

Questions & Answers

1. What is a Joint Deployment Plan?

They are the vehicle through which the Agency organises the deployment of the national human and material means of control and inspection pooled by the Member States. They are one of the Agency's main ways of ensuring effective enforcement and equal treatment for all those involved in a particular fishery.

Two alternative criteria have to be met before a JDP can be devised. The fish stock(s) must be subject to a specific control and enforcement plan or an International Control Scheme is in force and the Commission requested the CFCA to assume the EU's obligations on this regard.

2. What is Risk Management in Control Operations?

To ensure that control and inspection activities are carried out in an effective way and at an appropriate level, risk analysis techniques are employed to assist fisheries management decisions. The key element for any risk analysis is application of adequate methods and procedures for estimating likelihood of risk (possibility of infringement), determining the required level of control activities and prioritizing targets to be controlled.

There are many different ways in which risk analysis can be applied to fishery control; one common factor is that they will all require the use of a database to store and manipulate the relevant data and that this data will need to be introduced into the database from reliable sources in a comprehensive manner over a reasonably long time period before any statistically sound inferences can be drawn. Perhaps the one exception to this scenario is the use of intelligence, where it may only take one piece of currently-gathered information from an officially not-recognised source to identify potential risk.

3. What are performance indicators?

Measures or metrics used to help an organization define and evaluate how successful it is, typically in terms of making progress towards its long-term organisational goals. In the case of the Agency, indicators should assess the extent of CFCA contribution in the uniform and effective application of the CFP rules through its core work –the organisation of operational coordination and cooperation between Member States for fisheries control.

4. Why the CFCA should take into account different strategies for the different areas?

A one-size fits all strategy could not work as the reality of each fishery is different in biological, economic, or social terms. Furthermore, the priorities and means of Member States differ from each other as well as the cooperation amongst them. The CFCA has to adapt to the different realities, by providing tailor-made solutions while ensuring respect to quality standards and a level playing field.

5. Why multiannual JDPs should be considered?

The traditional timeframe of a JDP has been six months (community waters until 2009) or one year. In 2009, the bluefin tuna JDP has been the first that will be applied during 2 years, the same that the Commission Specific Control and Inspection programme that applies to this fishery. In this case, the specific control activities will be included as an amendment on 2010 after a decision of the steering group based in risk assessment.

In our opinion, a multiannual JDP, as a general rule, will increase the operational focus alleviating the administrative work. It will save time, and can be valid for the same duration that the specific control and inspection programme in which it is based, with a clause to include periodically the different inspection and control activities to be carried out.