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Food and Agriculture
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Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная организация
Объединенных Наций

Organización de las
Naciones Unidas para la
Alimentación y la Agricultura

منظمة
الأغذية والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

EUROPEAN INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Thirty-First Session

Killarney, Ireland 22 - 24 June 2022

DRAFT EIFAAC WORK PROGRAMME 2022-2024

Introduction

1. EIFAAC 30 discussed and approved in 2019 the Strategic Plan 2020-2024, which can be found in Annex 1 of the report of the session ([EIFAAC/2022/Inf.2](#)). The Strategic Plan contained four priority areas:
 - a) Management-related issues and principles for inland fisheries and aquaculture.
 - b) Protection and restoration of the fresh water aquatic environment and species.
 - c) Social and economic aspects of inland fisheries and aquaculture.
 - d) Adaptation of inland fisheries and aquaculture to climate change.
2. The same EIFAAC 30 session discussed and approved the Workplan 2020-2021, which can be found in Annex 2 of the session report ([EIFAAC/2022/Inf.2](#)). The Workplan 2020-2021 has three goals:
 - a) Goal 1: EIFAAC is a leading Pan-European Organization providing policy advice in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO (strategic objectives, regional initiatives, UN SDGs) and other relevant international instruments.
 - b) Goal 2: EIFAAC delivers technical and managerial advice, information and coordination on matters related to Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture to its members and serves as an international network of organizations, stakeholders, communities and intergovernmental organizations.
 - c) Goal 3: EIFAAC via its structures, processes and procedures implements efficient delivery of its organizations and Members' objectives in accordance with FAO principles and best international practices.
3. The Workplan 2020-2021 specifies issues to be addressed under the four priority areas listed above.
4. The Report from the Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC) on outcomes of EIFAAC projects since the 30th Session of EIFAAC ([EIFAAC/2022/7](#)) described the progress made with the implementation of the work of EIFAAC in the intersessional period.

5. The Secretariat contacted in May 2022 the project and working group managers to solicit their inputs for the EIFAAC work programme 2022-2024. The draft work programme is split in two parts: 1) a Technical and Scientific work area, and 2) a Management and Operational work area. The technical and scientific work area includes the workplans submitted by the EIFAAC projects and working groups. The management and operational area focuses on EIFAAC's organizational structure, the tasks of the FAO secretariat, Management Committee and Technical and Scientific Committee. Not all project managers and facilitators timely provided their inputs to the work programme, which means that this draft plan may require further amendment before or at the session.
6. This version of the draft work programme was compiled with support from TSC and MC members in late May/ early June.

Suggested Action by the Commission

7. The Commission is invited to review, amend as appropriate, and endorse this draft EIFAAC work programme 2022-2024.



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Work Area 1: Technical and Scientific services: Achieve the objectives of EIFAAC

Goals:

- 1) EIFAAC¹ is a leading Pan-European Organization providing policy advice in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO (strategic objectives, regional initiatives, UN SDGs) and other relevant international instruments.
- 2) EIFAAC delivers technical and managerial advice, information and coordination on matters related to Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture to its members and serves as an international network of organizations, stakeholders, communities and intergovernmental organizations.

Main responsible persons: EIFAAC Project Managers and Working Group Coordinators, TSC members, FAO Secretariat, and EIFAAC Operational Focal Points

	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Management / Threat of Aquatic Invasive Species in Europe” – Manager: Marina Piria (Croatia)							
1.1 Neobiota Special Issue on advancements in the screening of freshwater and terrestrial non-native species https://neobiota.pensoft.net/special_issues	Addressing existing gaps in the knowledge about non-native species and their management Published papers that identify the most invasive aquatic species in Europe	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings	2022-2023	No	10 000	Member state contribution at national level	The issue is managed by the international team of guest editors. Lead: Dr Daniela Giannetto (Mugla Sitki Kocman University, Turkey); Guest editors: Prof. Marina Piria (University of Zagreb, Croatia), Prof. Ali Serhan Tarkan (Mugla Sitki Kocman University, Turkey) and Dr Grzegorz Zięba (University of Lodz, Poland).
1.2 Data collection on non-native aquatic species at national level	Report with the findings	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making	2022	No	30 000	EC – Erasmus +	Lead: Mugla Sitki Kocman University Partners

¹ These goals have been copied from the workplan 2020-2021

from Non EU-EIFAAC Members (BiH, Albania)		them aware of the latest research findings					University of Zagreb University of Tirana, University of Bihač and Sarajevo http://www.riskman.mu.edu.tr/en/project-team-7269
1.3 Preparation for the conference “Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy III”	- venue defined - first call sent	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members	2023	Yes	0	NA	Lead: to be defined EIFAAC Secretariat
1.4 Organize conference “Freshwater Invasives – Networking for Strategy III”	Presentations of the recent advancement on invasive aquatic species Workshop on knowledge gaps	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings Published paper with the outcome of the workshop	2024	Yes	0	NA	Lead: to be defined EIFAAC Secretariat

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Developing Advice on Sustainable Management Actions on Cormorant Populations” – Manager: Niels Jepsen (Denmark)							
2.1 Dissemination of the latest information on the impact of cormorant predation on threatened fish species and recreational fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EIFAAC Advisory Note on the impact of cormorant predation on fish and fisheries in Europe 6-monthly messages of operational focal points summarizing the latest research findings 	Emails and letters to EIFAAC Members, making them aware of the latest research findings and the importance of providing national information to EIFAAC.	2022-2023	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	0	NA	Lead: Niels Jepsen DTU Aqua Partners Birdlife international, EU DG Environment « Nordic Cormorant group »

							« Central European cormorant group »
2.2 Collect national level baseline information from Member States	Report with the findings of the survey among Member states	At least 10 Members have provided baseline information through the survey	2022	no	0	NA – Members to contribute time	Niels Jepsen, EIFAAC secretariat
2.3 Prepare a draft Europe-wide management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contract signed with management planning expert Draft management plan Final draft management plan 	E-mail disseminating the draft plan for comments	2023	TSC endorsement only of the final draft management plan	30 000	EU DG Environment	
2.4 Organize a regional stakeholder workshop to discuss, review and validate the draft plan.	Expert/stakeholder validated management plan	List of participants Workshop minutes	Sept-Oct 2023	No	90 000	EU DG Environment	EIFAAC Secretariat to organize the workshop
2.5 Submit the management plan for final review and approval to the EU and EIFAAC.			Jan-Feb 2024	Yes	0	NA	Niels Jepsen, EIFAAC secretariat

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
Joint EIFAAC/ICES/GFCM Working Group on Eel (WGEEL)” - coordinator: Jan-Dag Pohlmann (Germany)							
3.1 Collection and analysis of eel biometry data	Progress report, supporting data for spatial stock assessment model	Release call for respective data, analysis in WGEEL or Wks; results depend on response rate and data quality	2022	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau

3.2 Improvement of landings data collection to facilitate it's use for eel stock assessment	Progress report	Release call for respective data, organization of workshop	2023	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau
3.3 Collection of WFD time series, habitat and dam data to create a global database	Progress reports, database	Release of data calls, organization of respective workshops, provision of database	2023-2025	No	0		Jan-Dag Pohlmann, Cedric Briand, Hilaire Droineau
3.4 Development of a spatial stock assessment model for the European eel (project exceeds time frame of this workplan)	Spatial assessment model for the whole stock of European eel; Progress reports	Provision of a model concept (and ultimately a working model, but earliest in 2026)	2023-2026	No	Approx. 1 Million Euro	NA - Members need to contribute time for a project proposal, will largely depend on successful applications for budget	
3.5 Collate available data on socio economics related to eel fisheries	Report on current knowledge and knowledge gaps related to socio-economics and eel fisheries	Release call for respective data, organisation of workshops for analysis; results depend on response rate and data quality	2023-24	No	?		
3.6 Collection and analysis of data on eel socio-economics to address previously identified knowledge gaps	Depending on 3.5.; summarizing report on socio economic impacts related to eel fisheries	Release call for respective data, organisation of workshops for analysis; results depend on response rate and data quality	TBD	No	?		

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Downstream Passage of Fish at Hydropower Dams” - Manager: Teppo Vehanen (Finland)							
4.1 Writing the draft report on the basis of collected data	Draft report	Report text	2023-2024	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	0	NA	2022: Teppo Vehanen 2023- new project manager Partners: countries that have expressed their interest to join.

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Determination of economic, cultural and social values of inland fisheries and freshwater aquaculture in Europe” - Facilitator: Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa (Finland)							
5.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Teppo Vehanen/ Petri Heinimaa

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Citizen Science Workshop” - Facilitator: Ciara O’Leary (Ireland)							
6.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Ciara O’Leary

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Environmental DNA in freshwater fisheries, current status and future possibilities” – Facilitator: Reinhold Hanel (Germany)							
7.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Reinhold Hanel

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Interactions of inland fisheries and aquaculture with other freshwater uses: conflict identification and potential benefits”. – Facilitator: Guðni Magnús Eiríksson (Iceland)							
8.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Guðni Magnús Eiríksson

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “The problems and challenges of climate change and its impact on inland aquatic resources and fisheries of Europe” Facilitator: –Cathal Gallagher (Ireland)							
9.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Cathal Gallagher

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	EIFAAC Commission endorsement required	Total budget required (Euros)	Budget sources and status	Lead & Partners
EIFAAC Project “Fish stocking guidelines, including general principles, best practices, economic aspects, interaction with natural stocks and safeguarding biodiversity” Facilitators: –Marina Piria (Croatia) & Ruta Medne (Latvia)							
10.1 Developing the plan for the project	Template for the project		2022	No, only TSC and MC endorsement	NA	NA	2022: Marina Piria & Ruta Medne

Work Area 2: Management and Operational services: Create an enabling environment for EIFAAC to support achieving its objectives.

Goals:

- 1) To deliver high-quality administrative, technical, logistical and scientific support to the Commission, Management Committee, Technical and Scientific Committee, Projects and the Working Groups.
- 2) To facilitate communication and collaboration among Members and other stakeholders through effective dissemination of information, education, outreach and capacity building.

Main responsible persons: EIFAAC Chairpersons and members of the MC and TSC, FAO Secretariat, EIFAAC Operational Focal Points

Activities	Outputs	Key performance indicator	Timeframe	Commission endorsement required	Total budget required	Budget sources and status	Partners
11.1 Organize EIFAAC 31 in 2022	Recommendations and advice to EIFAAC members on inland fisheries and aquaculture in the region	Approved work programme Report of the session	22-24 June 2022 Report published by September 2022	yes	15 000	FAO Regular budget Host country contribution to the session organization	Government of Ireland
11.2 Organize the EIFAAC Symposium in 2022	Scientific information shared between scientists and fishery/ aquaculture managers of EIFAAC members	List of participants of the symposium main findings and recommendations from the EIFAAC International	20-21 June 2022	No, findings are for information only	--	Host country contribution to the symposium organization	Government of Ireland, Inland Fisheries Ireland and the Department of the Environment,

		Symposium presented to the session Proceedings of the symposium					Climate and Communications
11.3 Organize monthly Management Committee (MC) meetings	Report of MC activities timely prepared for EIFAAC 32	Report of MC activities Meeting minutes of MC meetings	2022 – 2024	No, for information and discussion by EIFAAC 32 in 2024 No	-- 500	Virtual meetings. 1 MC meeting per year in person in Rome (coffee breaks and lunches). Members cover their own travel costs.	Meetings organized by the chairperson of the MC Meeting minutes are prepared by the secretariat
11.4 Organize quarterly Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC) meetings	Technical and scientific advice drafted in the form of recommendations and resolutions for EIFAAC 32. Advisory Notes reviewed timely. Report of TSC activities timely prepared for EIFAAC 32	Draft recommendations and resolutions. Advisory Notes distributed and published. Meeting minutes of TSC meetings	2022-2024	Yes, by EIFAAC 32 in 2024 No, only MC clearance of advisory notes No	--	TSC member time commitment	Meetings organized and minutes prepared by the chairperson of the TSC
11.5 Prepare for the organization EIFAAC 32 in 2024	Timely organized session which will discuss interesting subjects that meet the needs of the members of the Commission	Working papers timely placed online Host country timely confirmed	2024 2023	Endorsement in 2024 by the MC	25 000	FAO Regular budget Host and Member countries contribution	Secretariat staff travel & publications Host country contribution
11.6 Prepare for the organization of the EIFAAC symposium in 2024	Timely organized symposium	Symposium prospectus List of participants Recommendations from the symposium to EIFAAC 32	2023 2024 2024	Endorsement in 2023 by the MC	--	Host and Member countries contribution	Host country contribution

11.7 Facilitate the organization of project workshops and (joint) Working Group meetings	Successfully organized workshops, WG meetings and other events in which EIFAAC is partner	Reports of the meetings and workshops	2022-2024	No, for information only	--	Relevant projects and working groups	All stakeholders supported by the Secretariat
11.8 Facilitate the communication and collaboration among EIFAAC Operational Focal Points	EIFAAC Operational Focal Point mailing list EIFAAC list of operational focal points up-to-date	Monthly messages from the Secretariat and chairpersons Every 6 months updated	2022-2024	No	--	Operational Focal Points, Chairpersons and Secretariat	Project managers and working group coordinators
11.9 Develop projects and seek funding for long-term effective functioning of the Commission, implementation of its work programme and projects	At least 2 Trust Fund projects prepared and submitted to potential resource partners for funding	Draft project documents in the required format	2022-2024	No, for information only	--	EIFAAC members	All relevant stakeholders
11.10 Implement the EIFAAC communication plan	Report of EIFAAC 31 timely published At least 1 circular or technical paper prepared based on an EIFAAC project EIFAAC brochure 2022 Website news items	Published report Published circular/technical paper Published brochure Every 2 months at least 1 item	2022 2023 2022 2022-2024	No, for information only	10 000	EIFAAC members	All relevant stakeholders