

# LDAC Second Performance review (2020-2025)

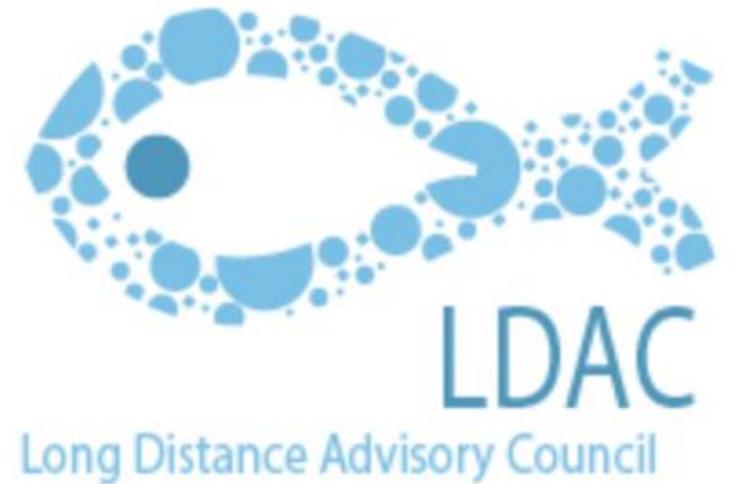
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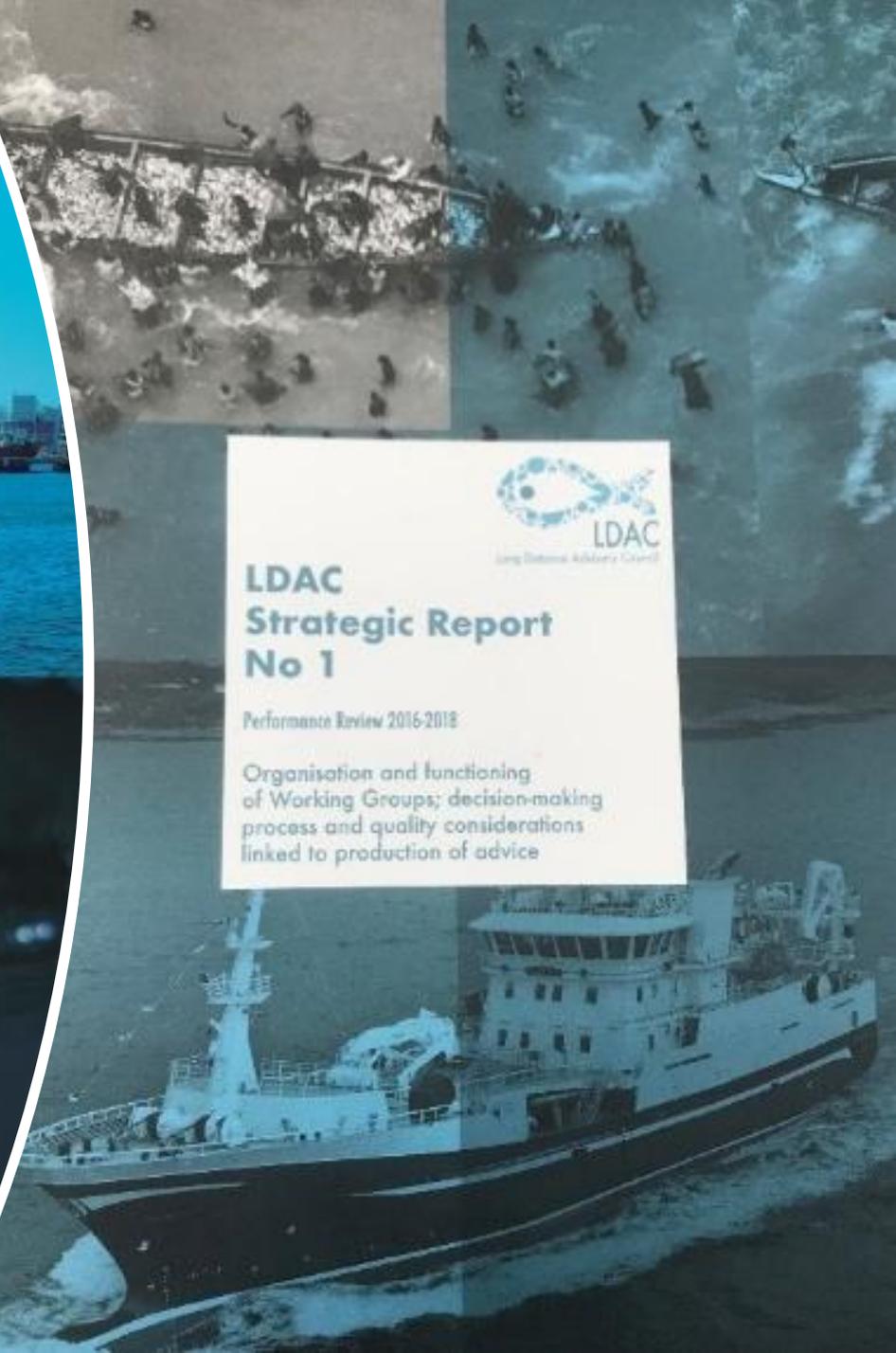
Inter AC coordination meeting with MARE

Tuesday 18 November 2025



## Context: Why a second performance review already?

- The LDAC launched this idea in several Inter-AC since 2017
- The MARE suggested that the LDAC “led by example” and initiate a volunteer exercise as “pilot project”.
- A presentation of LDAC PR1 was made at Inter-AC Nov. 2020
- This work was followed by other ACs (e.g. BSAC, NSAC...).
- It became a mandatory requirement for all ACs under new art 7a of EC Delegated Regulation (EU) 2022/204 to carry out **external, regular and independent** performance reviews (*every 5 years*).



# Timeline and Methodology

February	March	April	May	June	July																
<b>LDAC objectives</b>																					
		<b>Functioning and performance of the LDAC</b>																			
														<b>LDAC Roadmap</b>							
																			<b>Report</b>		

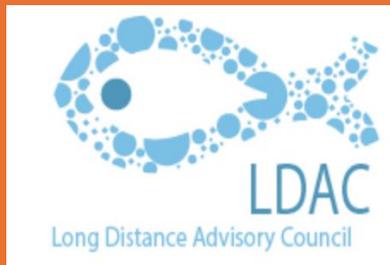
Three basic steps/phases:

- First, clarify the own objectives and work priorities of the LDAC
- Second, evaluate the functioning of the LDAC and its progress (or lack of) in the last 5 years
- Third, establish a proposal for a 5-years roadmap for the LDAC (2026-2030)

## *How to achieve this?*

- *Observation of and attendance to LDAC meetings (both in person and online)*
- *Online survey (EN-ES-FR) for all members and registered observers*
- *In person semi-structured interviews with key members, DG MARE officials, Inter-AC Secretaries, MS representatives*

# Outline of contents of the LDAC 2<sup>nd</sup> Performance Review (PR2) – Strategic Report No 3 (2020-2025)



## 1. Analysis of recommendations made at PR1 (2015-2019)

*Aim: Tracking what has been completed and what not;*

- Overview of main achievements and shortcomings in relation to:
  - Functioning of the permanent and ad hoc bodies (i.e. LDAC working groups, GA, ExCom and Focus Groups)
  - Process of policy-making until adoption of advice
  - Existing good practices and possible improvements

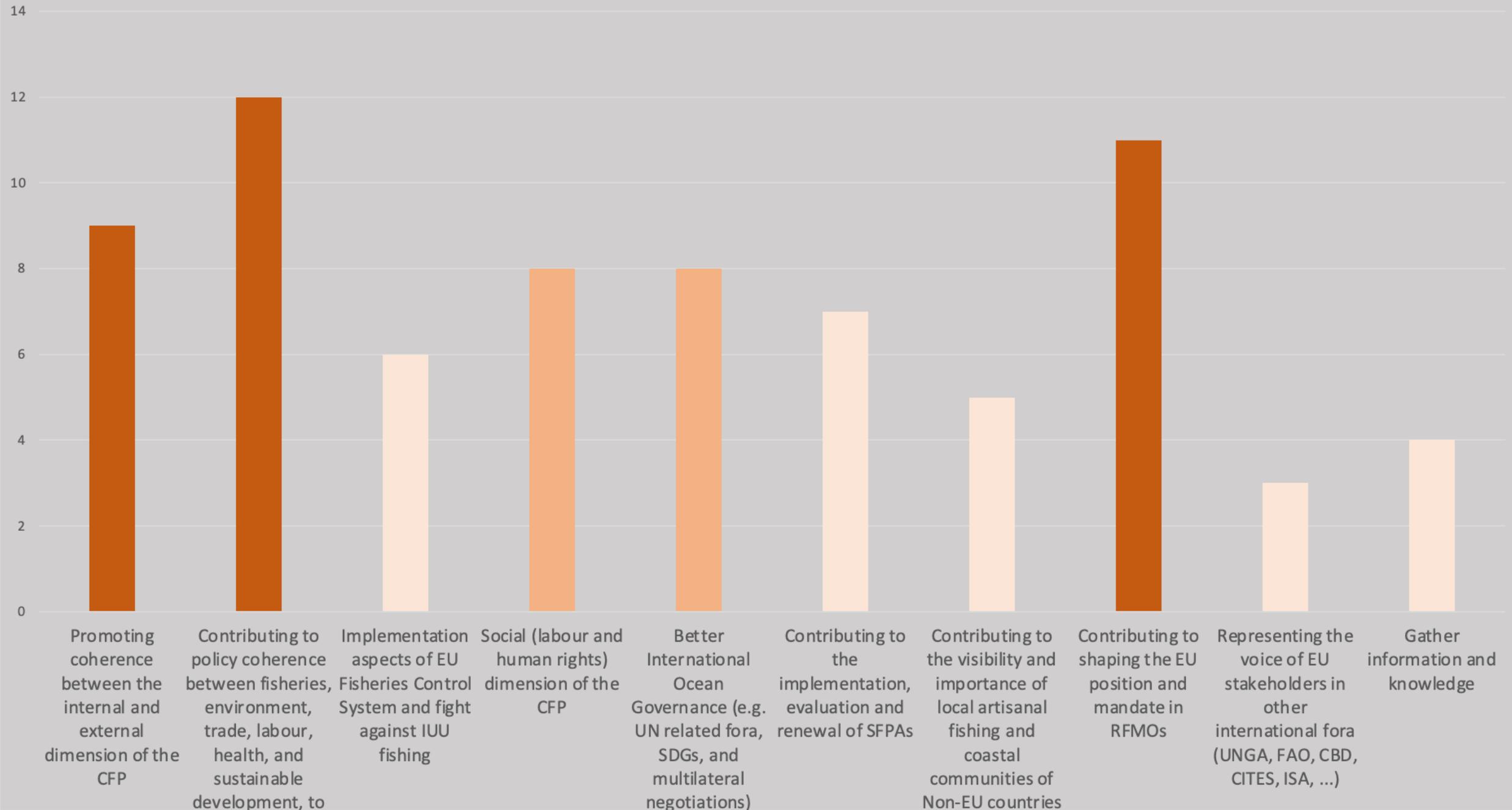
## 2. Quantitative and qualitative considerations:

- Specific actions implemented by the LDAC (no. and state of play)
- Quantitative assessment of resources mobilised (expenditure)
- Uptake of LDAC recommendations by EC/MARE
- Qualitative contribution of the LDAC to the CFP

## 3. New elements introduced:

- Coherence of LDAC activities in relation to the elements described in the EU Ocean Pact as applicable to CFP ED
- Proposal for a 5-year strategic plan (2026-2030)

## LDAC's members' views on top priorities (nb answers : 27)

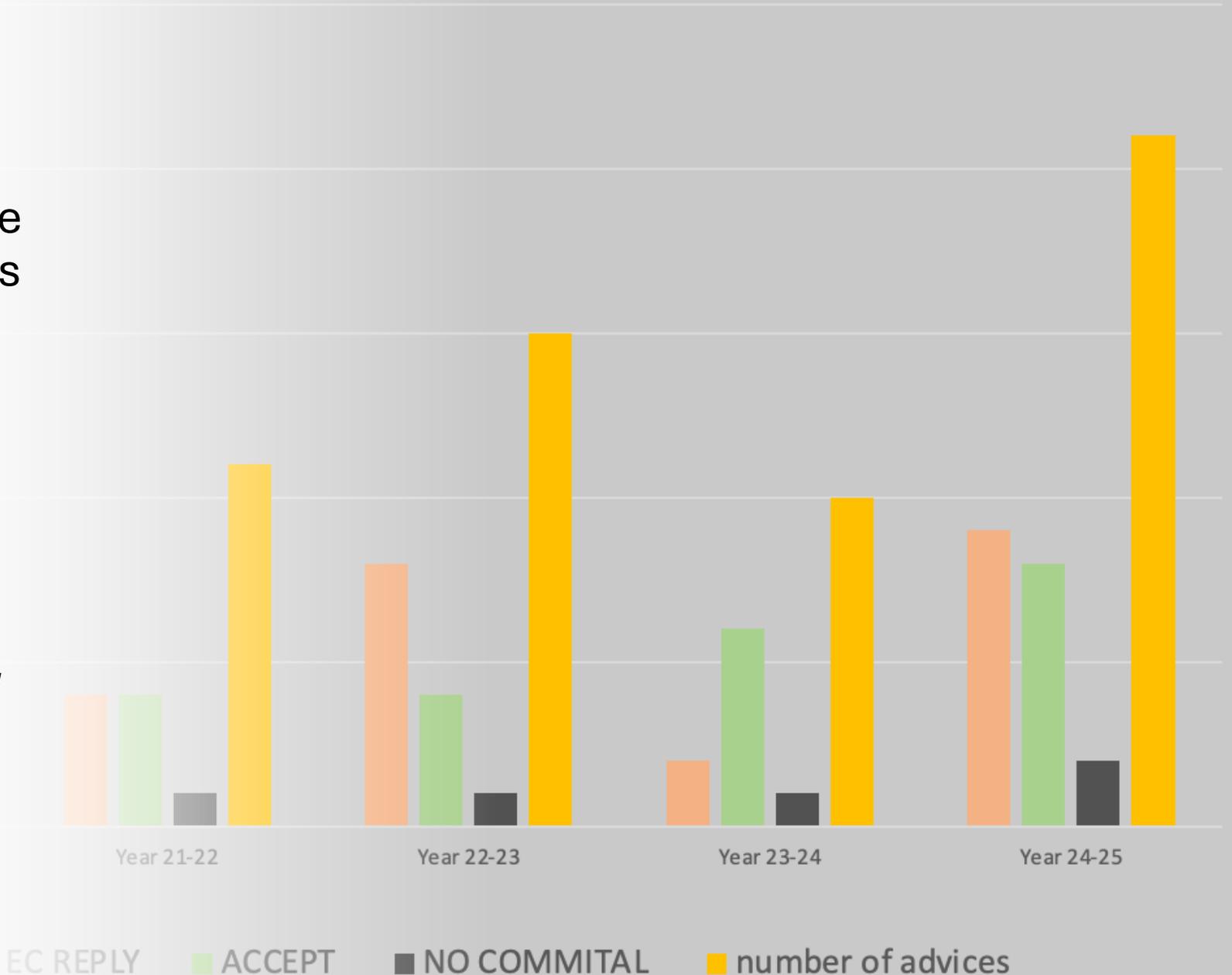


## Main Features:

- Significant increase in the number of advice produced
- Well detailed and substantiated pieces of advice for the three main tuna RFMOs (i.e. ICCAT, IOTC, WCPFC)
- More systematic replies received from MARE (though still not possible to track the uptake of recommendations)

***Overall quality has improved with further evidence, yet advices would benefit from finer data/knowledge collection***

## LDAC Advices and EC replies over the period 20-25



# Uptake of advice: European Commission role and responsibilities

## ➤ Diagnosis – state of play

Source – Consultant interview with MARE staff (anonymous):

*The European Commission is request from all ACs to get clear replies and clarity on what recommendations are taken on board well aware of the and those which are rejected.*

*The current situation (CFP evaluation process) is limiting a proper evaluation of the ACs' functioning within the CFP whereas it is commonly accepted that ACs are becoming increasingly important in the EU decision-making process.*

## ➤ Proposal to the LDAC:

- Limit the length of the advice issued with a **limited number of recommendations** (“*concise and to the point*”);
- Ensure **the EC services do specify** whether they will take the proposal/s on board or not (“*tackle all questions in the reply*”);
- Ensure the EC services explain clearly the reasons (why and how) whereas the recommendations have been approved or dismissed, either through **written replies or through in-depth dialogue**.

# LDAC possible improvements (selection of examples)

## Functioning of the LDAC

- **Transparency and accountability of members:**
  - Organize an open dialogue within the LDAC on the representational issue of members' organisations in terms of membership structure composition, declared interests, funding sources...;
- **Terms of reference (ToR) for individual meetings:**
  - Develop « case by case » ToR stating the aim, timeframe and specific deliverables to achieve for all « ad hoc » LDAC Focus Groups.
  - Consider the possibility to expand this idea to Inter-AC workshops where the LDAC is involved
- **Multiannual workplan** to focus on few (less) priorities requiring long-term work.

## Production of advice

- Enhance **scientific data collection** through dedicated scientific and technical expertise;
- Expand work on **socio-economic impact of fishing activities** ;
- Adopt a **common template for advice, focus on the SMART** approach (*Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Reachable, Time-bound*)
- Ensure follow-up dialogue with the European Commission services on uptake of advice and pending actions from exchange of correspondence

# Means of action implemented by the LDAC

**Mean 1 :** represent the fishing sector and other interested groups with a genuine interest in the external policy of the CFP;

**Mean 2:** produce recommendations in relations to the different objectives listed in the CFP basic regulation for non- EU waters and **facilitate dialogue amongst key stakeholders and recipients of advice;**

**Mean 3 :** increase general recognition and knowledge of the external dimension of the CFP and its effective implementation by all its constituent elements (IOG, RFMOs, SFPAs, fight against IUU fishing, social dimension, trade aspects, etc.);

**Mean 4 :** promote dialogue and partnerships with third countries' non-state actors (including artisanal fishers) and inter-governmental organisations.

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	Absorption rate
2020/2021	330 584,00	360 471,03	109%
2021/2022	473 094,00	401 345,17	85%
2022/2023	462 849,64	470 129,73	102%
2023/2024	467 321,88	506 448,00	108%
2024/2025	479 233,02	545 233,00	114%

## Resources mobilised by the LDAC (in level of expenditure and absorption rate)

- **Conclusions:**
  - The LDAC is currently operating at its full capacity.
  - Due to increasing workload and real inflation related to operating costs, the LDAC would benefit from additional funding to secure its economic viability for the coming years.

Proposal for  
a 5-year  
strategic  
planning  
(2026-2030)

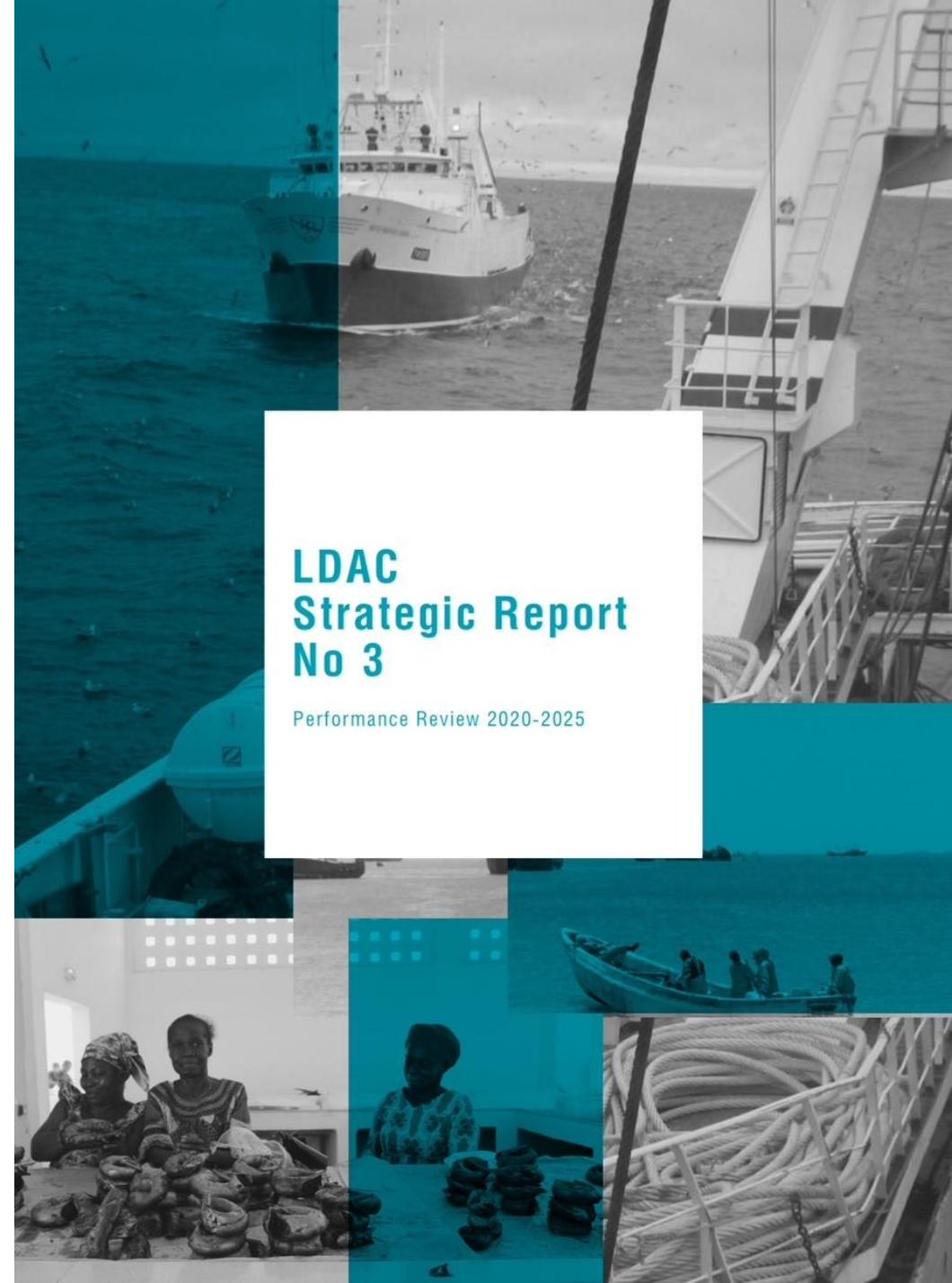
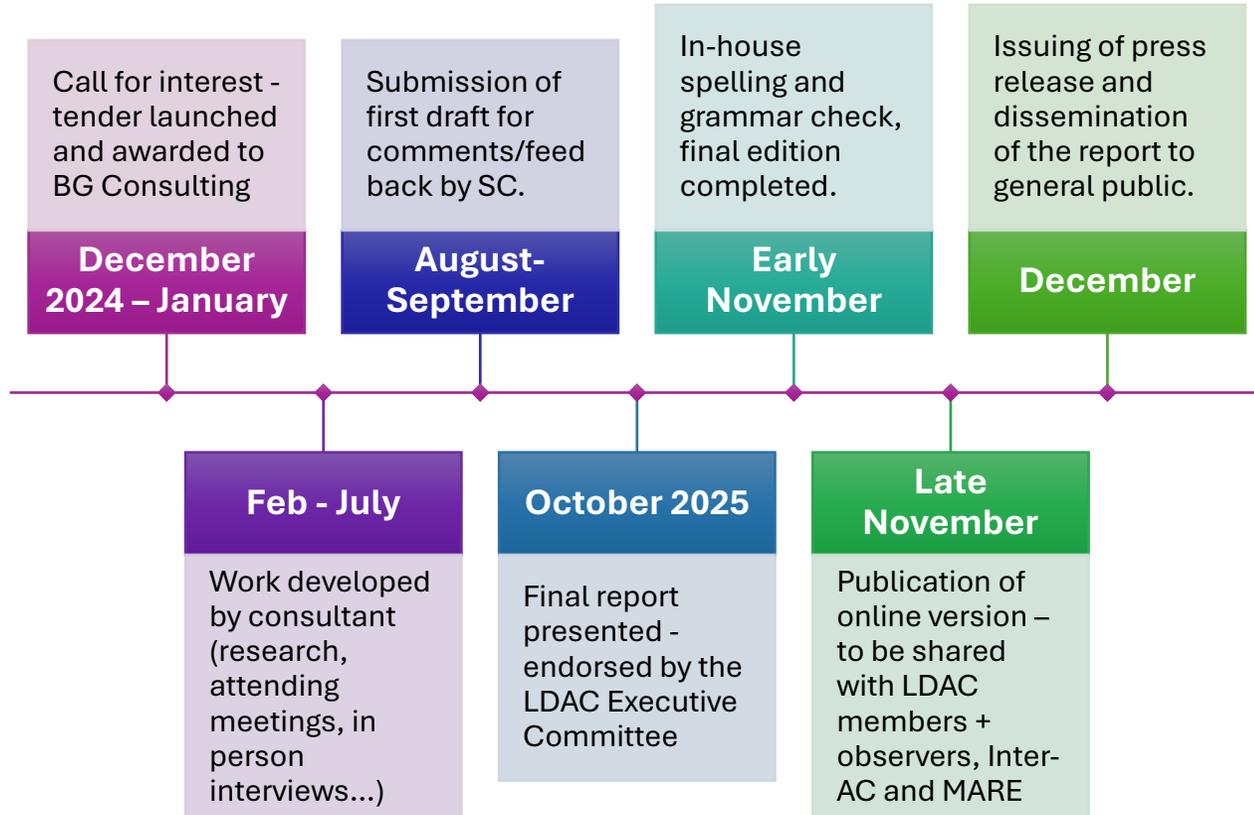
**Objective 1.** Contributing to the **policy coherence of the EU external fisheries action** to promote sustainable fishing in non-EU waters. *Start with West Africa as first step.*

**Objective 2.** Contributing with evidence to **preparation of annual meetings of relevant RFMOs** – increase work/recommendations to implement the **ecosystem approach to fisheries** (already started in NAFO/NEAFC)

**Objective 3.** Contributing to the promotion of a **level-playing field for Union operators** vis-à-vis third country operators;

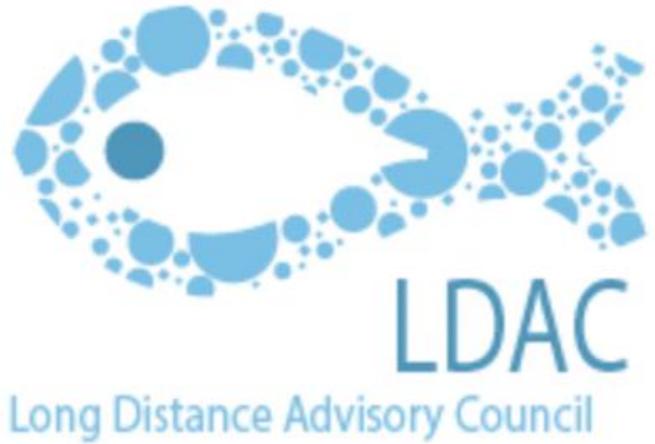
**Objective 4.** Contributing to the recognition, transparency, accountability and sustainability of **EU fishing investments in third countries** (aka *joint ventures*).

# A year's work: Timeline 2025



## LDAC Strategic Report No 3

Performance Review 2020-2025



Thank you / Merci / Gracias

