



EFCA's Capacity Building Projects in West Africa

Annual Coordination Meeting LDAC &ATLAFCO-
COMHAFAT

Madrid

20 January, 2026



EFCA at a Glance



Promoting fisheries
compliance



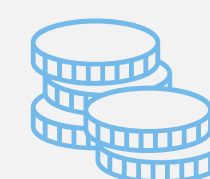
EU Agency: established in 2005. Regulation (EU) 2019/473



Headquarters in Vigo (Spain) in 2008



2016: enlarged its mandate with the EU Coast Guard cooperation



Budget: 31 million



Executive Director: Dr. Susan Steele

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



Sustainability



Level Playing Field

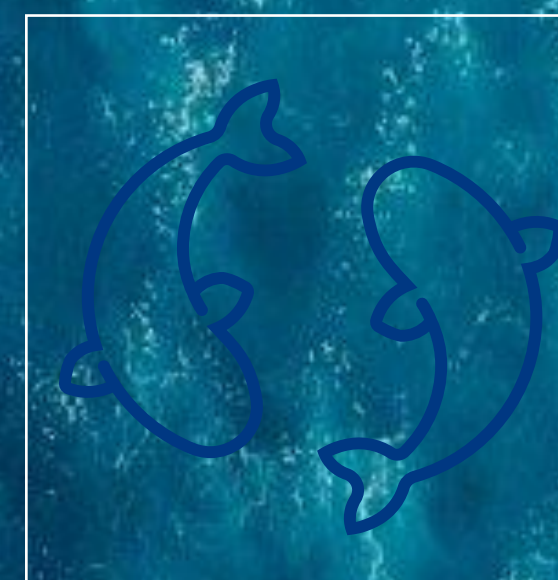
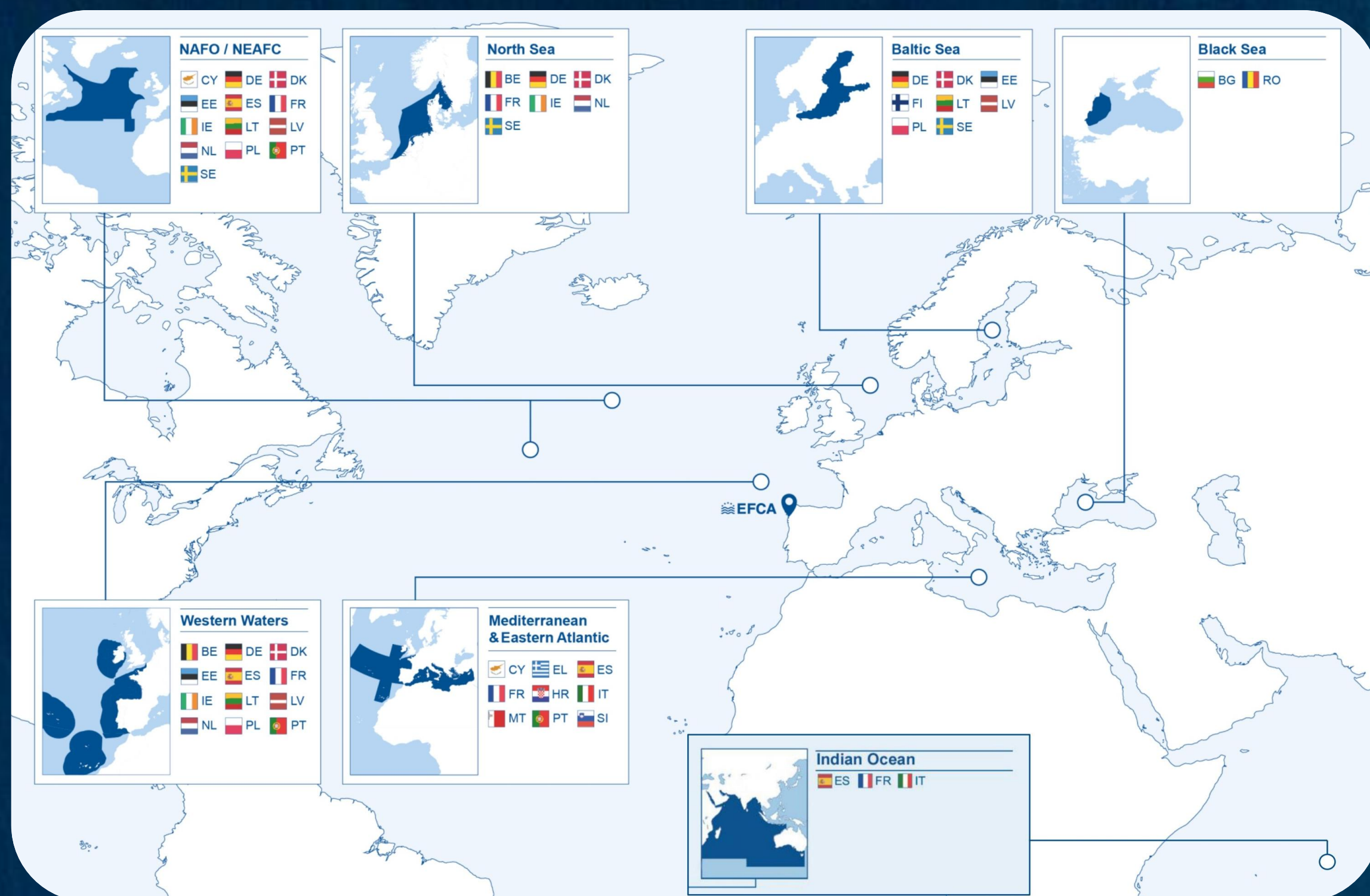


SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Joint Deployment Plans (JDP)

Vehicle for joint activities of inspection and surveillance by Member States and EFCA of certain fisheries in specific regions considered a priority for the European Commission and Member States.



Planning of deployment of means based on risk assessment

Implementation through a year round campaign



Annual assessment by EFCA in cooperation with Member States to improve future planning

EFCA's Capacity Building Projects in West Africa

Support to the EU in its international dimension



Promoting fisheries compliance



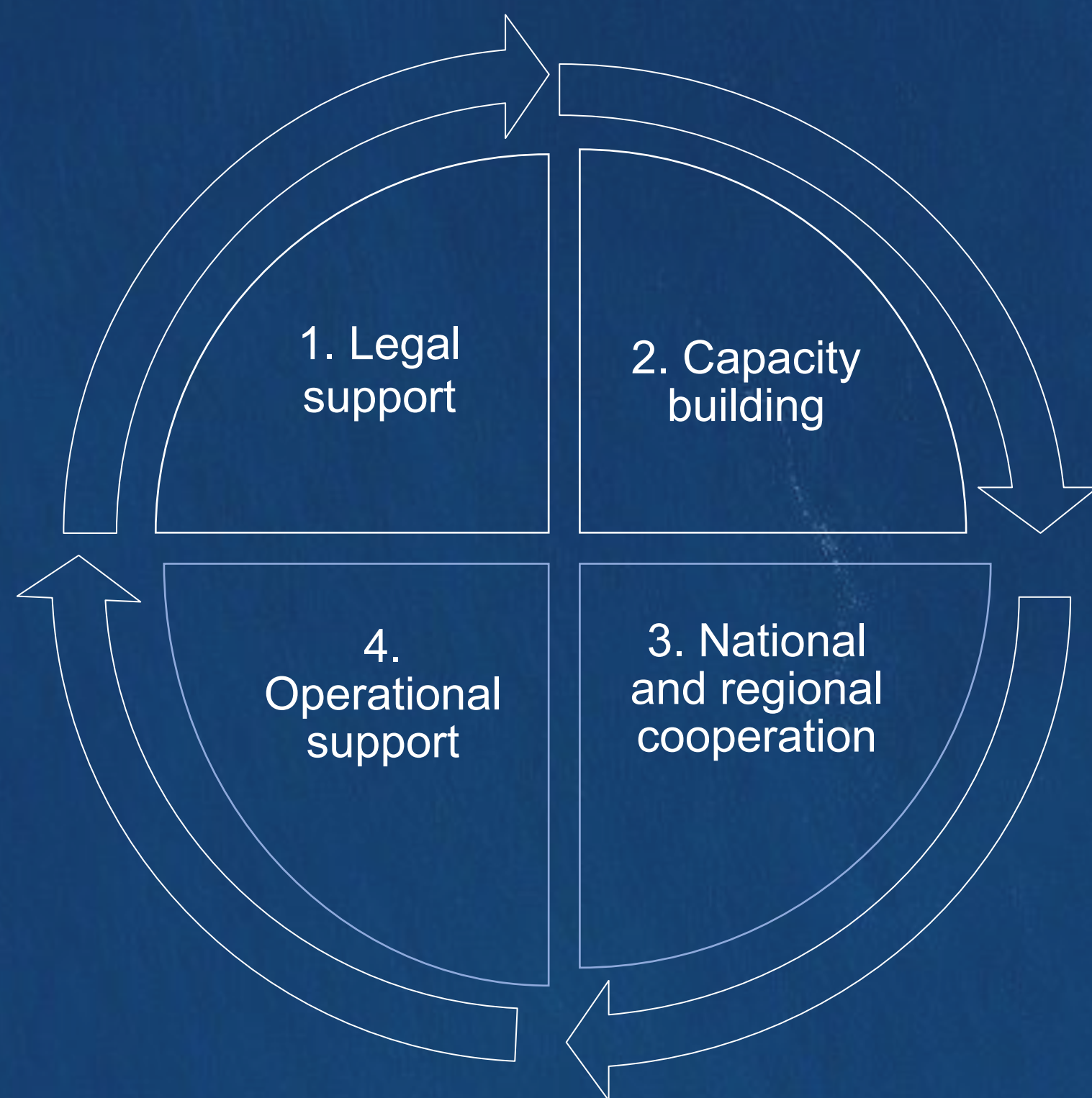
1. Support and interventions within the framework of RFMOs and relevant fora with non-EU countries

2. Fight against IUU fishing at international level

3. Capacity building within the framework of Fisheries agreements and other actions, including specific development projects

Project PESCAO

(concluded)



EFCA: 3.812.000 €



Regional scope: Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC/CSRP) and the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (CPCO)



Duration: January 2018 – December 2023

Project WASOP

West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme



Partners:

SRFC: 4M€
FCWC: 2M€
EFCA: 5M€
FAO: 3M€



Support to:

Regional fisheries organisations (SRFC and FCWC) and their 13 member states:

Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Cabo Verde, The Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Togo

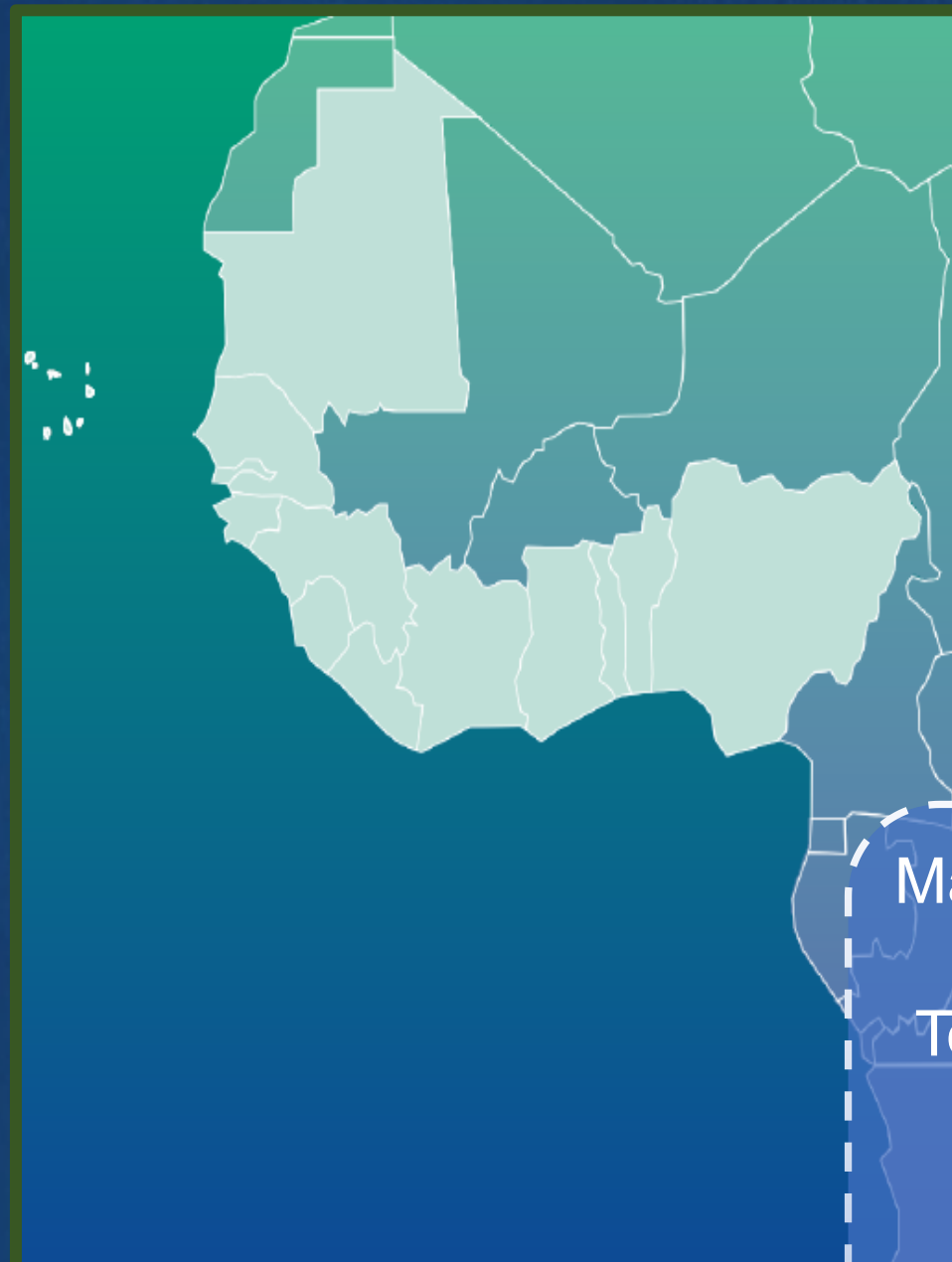


Duration: 5 years (2025–2030)

Start date: July 2025

Project WASOP

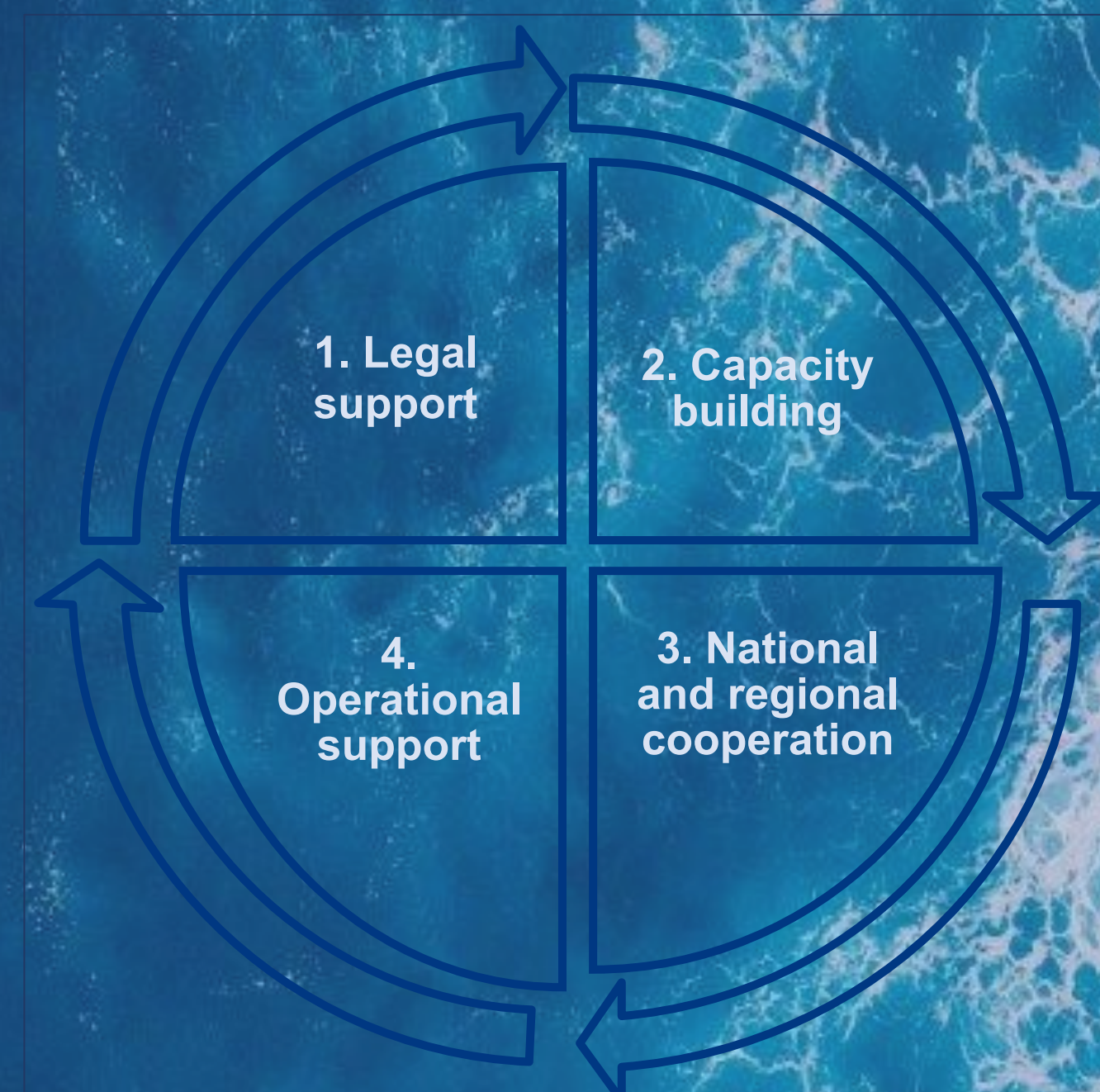
West Africa Sustainable Ocean Programme



Main output:

To contribute to the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing in the region.

The objective of EFCA is to help develop and strengthen the monitoring, control and surveillance framework at regional and national levels to improve the fight against IUU fishing.





**Organisation of
joint patrols**



**Support to the
maritime picture
awareness**



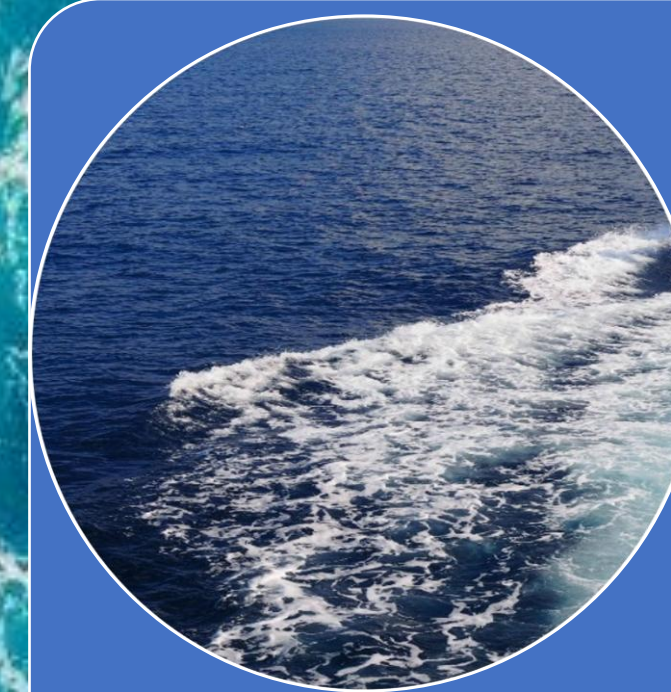
**Information
sharing
processes**



**Support to
regional and
national
development of
MCS**



**Provision of
training**



Legal support

Main areas of intervention

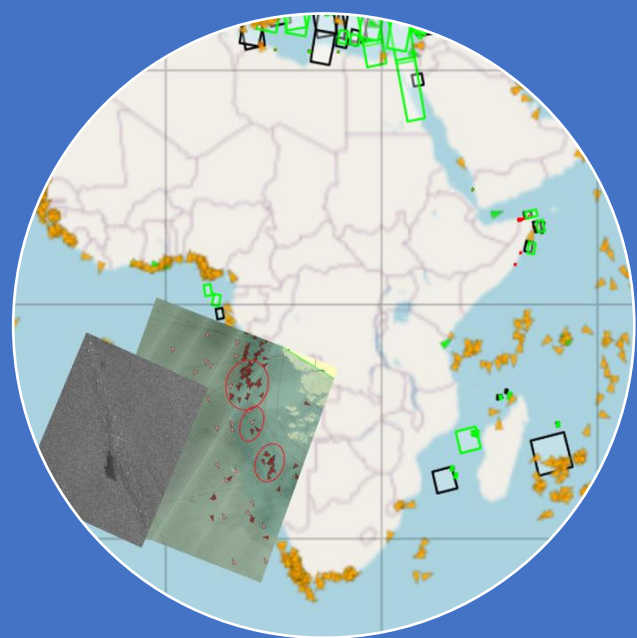
Main areas of intervention



Organisation of
joint patrols

- Planning, implementation and evaluation of joint patrols between EFCA and FCWC and SRFC
 - Regional and tactical risk assessment
 - EFCA to support exchanges of inspectors
- Presence at regional FMC
- “Hands-on” training (inspectors, FMC operators, legal officers)
- Control means:
 - Possible synergies with actors in the region

Main areas of intervention



Support to the
maritime
picture
awareness



Information
sharing
processes

- Satellite image analysis
- Facilitate exchange of fisheries data and intelligence
 - Promoting/developing standardized protocols for data exchange/information management;
 - Promoting exchange taking advantage of existing regional tools
- Presence in FMCs

Main areas of intervention



**Support to
regional and
national
development of
MCS**

Support to regional and national development of MCS:

- Support implementation of national strategies to reinforce MCS capacity.
- Support the development of regional MCS protocols for migratory artisanal fisheries.
- Assist in aligning legislation and action plans with international and RFMO obligations.

Main areas of intervention



Provision of training

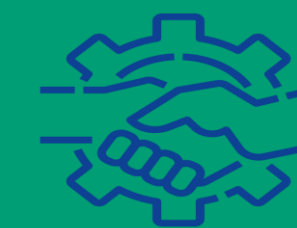
- Training for trainers, Fisheries Monitoring Centres operators, fisheries inspectors, judicial personnel, and officials in charge of the validation of EU catch certificates;
- Training on risk assessment;
- Training to be delivered on
 - Key areas identified by joint risk assessment
 - Key areas identified by DG MARE - EC
 - Specific requests by non-EU countries

WASOP - Exchange Cooperation Action in Cape Verde - 2025

- From the 28 October to 6 November 2025 in Mindelo
- 8 Inspectors from Cape Verde
- 2 Inspectors from Spain
- 2 Inspectors from Portugal
- 1 Representative from CSRP
- Organisations: EFCA, IGP and CSRP
- First practical training in the framework of WASOP Pilar 1



5
Vessels visited



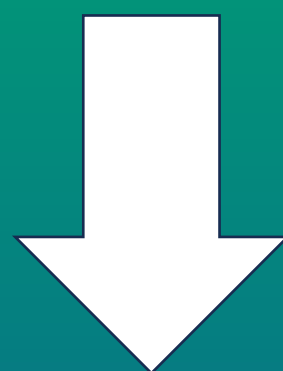
15
Exchange
Sessions

Coming next ...

Project ODEBAC

Programme Océan Durable et Economie Bleue en Afrique centrale

ODEBAC



**EFCA CONTRIBUTION TO SPECIFIC
OBJECTIVE 2b:**

The fisheries control and surveillance mechanisms in the region are consolidated, and the first phase of operationalization is launched in order to eliminate IUU fishing in Central Africa (in addition to the mechanisms provided for under fisheries agreements).



Budget of 42 M €
(EFCA – 6 M €)



Duration 2026-2030

The program will be carried out in the following six countries:

Cameroon



Equatorial Guinea



Congo



Democratic
Republic of
Congo



Gabon



São Tomé and
Príncipe



