



Promoting fisheries compliance



Mission & objectives

EFCA promotes the highest common standards for the control, inspection and surveillance under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP).

EFCA was established to organise operational coordination activities by the Member States and to assist them to cooperate so as to comply with the rules in order to ensure its effective and uniform application.

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.

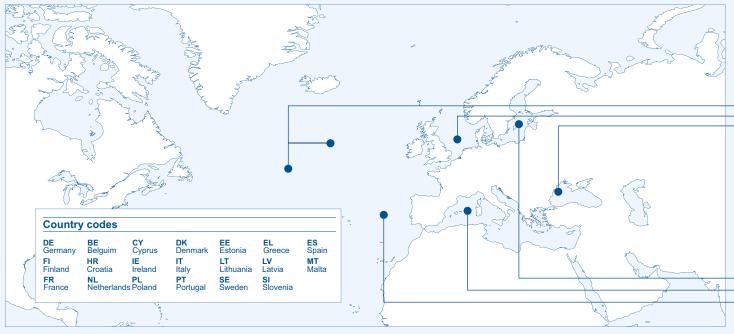
Secondly, EFCA contributes towards sustainable fisheries by enhancing compliance with existing conservation and management measures to the benefit of present and future generations.

CONTROL AND INSPECTION IN THE EU

Fisheries rules and control systems are agreed on at EU level, but implemented by the Member States by means of their national authorities and inspectors.

To achieve sustainable fisheries, there must be a culture of compliance throughout the fishing industry, which is one of the principle objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP), and the European Fisheries Control Agency helps to work towards this objective.

Implementation of EFCA Joint Deployment Plans (JDP)



EFCA's tasks

EFCA coordinates the fisheries control joint operations of the Member States (MS) through the pooling of data and intelligence, joint risk analysis, inspection means and training of inspectors;

EFCA, in cooperation with EMSA and Frontex, also assists the MS Authorities delivering missions falling under the European Coast Guard function;

EFCA assists the European Commission by analysing catch certificates and processing statements received from third countries as well as background research on trade statistics, fleet composition, characteristics of the fishing industries, etc.;

EFCA collaborates with the Regional Fora of MS and supports them in the implementation of the Control Regime applying to the Common Fisheries Policy;

EFCA also assists Member States by providing training on the implementation of the Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing Regulation and develops a Core Curriculum for the training of Union inspectors, as well as for national fisheries inspectors;

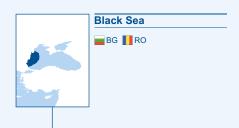
EFCA supports the Union in the international dimension of the CFP in the fight against IUU fishing and providing capacity building assistance to third countries.

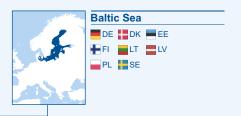
Since the change to its founding regulation in 2016, EFCA supports national authorities carrying out coast guard functions.

One of the tasks in the framework of this cooperation are multipurpose operations sharing assets such as the EFCA's chartered fisheries patrol vessels.













KEY FIGURES

Member States Union Inspectors 1 870
Fishing vessels in the European Union 74 630
EFCA-coordinated inspections* 38 452
Apparent infringements* 1 787

Officials trained* 1 787 EFCA staff* 73 EFCA budget (2021) €21 m

*EFCA Annual Report 2020



EFCA is one of the European Union agencies, located in Vigo (Spain).

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