
EFCA's work in international fisheries and the fight against IUU fishing

LDAC Executive Committee
Berlin, 22 May 2024

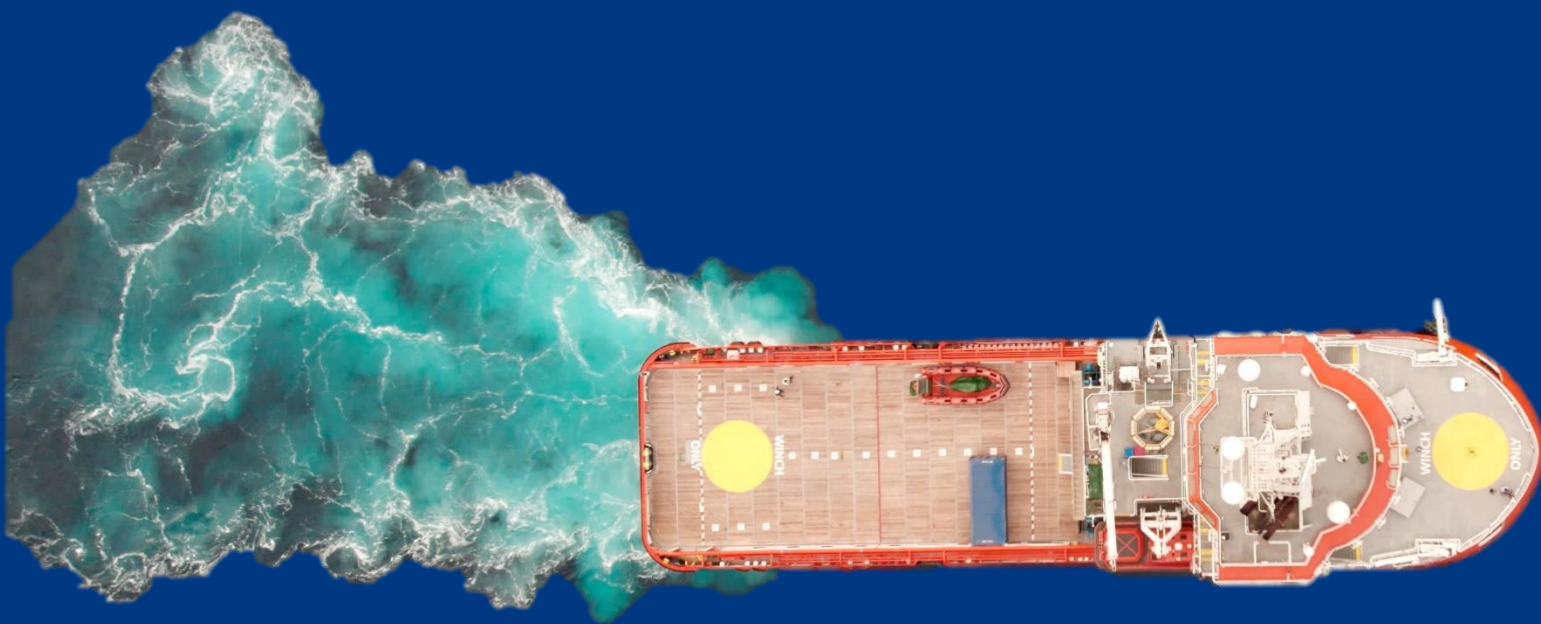
Pedro Galache, Head of Unit Strategy and Cooperation



In this presentation...

General information on EFCA activities

Specific information on EFCA international activities



General objectives

Our mission is to promote the highest common standards for control, inspection and surveillance under the CFP



Sustainability



Level Playing Field



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Multiannual Programming 2024-2028

Areas of intervention



**Operational
coordination**



**Assistance to
cooperation**

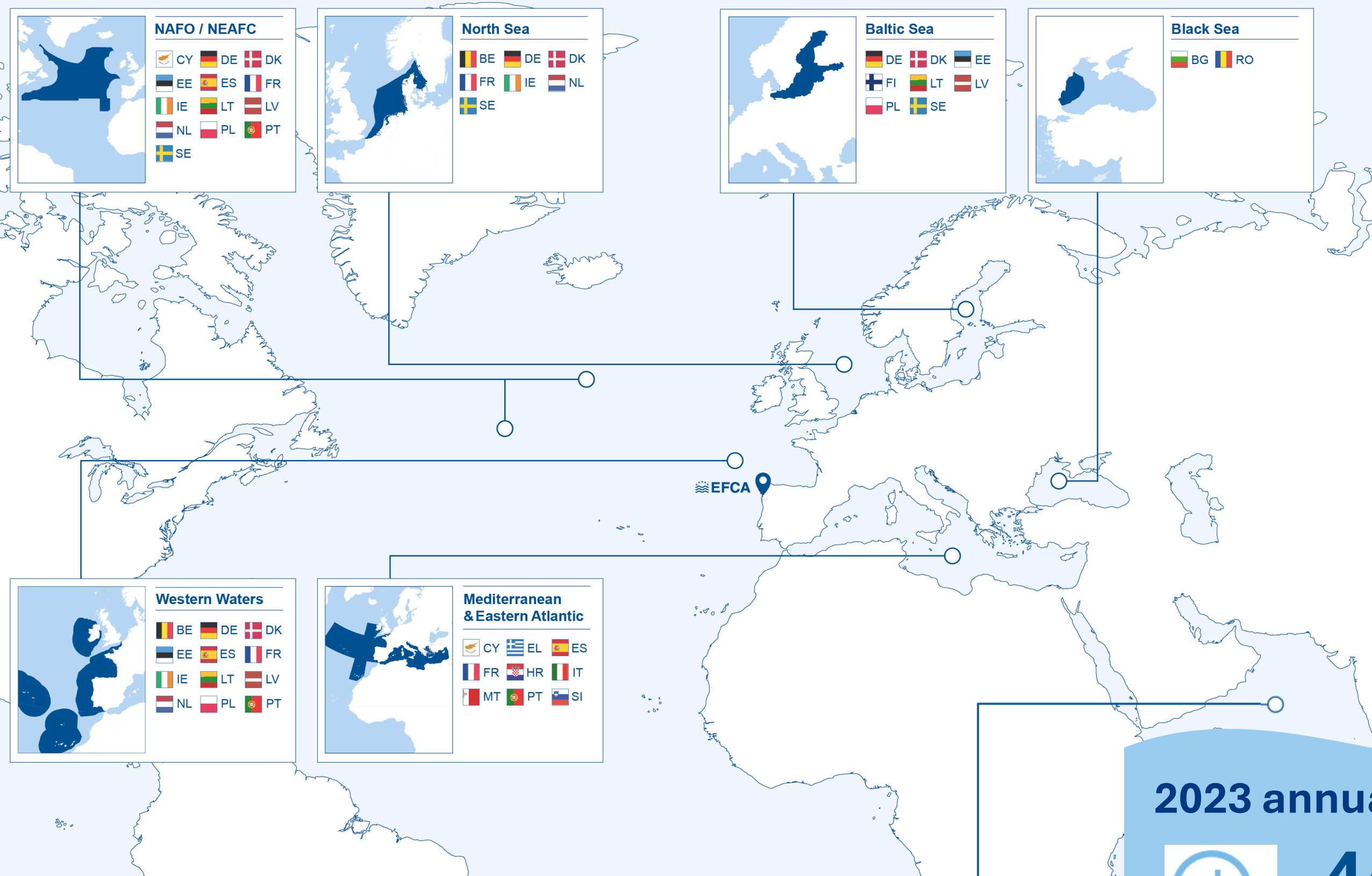


**EU Coast Guard
Cooperation**



**International
Dimension**

Implementation of JDP in EU Waters and International Waters in 2023



(2024) New JDP: Indian Ocean

Operational Coordination

Implementation of 6 Joint Deployment Plans during 2023

2023 annual results*



44 993

EFCA-coordinated inspections



4 230

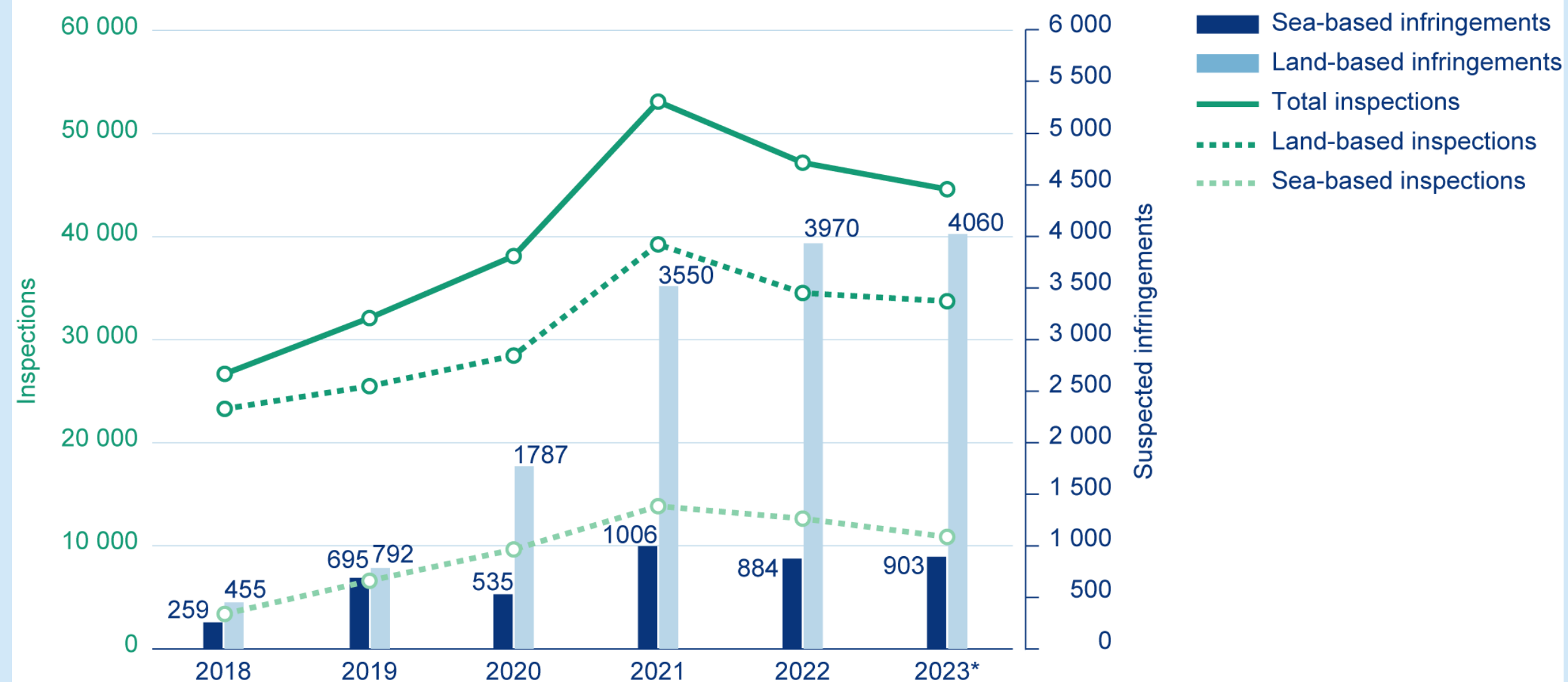
Suspected infringements

*Data based on the information provided by Member States up to 8 February 2024

JDP inspections and suspected infringements evolution in last 5 years



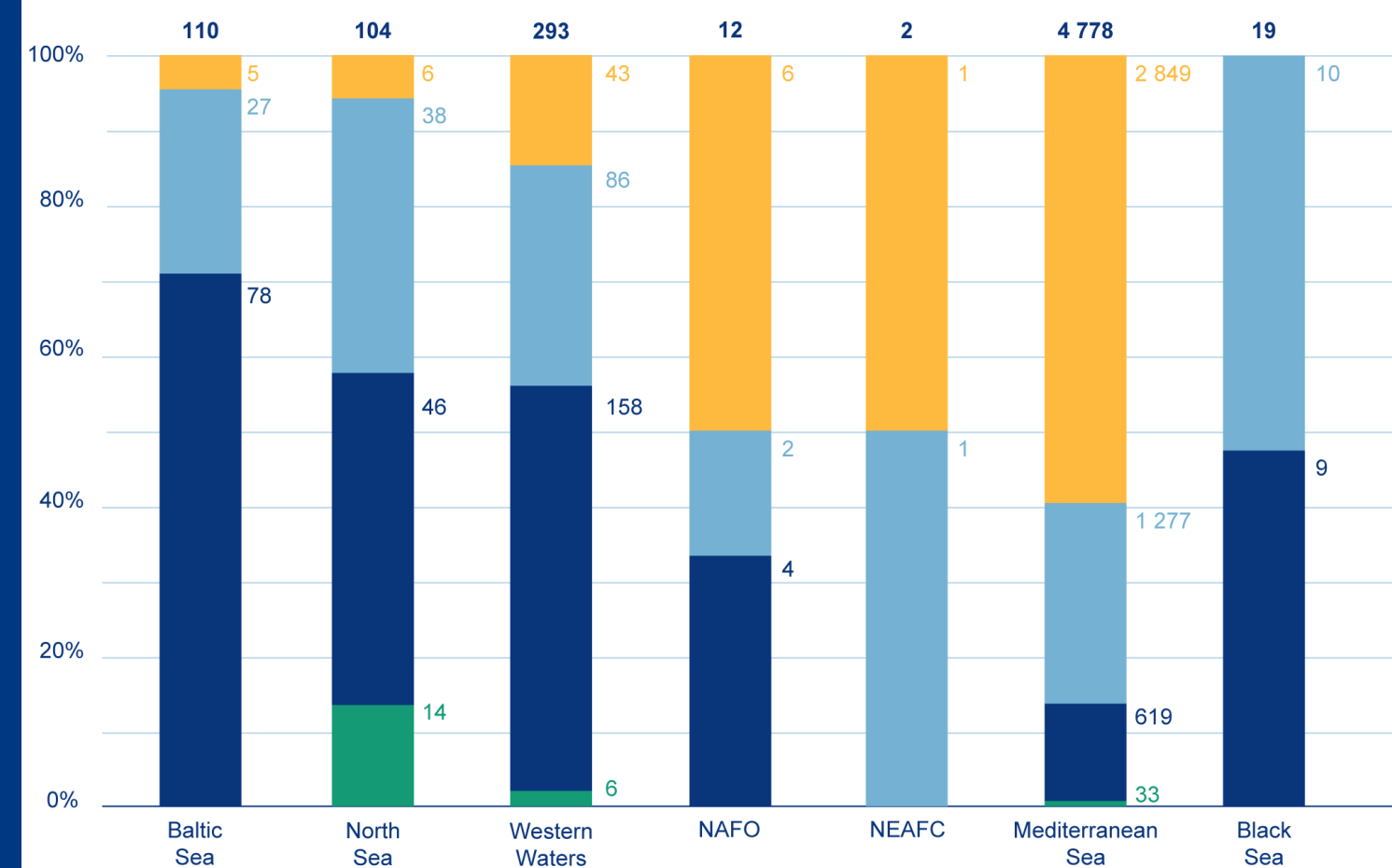
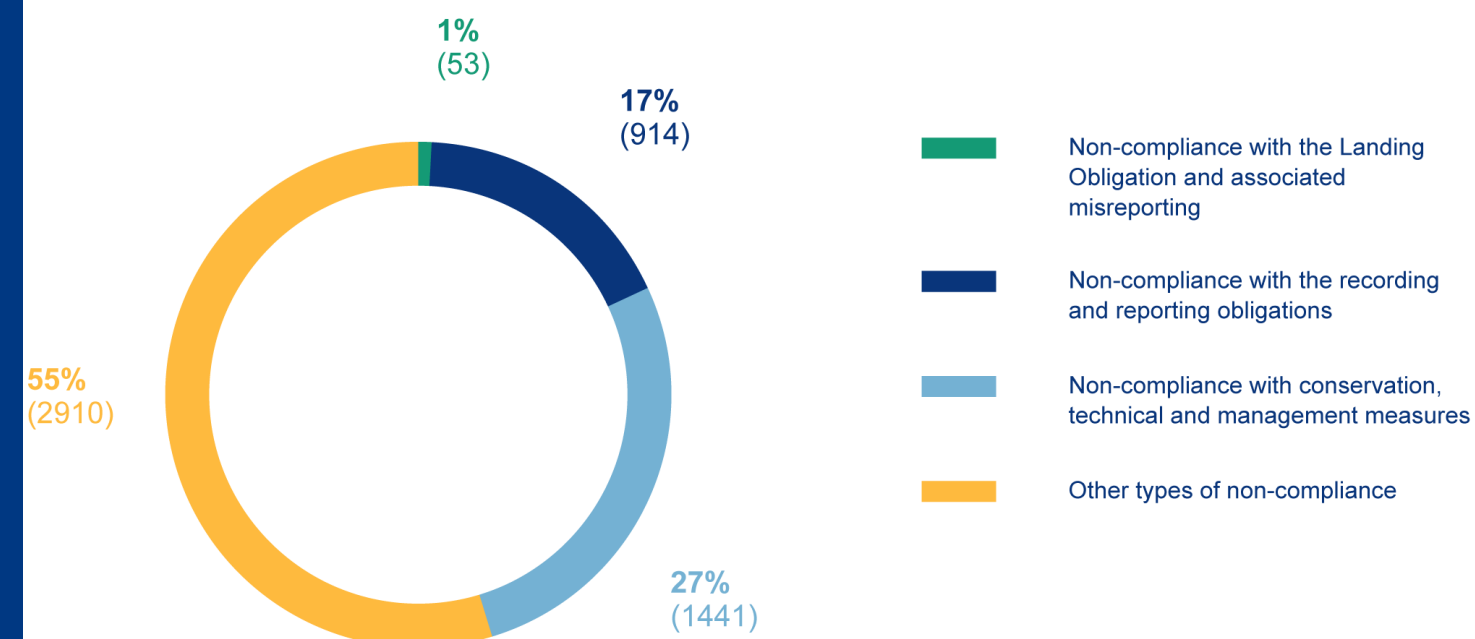
JDPs inspections and suspected infringements evolution



*2023 data available on 8th February 2024. Additional data may be received later from Member States. 2022 data as reported in the 2022 Annual Report.

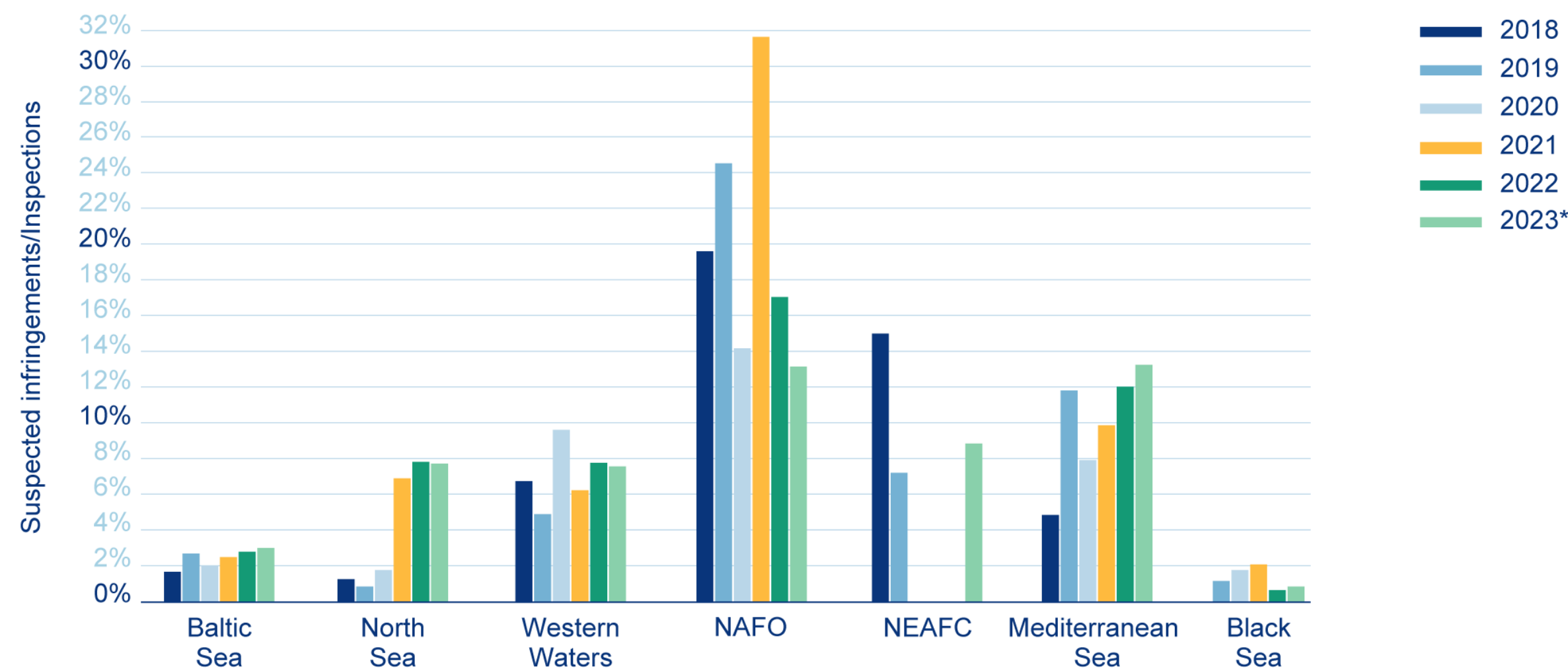
Ratio of suspected infringements by inspection in the different JDP areas and types of infringement*

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



*2023 data available on 8th February 2024. Additional data may be received later from Member States.

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



*2023 data available on 8th February 2024. Additional data may be received later from Member States.
2022 data as reported in the 2022 Annual Report.

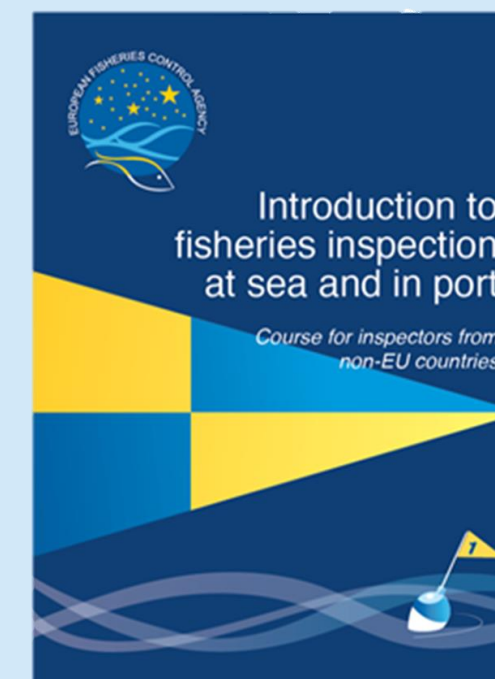
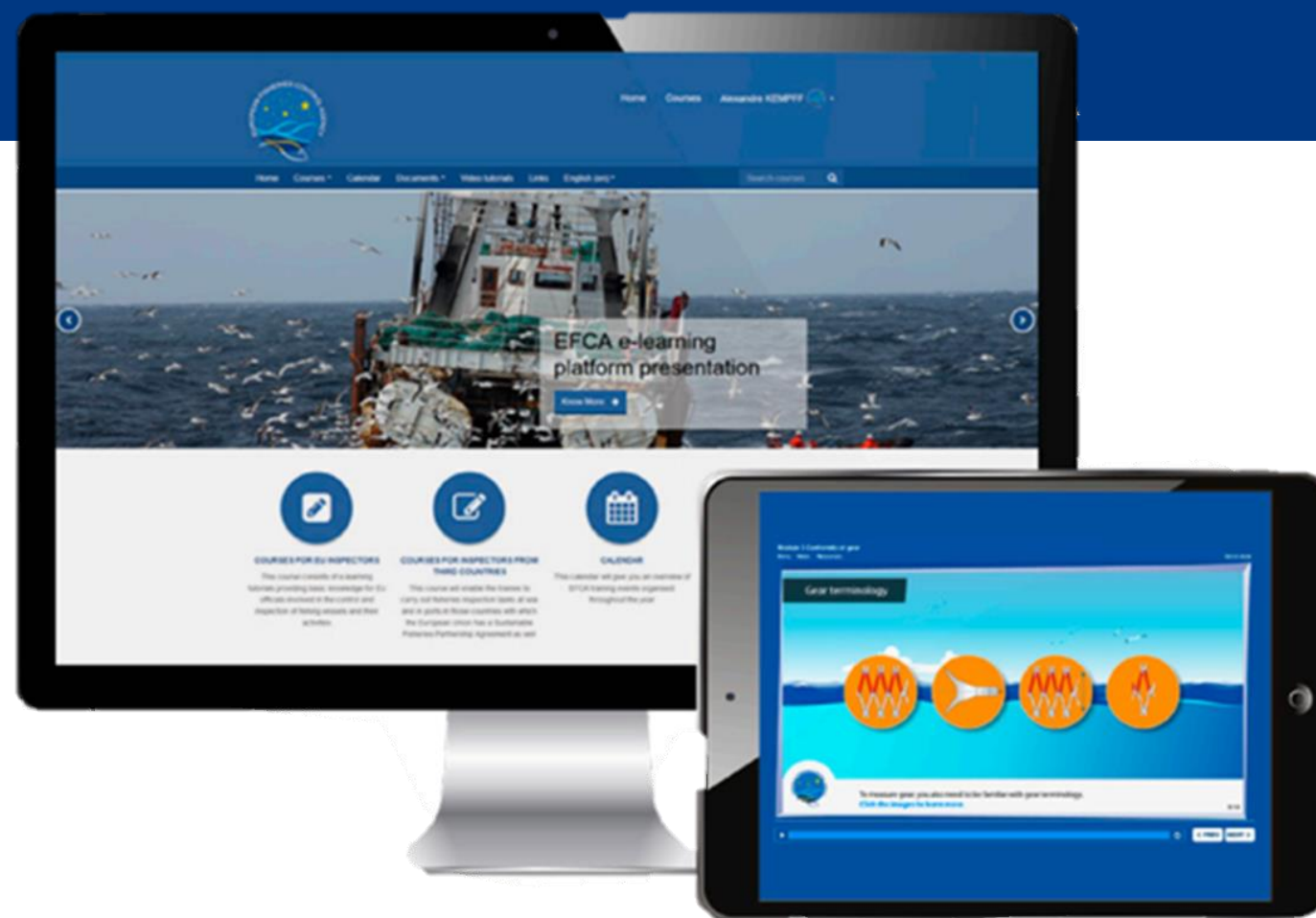
Training

The improvement of training material has continued in cooperation with MS:

- Process to update Core Curriculum
- Progressive alignment of EFCA training Courses with SQF
- Translation of different modules in the EFCA e-learning platform

Training activities during 2023:

- 26 events for EU inspectors/officials
- 19 events for non-EU inspectors
- 1448 Active users in the E-learning platform
- 2433 EU, MS and Third Countries officials benefit from EFCA activities





Chartered Means

EFCA's Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) as a platform for MS fisheries inspectors

Remotely Piloted Aircraft System deployed aboard of Ocean Sentinel & O. Protector

Chartering of Fixed Wing Aircraft (FWA)



European Coast Guard Cooperation during 2023

Five Coast Guard Cooperation Areas



Sharing of information

EFCA Integrated Maritime Services
Sightings / observations



Surveillance and Communication services

Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems
Piloted Fixed Wing Aircraft
Copernicus Maritime Services



Capacity Building and Training

Coast Guard Practical Handbook
Cross-sector training and capacity building



Cooperation on risk analysis

Cross-sector risk analysis
Risk Analysis products



Capacity Sharing

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

Cooperation EMSA, Frontex and EFCA based on the Annual Strategic Plan

Multipurpose Maritime Operation (MMO) Adria 2023 led by EFCA, in cooperation with Member States, EMSA and Frontex

Implementation of Coast Guard Handbook project;
Launch of EU Coast Guard portal

Organisation of ECGFF Seminar on the use of evidence produced by innovative fisheries surveillance and inspection technologies

The basis for our work in the CFP international dimension

Based on:

- CFP Basic Regulation (Article 30)
- EFCA Founding Regulation
- EFCA's remit for IUU and RFMOs in other EU specific legislation

Following:

- the Working Arrangements on EFCA's international activities between the European Commission and EFCA

On specific request of the European Commission (DG Mare):

- EFCA assists the Union to cooperate with third countries and international organisations dealing with fisheries including RFMOs, to strengthen operational coordination and compliance

ANNEX XII: Strategy for cooperation with third countries and/or international organisations⁷³

1. Background

This Multiannual International Relations Strategy builds on the Commission Communication C(2020)2297 on the strengthening of the governance of Union Bodies under Article 70 of the Financial Regulation, as well as the working arrangements between the European Commission (the Commission) and the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA)⁷⁵.

This Annex presents the EFCA's Multiannual International Relations Strategy for the period 2024-2028 (the Strategy) on all **potential** areas of work where EFCA directly interacts with non-EU countries or international organisations. Such interaction is in line with the principles of the external dimension of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), with the view to promote beyond EU waters the same principles and standards as those applicable under Union law in the area of the CFP, and ensuring a level-playing field for EU operators vis-à-vis third country operators. The contribution of EFCA to the external dimension of the CFP is in some cases inextricably linked with the negotiations and implementation of management and control measures proposed by the Union in various bilateral or multilateral fora.

EFCA's activities which do not involve a direct interaction with third countries or international organisations, but have nevertheless an international dimension, are not covered by this Strategy, but covered by the EFCA's Single Programming Document.

The specific implementation of the suggested actions for each area of work under the Strategy is discussed and agreed between DG MARE and EFCA on a case-by-case basis, by taking into consideration EFCA's workload, availability of resources, the level of

⁷⁴ In <https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/efca-legal-repository> can be found a legal repository containing an exhaustive list of pieces of legislation applicable to the EFCA activities in the international dimension.

⁷⁵ Ares(2023)2783139.

priority of these actions as well as other priorities, and any relevant circumstances that might occur during the period covered by this Strategy.

The Strategy should not be seen as a limitative one as other types of international activities where EFCA interacts with third countries or international organisations might be explored if specific needs arise. The EFCA Administrative Board would be fully informed of such developments.

2. Interventions in the framework of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) and control working groups (WGs) and fora with third country partners

In the context of RFMOs, control working groups and other fora with third country partners where there is an International Control Scheme in force and/or ongoing discussions on control and inspections measures, EFCA would undertake the actions described below.

- Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (NAFO), North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) and the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)

- To ensure support and participation of EFCA staff as **technical experts of the EU Delegation** in the work and meetings of RFMOs such as NAFO, NEAFC, ICCAT, GFCM and IOTC. This may include the Chairmanship of Working Groups or Committees, such as the Electronic Bluefin Tuna Catch Document Working Group (e-BCD WG) of ICCAT, the Permanent Working Group or the Compliance Committee (PWG), the ICCAT Port Inspection Expert Group for Capacity Building and Assistance (PIEG), the ICCAT Working Group on EMS, and the GFCM Compliance Committee.

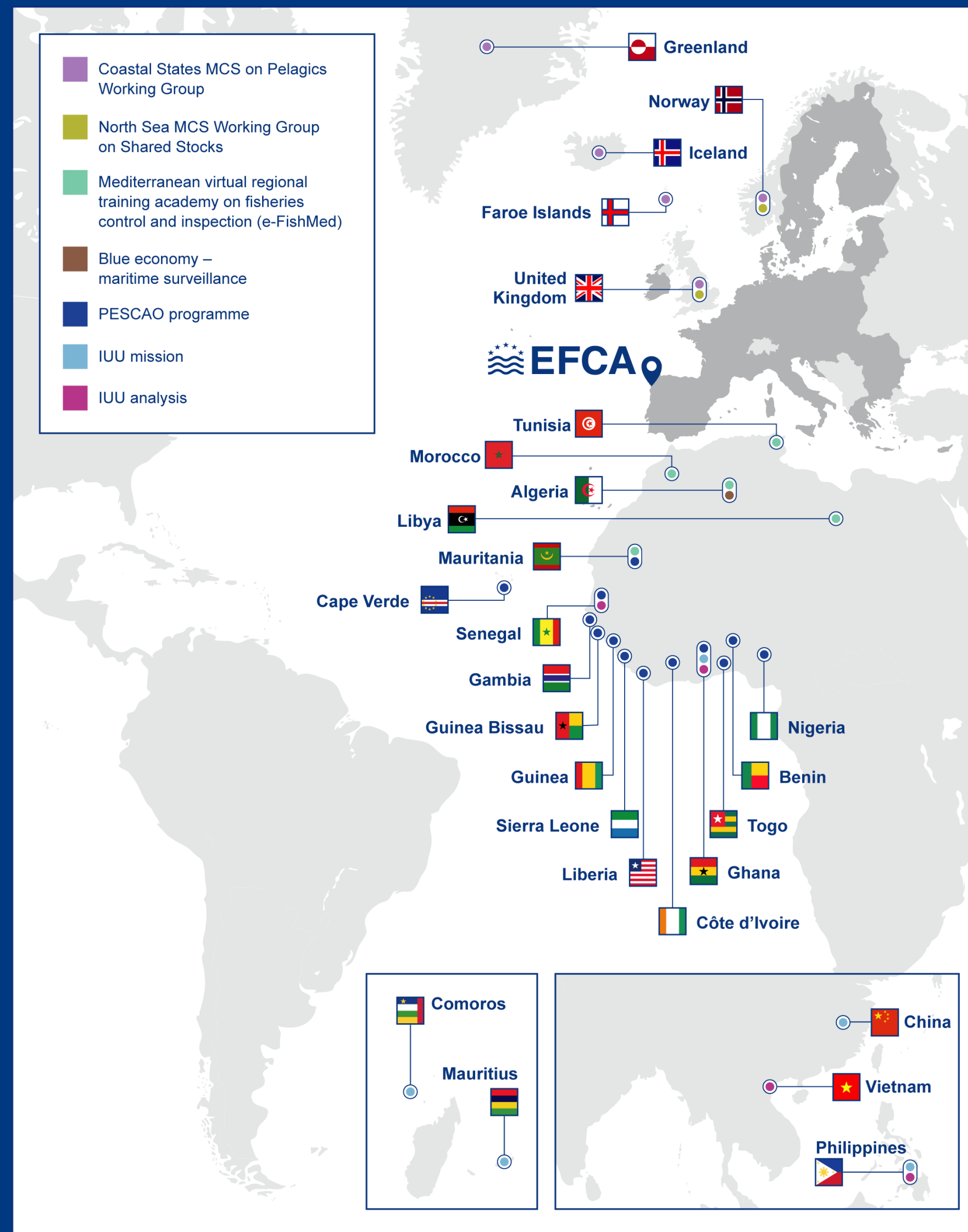
International Dimension

JDPS to ensure EU contribution to RFMOs fisheries control

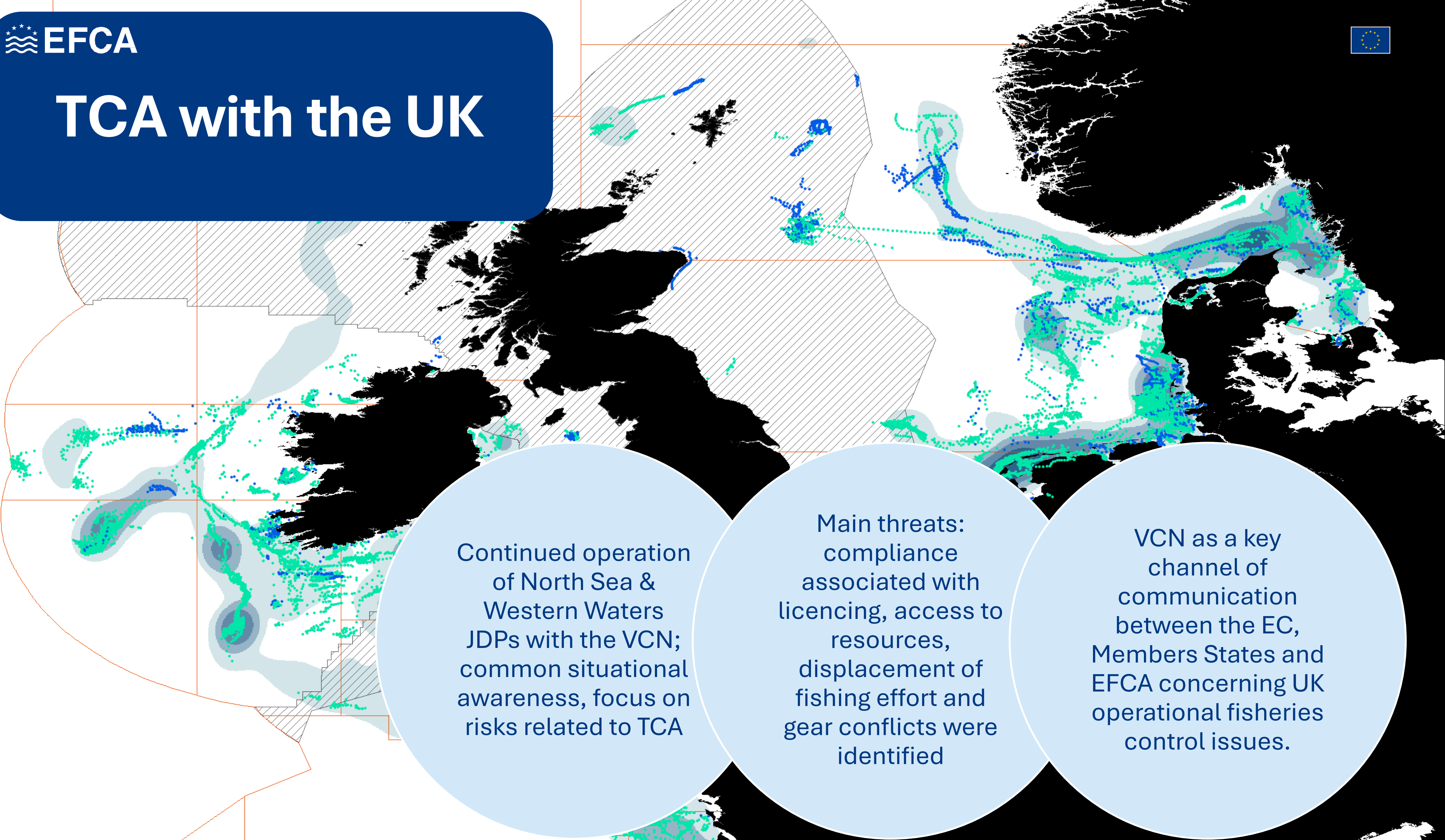
Assistance to the EU in RFMOs and third countries

On request of EC, capacity building to third countries

Support EC on IUU



TCA with the UK



Continued operation of North Sea & Western Waters JDPs with the VCN; common situational awareness, focus on risks related to TCA

Main threats: compliance associated with licencing, access to resources, displacement of fishing effort and gear conflicts were identified

VCN as a key channel of communication between the EC, Members States and EFCA concerning UK operational fisheries control issues.

Scope of our work and partners RFMOs



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations



General Fisheries Commission
for the Mediterranean
Commission générale des pêches
pour la Méditerranée



INDIAN OCEAN
COMMISSION



FCWC

Fisheries Committee for
the West Central Gulf of Guinea



COMMISSION SOUS-RÉGIONALE DES PÊCHES
SUB-REGIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSION



EFCA
European Fisheries Control Agency



European Commission





International projects

- ❖ Provide additional funds/ressources
- ❖ Extend EFCA activities in the international dimension
- ❖ Contributes to a level playing field and enhances cooperation in the international dimension



What is new?



Indian Ocean JDP

New JDP Indian Ocean

Focus on landings in ports of third countries

Risk assessment exercise undertaken jointly by MS

What is new?



International Projects

West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme (WASOP) (second half of 2024)

1. Support and implementation of operational coordination and regional development of monitoring, control and surveillance and cooperation, and
2. Support for capacity-building activities, including national legal and institutional strengthening and training.

Sustainable Western Indian Ocean Programme (SWIOP) (First half of 2025)

What is new?

The Amendment to the EFCA Regulation

Regulation (EU) 2023/2843 amends the Agency's regulation:

- Grants new powers to Agency officials appointed as EU inspectors in EU waters
- Include the External Dimension in Our Goal
- Increase functions in the context of innovation
- Unlock potential funding sources
- Inclusion of the European Parliament as a non-voting member of the Management Board.

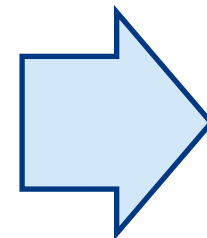


EFCA and the new Control Regulation: Fully committed for its implementation!

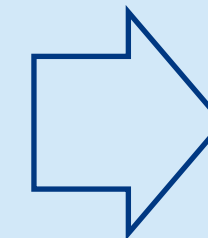
EFCA is working in the preparedness for the
implementation of the new Control regulation...



An implementation Plan
is in preparation



Several new tasks for the
Agency will need to be
implemented in the
following years



Looking for the best ways
to implement the new
obligations considering
resources available and
opportunities.

