the SCIP model in 2018, EFCA also cooperated with the European Commission and the

Member States to further develop the new model of SCIP including the drafting of new JDP Decisions for the different regions.

By 2018, all SCIPs had been merged into one Commission Implementing Decision. In parallel, EFCA drafted new JDP Decisions for all the different regions, also adopted in December. The new SCIP Decision introduced new areas and fisheries, i.e.:

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

In 2018, EFCA conducted the 5<sup>th</sup> assessment of JDP costs referred to the previous year. The overall cost evaluation for implementing JDPs in 2017 rose to EUR 69.9 million, an increase of 33% in comparison with 2016. In general, the increase of costs was linked to higher control efforts at sea and from air surveillance. For the Mediterranean, the overall increase was the consequence of the contracted patrol vessels and the air-based surveillance in cooperation with EMSA and Frontex.

**Suspected infringements by type**

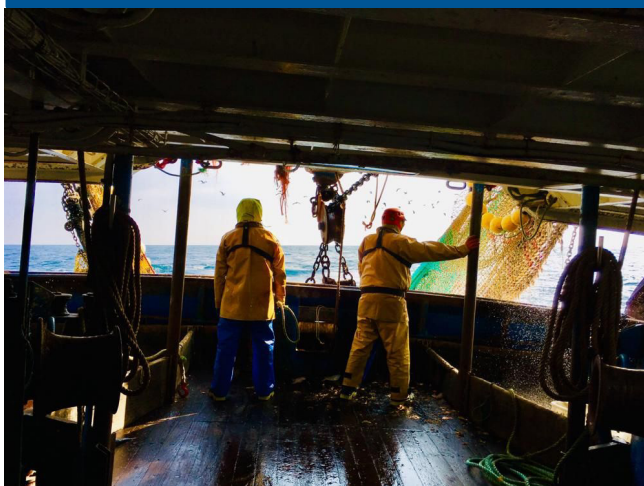
Misreporting of catches and technical measures remained the most common non-compliance issues in 2018.

	TOTAL	% TOTAL
Not fulfilling reporting obligations	399	55,9%
Use of prohibited or non-compliant gear	67	9,4%
Fishing in RFMO area inconsistent/in contravention with conservation and management measures	28	3,9%
Taking on board, transshipping or landing of undersized fish	21	2,9%
Fishing in closed area, closed season or without quota	25	3,5%
Fishing without a valid license, authorisation or permit	12	1,7%
Other	162	22,7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Data available on 31 January 2019.

### OBJECTIVE 1

Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the European 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.

In 2018 EFCA continued coordinating three JDPs in EU waters, namely in the Baltic Sea, North Sea and Western Waters areas through five year-round joint campaigns in accordance with the plan adopted by the respective Steering Groups (SG). A total of 23 specific actions were implemented in the framework of three JDPs. These are scheduled joint operations of limited duration to be carried out by the Member States concerned with a focus on specific risk, area and fleet segment.

The JDPs continued to be a platform for information exchange and for collecting reference data on catch composition, which are key inputs for risk assessment and contribute to compliance evaluation. The priority risks for non-compliance were identified regarding provisions of the landing obligation (LO), misrecording of catches and technical measures. Risk assessment of non-compliance with the LO was conducted for all areas in a joint exercise with Member States and following the EFCA standard methodology including species not falling under a JDP upon Control Expert Groups (CEGs) request.

EFCA reinforced the cooperation with the Control Expert Groups of the main regional bodies created by Member States in the framework of regionalisation. In relation to efforts to promote an effective and efficient implementation of the Landing Obligation (LO), EFCA, at the request of the CEGs and the European Commission, created a Technical Working Group (TWG) focusing on the definition of Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) systems requirements and technical guidelines to monitor the implementation of the LO across EU waters. Furthermore, EFCA has progressed with the compliance evaluation exercise from a 2015-2017 data set with a focus on the LO and certain key species.

#### WHAT ARE THE REGIONAL CEGs?

The Regional Control Expert Groups (CEGs) are constituted by representatives MS control authorities' which aim to strengthen cooperation in fisheries control and enforcement.

CEGs have been particularly involved in the implementation of the landing obligation (LO) in the context of a regionalised CFP.

EFCA supports the CEGs in areas such as risk assessment, cooperation with industry and compliance evaluation.

## OBJECTIVE 2

### Implementation of JDPs and assistance to the Member States and the European 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.

In line with point 40 of the MEDFISH4EVER Declaration, EFCA has continued to cooperate with third countries in the Mediterranean to promote an effective level playing field in the area.

EFCA continued coordinating the JDP in the Mediterranean Sea. The JDP was implemented through a year-round campaign and permitted optimal coverage of the relevant fisheries with the allocated fisheries control resources deployed by the Member States concerned and EFCA in this region.

The scope of the JDP was extended to five new fisheries: albacore in the Mediterranean Sea, sardine and anchovy in Southern Adriatic, and European hake and deep-water rose shrimp in the Strait of Sicily.

Member States operational effort for fisheries control increased by 24% in 2018 and EFCA was able to provide additional capacity on top of Member States available seaborne means by the deployment of EFCA's chartered OPV Lundy Sentinel and, in cooperation with EMSA, the OPV AEGIS I.

Furthermore, thanks to operational interagency cooperation, EFCA was able to receive in total 1 306 sightings from Frontex deployed means.

In 2018 most of the Mediterranean JDP campaigns referred to ICCAT and GFCM Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme (JISS). The inspection activities were successfully coordinated from EFCA, with the presence of Member States and third country experts during the main campaigns, such as the bluefin tuna and the Strait of Sicily ones.





## EFCA | 2018 A year in review

## European Fisheries Control Agency

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 2018 Member States' deployment was 701 man/days of secondments, of which 456 were done in the EFCA OPV Lundy Sentinel. Additionally, 184 man/days by third country inspectors were hosted in the EFCA OPV. Moreover, several operational trainings were performed in the context of the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean JDPs.

Adaptability and flexibility of the Mediterranean JDP framework was proven to be critical and formed a solid basis for EFCA to coordinate the EU contribution to both JISS of ICCAT and GFCM that apply to the international waters in the Mediterranean Sea.

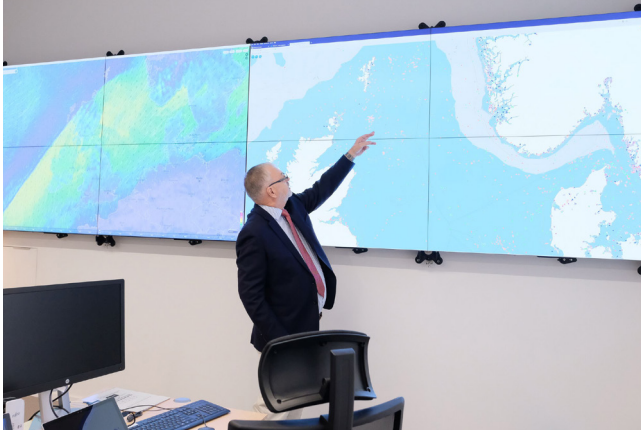
Specific attention was dedicated to the coordination of the bluefin tuna campaign, hosting the Member States experts (from Spain, France, Italy, Greece, Cyprus, Malta and Croatia) at the EFCA Coordination Centre.

Moreover, EFCA also coordinated a campaign dedicated to the implementation of the operations in the framework of the first GFCM International Joint Inspection and Surveillance Scheme in the Strait of Sicily, which was implemented in close cooperation with the Member States concerned. Finally, at the request of Bulgaria and Romania, EFCA has established joint control activities through an operational plan for the turbot fishery in the Black Sea.



### 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.

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.

Risk management was conducted at fleet segment level of several JDP areas (Baltic Sea, North Sea, Western Waters, Mediterranean Sea and Black Sea).

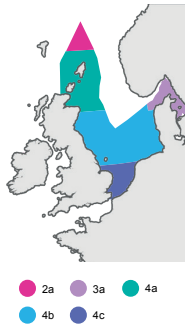
Dedicated regional meetings took place with two main outcomes:

- a) the identification of the fleet segments with higher risk that should be addressed with priority and
- b) a set of recommendations on 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 segments and implementing some of the risk treatment measures, was agreed for the 2019 JDPs.

## Results of risk assessment of non-compliance

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



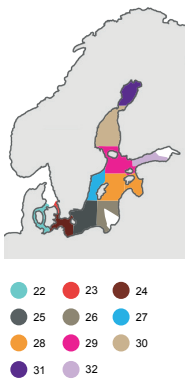
#### Gear - mesh size

Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 100\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 100\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 70$  and  $< 100\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 70$  and  $< 100\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 32$  and  $< 70\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls / Seines  $\geq 90\text{mm}$   
 Beam trawls  $\geq 80$  and  $< 120\text{mm}$

Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording	Illegal Gear	Fishing in closed areas
4a	COD	Very high	High	High	
4b	COD	High	High	High	
4a	NORWAY LOBSTER	High	High	High	
4b	NORWAY LOBSTER	Very high	Very high	Very high	
3a	NORTHERN PRAWN	High	High	High	High
3a	COD	Very high	Very high	Very high	High
4c	SOLE	High	High	High	

LEVEL OF RISK | High Very high

### Baltic Sea: fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance



#### Gear - mesh size

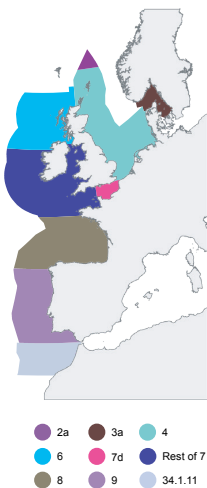
Otter trawls  $\geq 105\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls  $\geq 105\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls, pair trawls  $\geq 16$  and  $< 32\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls, pair trawls  $\geq 32$  and  $< 90\text{mm}$   
 Otter trawls, pair trawls  $\geq 16$  and  $< 105\text{mm}$   
 Traps  
 Gillnets  $\geq 110\text{mm}$ , longlines

Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording	Illegal Gear	Fishing in closed areas, closed seasons
22-24	COD	Very high	Very high	High	High
25-27	COD	Very high	Very high	High	High
22-27	SPRAT		High		
22-27	HERRING		High		
28-32	HERRING		High		
22-32	SALMON		High		High
22-24	COD	High	High		

LEVEL OF RISK | High Very high

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

#### Herring



#### Gear

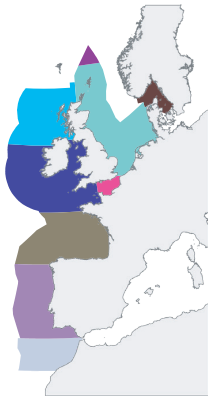
Freezer Trawler - Mid water trawl  
 RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl  
 RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl  
 Polyvalent - Mid water pair trawl  
 Polyvalent - Bottom trawl

Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
Rest of 7	High	High
3a, 6	High	High
Rest of 7	High	High
Rest of 7	High	High
Rest of 7	High	High

LEVEL OF RISK | Medium

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

➤ Horse mackerel

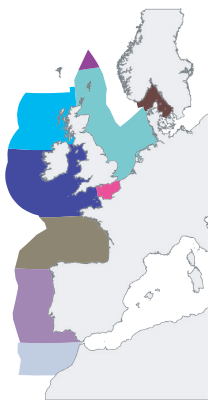


Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
Freezer Trawler - Mid water trawl	7d	●	●
Freezer Trawler - Mid water pair trawl	7d	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl	7d	●	●
Polyvalent - Purse seine	8	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl	8, 9	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl	8, 9	●	●

LEVEL OF RISK | ● Medium

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

➤ Mackerel



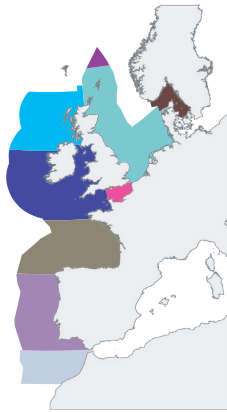
Gear	Area	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording
Freezer trawler - Mid water trawl and pair trawl	2a, 4	●	●
Freezer trawler - Mid water trawl and pair trawl	6	●	●
Freezer trawler - Mid water trawl and pair trawl	7d	●	●
Freezer trawler - Mid water trawl and pair trawl	Rest of 7	●	●
Freezer trawler - Mid water trawl and pair trawl	8	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl	2a, 4	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl	3a	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl	6	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water trawl	7d	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl	Rest of 7	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl	8	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl	2a, 4	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl	6	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Mid water pair trawl	Rest of 7	●	●
RSW tank vessel - Purse seine	8	●	●
Polyvalent - Purse seine	8	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl	7d	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl	Rest of 7	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl	8	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom trawl	9	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl	7d	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl	Rest of 7	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl	8	●	●
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl	9	●	●
Polyvalent - Lines	8	●	●
Industrial fisheries - Trawl <16 mm	3a, 4	●	●

LEVEL OF RISK | ● Medium



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

Anchovy



Gear

Polyvalent - Purse seine

Area

8, 9

Non-compliance with the LO



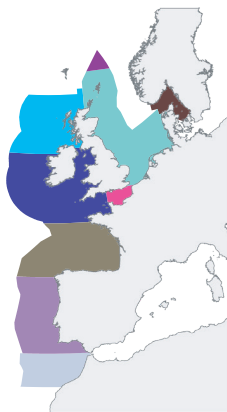
Misrecording



LEVEL OF RISK | ● Medium

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

Blue whiting



Gear

Polyvalent - Bottom trawl

Area

8, 9

Non-compliance with the LO



Misrecording



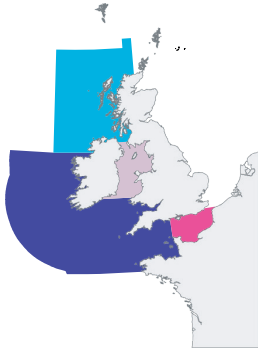
Polyvalent - Bottom pair trawl

8, 9



LEVEL OF RISK | ● Medium

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

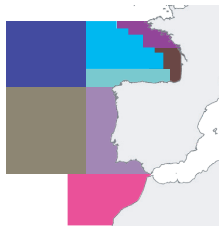


6a 7a 7d  
Rest of 7

Gear - mesh size	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Misrecording	Illegal gear
Trammel nets	7d	SOLE	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl <100mm	6a	NORWAY LOBSTER	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl <100mm	7a	NORWAY LOBSTER	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl <100mm	7d	NORWAY LOBSTER	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl <100mm	Rest of 7	NORWAY LOBSTER	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl ≥100mm	6a	COD, HADDOCK, HAKE	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl ≥100mm	7a	COD, HADDOCK, HAKE	●	●	
Generic bottom trawl ≥100mm	Rest of 7	COD, HADDOCK, HAKE	●	●	
Beam trawl ≥80 and >99mm	7a	PLAICE, SOLE	●	●	
Beam trawl ≥80 and >99mm	7d	PLAICE, SOLE	●	●	●
Beam trawl ≥80 and >99mm	Rest of 7	PLAICE, SOLE	●	●	
Deep water bottom trawl	6		●	●	
Beam trawl ≥100 mm	7d		●	●	
Generic gillnet	7d		●	●	

LEVEL OF RISK | ● High ● Very high

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

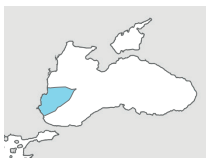


8a 8b 8c  
8d 8e 9a  
9b 31.1.11

Gear - mesh size	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-recording	Illegal gear
Bottom trawls ≥70 and <100 mm	8, 9	HAKE, NORWAY LOBSTER	●	●	
Bottom and pair bottom trawls ≥55 and <70 mm	8, 9	HAKE	●	●	
Midwater and pair midwater trawls	8	SOLE		●	

LEVEL OF RISK | ● Medium ● Very high

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

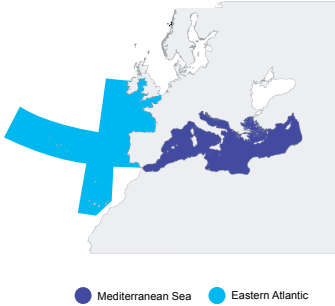


EU Waters of the Black Sea

Gear	Main target species	Non-compliance with the LO	Mis-recording	Non-compliance with spatial / temporal closures	Fishing without license and authorisation	Use of illegal gears	IUU fishing activities
Bottom set gillnets	TURBOT	●	●	●	●	●	●

LEVEL OF RISK | ● High ● Very high

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



Gear	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with specific rules for BFT and/or SWO	Misreporting and/or misrecording
Line vessels	Western Mediterranean	BLUEFIN TUNA SWORDFISH		●
	Central Mediterranean			●
	Eastern Mediterranean			●
Pelagic trawlers	Eastern Mediterranean		●	
Sport and recreation	Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Atlantic	BLUEFIN TUNA SWORDFISH	●	●
Purse seine	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY SARDINE		●
Purse seiner targeting BFT, associated vessels and BFT farms	Mediterranean Sea	BLUEFIN TUNA	●	●

Gear	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with quota or bycatch limit	Non-compliance with temporal/s partial closures
Line vessels	Western Mediterranean	BLUEFIN TUNA SWORDFISH	●	
	Central Mediterranean		●	
	Eastern Mediterranean		●	
Sport and recreation	Mediterranean Sea and Eastern Atlantic	BLUEFIN TUNA SWORDFISH	●	●
Bottom trawlers	Strait of Sicily	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP HAKE		●

Gear	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with minimum size	Non-compliance with general technical and management rules	Non-compliance with the LO
Line vessels	Eastern Mediterranean	BLUEFIN TUNA SWORDFISH	●		
Purse seine	Adriatic Sea	ANCHOVY SARDINE		●	
Bottom trawlers	Strait of Sicily	DEEP-SEA ROSE SHRIMP HAKE		●	●

LEVEL OF RISK | ● High ● Very high

EFCA also worked with the NAFO/NEAFC Steering Group on an individual vessel post-activity risk assessment methodology for landing inspections, and the development of an approach to risk-based strategic planning for NAFO.

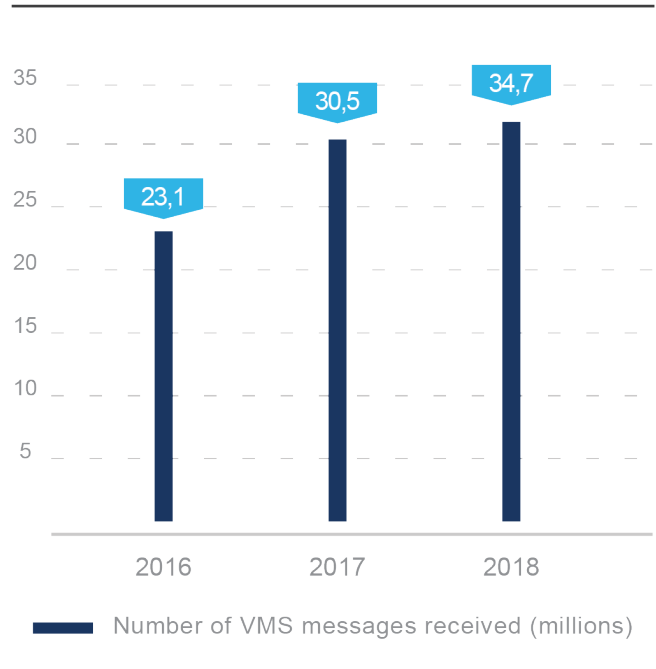
EFCA assisted the Commission throughout 2018 to set up specific control and inspection programmes for each region and participated in the Expert Group meetings organised by the Commission to discuss the SCIP proposal.

Compliance indicators were further developed, namely those for non-compliance with the LO, misrecording of landings of unsorted pelagic Baltic Sea pelagic species and standard methodology of compliance based benchmarking.





In relation to EFCA's information systems, the main data received by EFCA from Member States was: vessel positions (VMS); electronic logbooks (ERS); summary of inspection and surveillance reports (Activity Reports); and target vessels. The data flow from Member States to

EFCA was monitored on 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.

VMS messages received in millions



EFCA ERS data 2018

MESSAGES	VESSELS	MEMBER STATES	JDP
 <b>1 087 466</b> Total number of Messages pulled from Member States	 <b>3 557</b> Total Number of Vessels pulled from Member States	 <b>17</b> Total Number of Member States connected	 <b>5</b> Number of JDPs configured





## OBJECTIVE 4

Support the EU in the implementation of the external dimension of the CFP



### RESULTS

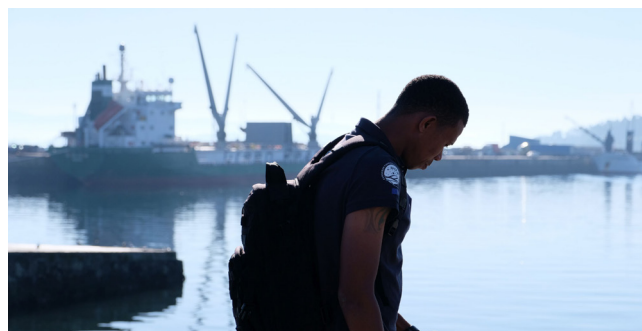
1. Support to the EU delegation in RFMOs meetings.
2. Support to the EU as regards direct cooperation with third countries, without prejudice of PESCAO (under objective 5) and/or, in the context of ICCAT and GFCM and other RFMOs, including through JDPs.
3. Assistance to the European Commission in connection with the evaluation mission to third countries as regards IUU Regulation.
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.

In the international dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy, EFCA assisted the European Commission to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries such as the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT and GFCM), to strengthen the operational coordination and compliance.

In line with the CFP basic regulation, the remit of EFCA, the Working Arrangements on EFCA's international activities between the European Commission and EFCA and at the request of the 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.

In the fight against IUU fishing activities, EFCA supported the Commission by analysing a total of 435 catch certificates and 195 processing statements (Annex IV of Regulation (EC) 1005/2008) for 7 third countries.

At the end of 2018, the *Pilot Project Modernising fisheries controls and optimising vessel monitoring through the use of innovative European systems* was concluded.



**OBJECTIVE 5**

To strengthen compliance through the implementation of EU international projects (e.g. PESCAO, Improved Regional fisheries governance in Western Africa) 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.

EFCA has contributed to the achievement of the overall objective of the PESCAO project for Improved regional fisheries governance in Western Africa, which is to enhance the contribution of fisheries resources to sustainable development, food security and poverty alleviation in that area.

In this framework the EFCA provided technical support 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 its experience in the EU context. EFCA also supported EU Delegations in Accra and Dakar on technical aspects.

As part of PESCAO, EFCA engaged in capacity building activities with third countries such as the first “PESCAO Training for Trainers” course for 4 days in October 2018 in Vigo. Trainers from Western African countries in cooperation with two partner organisations, the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) and the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC), learned about EFCA’s step by step methodology for inspection in port and at sea. Moreover, experts from the Agency participated to joint operations.

Similarly, with an external expert, EFCA started a legal mapping and analysis of the national and regional legislation related to the fight against IUU fishing in the PESCAO area, aiming to present a set of recommendations for SRFC and FCWC towards harmonising their national legal framework to meet international and Regional Fisheries Management Organisations standards.

PESCAO Joint Campaigns 2018	Mory Ngingue 16 - 23 September	Badjgui Kouyate 28 November - 4 December
Coordination	SRFC	
Participant countries	Senegal, Guinea Bissau and Gambia	Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone
Coordination centre in charge	Bissau	Conakry
Area covered	EEZ and territorial waters of Guinea Bissau, The Gambia and Senegal (Cassamance region)	EEZ and territorial waters of Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone
Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Three patrol vessels deployed</li> <li>41 inspections</li> <li>Six instances of non-compliance detected</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Five patrol vessels deployed</li> <li>46 inspections</li> <li>Three instances of non-compliance detected</li> </ul>
<p>During the operations, the competent authorities of the participating SRFC member countries worked together in the coordination of joint patrols and inspections. The EFCA experts deployed in the coordination centres in charge assisted to the joint control operations with Integrated Maritime Services (IMS) and Copernicus Maritime Surveillance (CMS). The detections from satellite-based systems were used for behaviour analysis and identification of possible non-compliance targets. Furthermore, for the two campaigns, a member of EFCA staff was deployed on board the regional patrol vessel chartered by the SRFC to the Senegalese Navy. The experts supported the work of the national inspectors from the countries involved in each joint campaign.</p>		

## OBJECTIVE 6

Improve capacities to implement fisheries control and support other 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.

To level the playing field, the secondment of EU inspectors to multinational inspection teams continued to be a key approach in facilitating the standardisation of inspection procedures among Member States. In 2018, there were regional workshops for JDP inspectors delivered by EFCA to this effect.

In order to make EFCA's training programmes on the e-learning platform more accessible for Member States' inspectors, EFCA offered the modules in 7 different languages other than English. At the end of 2018, 671 users from Member States,

the European Commission, non-EU countries, EFCA and other EU Agencies staff were registered on the platform. A total of 1,496 inspectors and experts from EU and third countries were trained by EFCA. EFCA also continued to develop and update the different training material to support the creation and implementation of a Sectoral Qualification Framework (SQF) for EU Coast Guard functions.

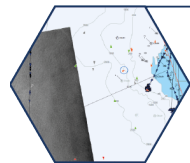
## INTER-AGENCY CG COOPERATION

The Tripartite Working Agreement (TWA), between, EFCA, EMSA and Frontex, set the basis for the framework of cooperation on coast guard functions and other shared capabilities, leading to the development of a common annual strategic plan and specific Service Level Agreements for control means.



### Sharing of information

EFCA Integrated Maritime Services  
Sightings / observations



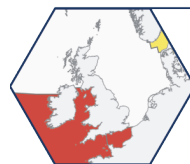
### Surveillance and Communication services

Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems Copernicus  
Maritime Surveillance Fixed Wing Aircraft



### Capacity Building and Training

Cross-functions training  
Practical Handbook on European cooperation on coast guard functions



### Risk Analysis

Data and Methods  
Risk Analysis products



### Capacity Sharing

Multipurpose Maritime Operations  
Operational briefings

**EFCA operational capacity**

is available for Multipurpose Operations in cooperation with FRONTEX, EMSA and Member States relevant authorities in its support to coast guard functions

**Primary**

- Fisheries inspection and control

**Support role**

- Search and rescue
- Border Control and Customs control
- Law enforcement
- Maritime environmental protection and response
- Maritime monitoring and surveillance
- Maritime safety
- Maritime accident and disaster response

The participation of the three agencies together with the European Commission, strengthened the cooperation at EU and international level towards a European coast guard capacity.

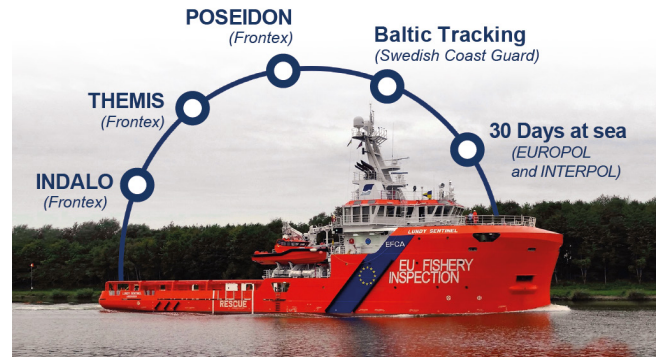
In 2018, EFCA organised the first Annual European Coast Guard event in the context of the TWA. The event brought together the three agencies' Administrative Board members and related experts to identify potential areas of synergy and future cooperative activities among the agencies in support of Member States performing coast guard functions.

EFCA deployed the chartered offshore patrol vessel without interruption for a year, fostered cooperation, promoted

interoperability, transparency and information exchange among all stakeholders involved and contributed to the improvement of the execution rate for the exchanges of inspectors.

The Agency contributed to various EU maritime surveillance technology related initiatives such as the European Radio Navigation Plan (ERNP) and the Governmental Satellite Communication (GOVSATCOM) for the provision of secure satellite communications for government use.

EFCA has also been following updates as a member of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE), which aims to integrate 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



**A YEAR IN REVIEW**  
MAIN RESULTS 2018

### OBJECTIVE 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



#### RESULTS

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.
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.
3. Local public is familiar with the general values of the European Union.
4. Institutional partners are well informed about the Agency's work and mission.
5. EFCA staff: keep staff informed and involved in EFCA's work.

Through its communication strategy, EFCA promotes a culture of compliance and fosters the European Union values. Its activities are aligned with EFCA's Annual work programme and takes on board the feedback and best practices of other EU agencies.

2018 was an intense year in regards to the communication activities. Aligned to the evolution of its mission, besides the coordination and capacity building activities of the inspection and control regime of the CFP, the EU Coast Guard cooperation has also been reflected in the communication work, with the special highlight of EFCA's organisation of the annual event of the European Coast Guard cooperation in La Toja, Spain, in April 2018.

In addition, a specific communication strategy was drafted and validated amongst its partners for the PESCAO project for which EFCA coordinated the communication activities with both the EU and African partners regarding the project kick-off.

Moreover, EFCA celebrated its 10th year anniversary in Spain (Vigo) gathering its closest stakeholders and partners. The Agency held an event on 9 October 2018 to mark the special occasion, coinciding with the Advisory and Administrative Board meetings, and organised a Seminar on Fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance measures and in the framework of the European Coast Guard cooperation touching upon different issues of relevance for EFCA activities. Member States and the European Commission representatives, the Executive Directors of Frontex and the EU Satellite Centre, ICES President, the Permanent Secretary of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, EFCA management and several renowned academics were among the speakers who addressed the audience. The milestones during these years were highlighted and positive feedback was received from all the speakers and attendees.

## OBJECTIVE 8

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



### RESULTS

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 AB involvement and output legitimacy.

In 2018, two meetings of the Administrative Board were held in Vigo; the 30th meeting of the Administrative Board was held on 14 March and the 31st meeting on 10 October. EFCA continued to make improvements regarding the recommendations issued by the Administrative Board following the Five-Year Independent External Evaluation of EFCA (period 2012-16).

## OBJECTIVE 9

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

### RESULTS

1. Close cooperation with the Advisory Councils ensured.
2. Facilitate the interaction Administrative Board and Advisory Board of EFCA.

The Advisory Councils are stakeholder organisations composed of representatives from the industry, NGOs and other groups of interest.

The Advisory Board, composed of one representative of each Advisory Council (AC), met twice in 2018 prior to the Administrative Board meetings, in Brussels on 23 February and in Vigo on 9 October. In addition to the seven traditional existing ACs, all the new ACs were invited to participate in the EFCA's Advisory Board meetings in 2018.

Throughout 2018, EFCA participated in meetings of the Executive Committees and Working Groups of the 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.

To promote the participation of the Administrative Board members in the Advisory Board, thus to boost interaction among the two bodies, in October 2018 the Advisory Board meeting was organised on the eve of the Administrative Board meeting. The delegations of two Member States and the Chair of the Administrative Board attended the Advisory Board meeting. In accordance with EFCA Founding Regulation, a representative of the Advisory Board took part in the deliberations of the Administrative Board meetings without the right to vote.

### OBJECTIVE 10

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



#### RESULTS

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

Synergies with other institutions and bodies have been enhanced and EFCA has attended the meetings convened by the European Commission, where its presence was desirable, required or the interest of the Agency, and also to the ones convened by the different EU Agencies networks.

EFCA shared services with the European Commission and other agencies in particular:

- 7 SLA's /MoU signed with agencies; e.g. EMSA, Frontex and EUIPO (European Union Intellectual Property Office);
- 25 SLA's/MoU with the EC;
- In the last 5 years EFCA used/joined more than 60 Framework contracts with the EC and agencies;
- EFCA is amongst the first wave of agencies where Sysper2 (HR IT tool) is being implemented;
- Lead role in an inter-institutional call for tender;
- EFCA participated as member of the evaluation panel on a call for tender assisting 2 EU Agencies (EIT and CEPOL).

### 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

1. Increase of efficiency in the administration through further efforts in the area of e-administration and maintaining the levels already achieved in this respect.
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.
3. Compliance with all legal requirements in the operational and administrative fields ensured.
4. Highly available, secure and cost effective ICT services to support the EFCA business processes and its internal / external operational activities ensured.
5. EFCA's website and e-learning platform is hosted on cloud since November 2018. Disaster Recovery Site is hosted by EUIPO in Alicante. In December 2018 the Intranet and Fishnet testing environments are migrated to the cloud as well.





From an administrative standpoint, EFCA has continued to benefit from efficiency-saving measures taken in the past. The project of e-Administration has included the implementation of systems such as Missions Integrated Processing System (MIPS), e-Invoicing, e-Submission, e-Request and Accrual Based Accounting (ABAC) Assets Order, among other efforts of rationalisation and paperless approach in the different financial processes. In 2018, EFCA has implemented ARES (Advanced Records System) and has worked on the on-boarding processes of AGM4 (for expert's reimbursements) and Sysper (the automation of HR processes).

There were further enhancements on the IT Governance Framework and the Digital Workplace. EFCA has started moving systems to the cloud such as the website and the e-learning platform.

In 2018, EFCA reached a level of 95% of financial transactions managed electronically. It also handled a 23% increase in payments transactions due to the increase in activity, without using additional resources.

The budget has been successfully implemented in 2018 with a 99.7% execution for commitments and 87.6% for payments.

### Budget Implementation

EFCA received a total budget of EUR 16.8 million, as a contribution from the General EU Budget for 2018, representing a decrease of 1.8% in respect of 2017. In addition, it received an ad-hoc grant for the Improved Regional Fisheries Governance in Western Africa (PESCAO) for a total of EUR 2.5 million in 5 years, which granted EFCA with additional EUR 0.6 million in 2018.

As of the implementation of grants received in previous years, the pilot project *Modernising Fisheries Control and Optimising Vessel Monitoring through the use of innovative European Systems* (MARSURV) ended at the end of 2018 with an 88% of implementation.

### Budget implementation for commitments and payments 2018

	Voted budget		Committed (€)		% exec	
	2017	2018	2018	2018	2017	2018
Staff and administrative expenditure	10,249,000	9,854,000	10,055,933	9,849,677	98%	100%
Operational expenditure	6,864,000	6,959,000	6,869,950	6,919,218	100%	99,4%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,113,000</b>	<b>16,813,000</b>	<b>16,925,883</b>	<b>16,768,895</b>	<b>99%</b>	<b>99,7%</b>

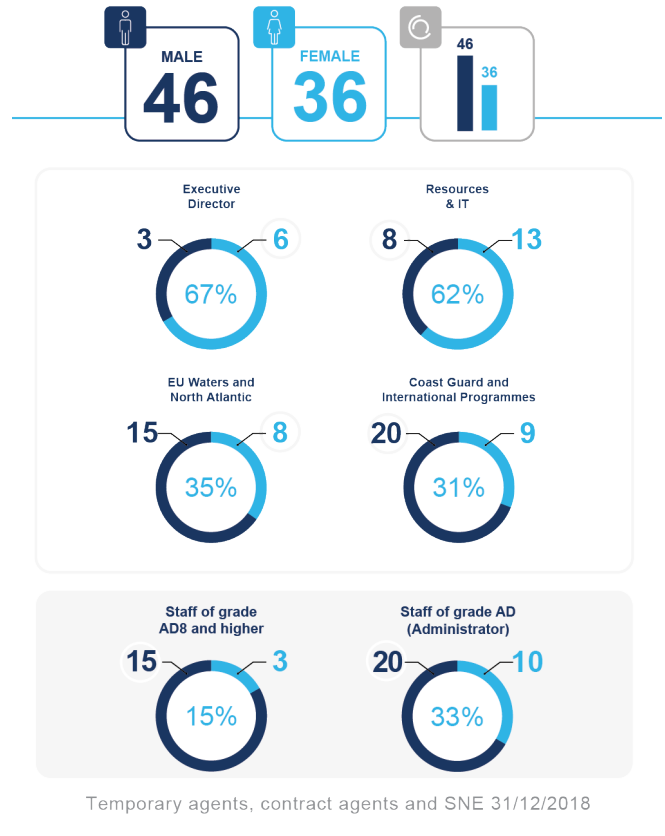
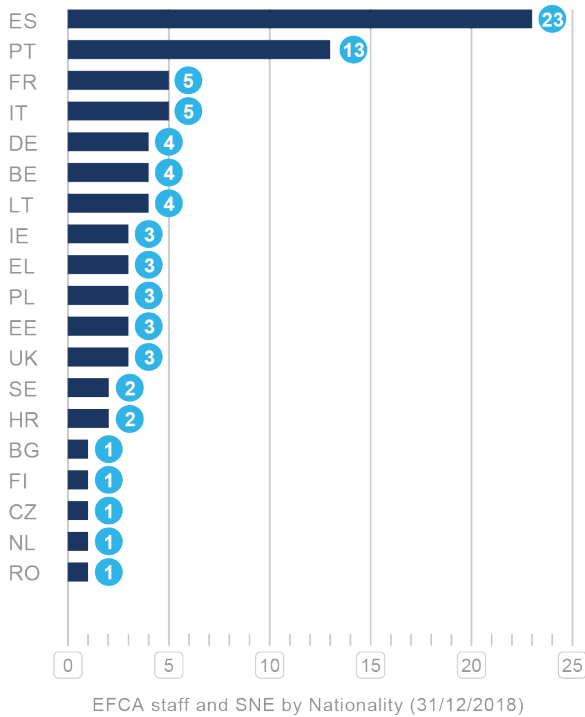
	Voted budget		Executed		%	
	2017	2018	2017	2018	2017	2018
Comparison total budget	17,113,000	16,813,000	16,925,883	16,768,895	99%	99,7%
<b>% difference 2017 - 2018</b>	<b>-1.8%</b>					
Comparison operational budget	6,864,000	6,959,000	6,869,950	6,919,216	100%	99,4%
<b>% difference 2017 - 2018</b>	<b>-1.4%</b>					

The Agency implemented the new General Implementing Rules of the Staff Regulation without delay and promoted a policy of equal treatment aiming to have an optimal gender balance among its staff. On 31 December 2018, the overall percentage of female staff members was 44%. The percentage of female staff members excluding Seconded National Experts (SNE) was 46%. The percentage of female staff grade AD8 or higher was 15%.

To maintain the highest standards of integrity, ethical conduct, professionalism and respect for fundamental rights, EFCA's Executive Director adopted the Code of Conduct (CoC), applicable to all persons participating in EFCA activities carried out on EFCA chartered means.

**EFCA Staff**

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





## GETTING IN TOUCH WITH THE EU

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- All over the European Union there are hundreds of Europe Direct information centres. You can find the address of the centre nearest you at: [https://europa.eu/european-union/contact\\_en](https://europa.eu/european-union/contact_en)

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### EU publications

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