

May 2015

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منظمة الأغذية
والزراعة
للأمم المتحدة

联合国
粮食及
农业组织

Food
and
Agriculture
Organization
of
the
United
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Organisation
des
Nations
Unies
pour
l'alimentation
et
l'agriculture

Продовольственная и
сельскохозяйственная
организация
Объединенных
Наций

Organización
de las
Naciones
Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

EUROPEAN INLAND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE ADVISORY COMMISSION

Twenty-eighth Session

Lillehammer, Norway, 17–19 June 2015

EIFAAC WORK PLAN FOR 2015-2017

Background

The mission of EIFAAC is to promote the long-term sustainable development, utilization, conservation, restoration and responsible management of European inland fisheries and aquaculture, consistent with the objectives and principles of the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and other relevant international instruments, and to support sustainable economic, social, and recreational activities towards these goals through:

- providing advice, information and coordination;
- encouraging enhanced stakeholder participation and communication; and
- delivery of effective research.

To support this mission the new EIFAAC Rules of Procedure were adopted at the Special Session on 27 October 2011 in Rome. The new Rules of Procedure, focused on modernization, are designed to improve EIFAAC's efficiency and its support to EIFAAC's stakeholders and members.

The Commission operates via the Management Committee (MC) and the Technical and Scientific Committee (TSC). The Management Committee has to implement the decisions of the Commission and coordinate and monitor the work of the TSC. The detailed operation of the Commission is outlined in the Rules of Procedure and is illustrated in Figure 1 below.

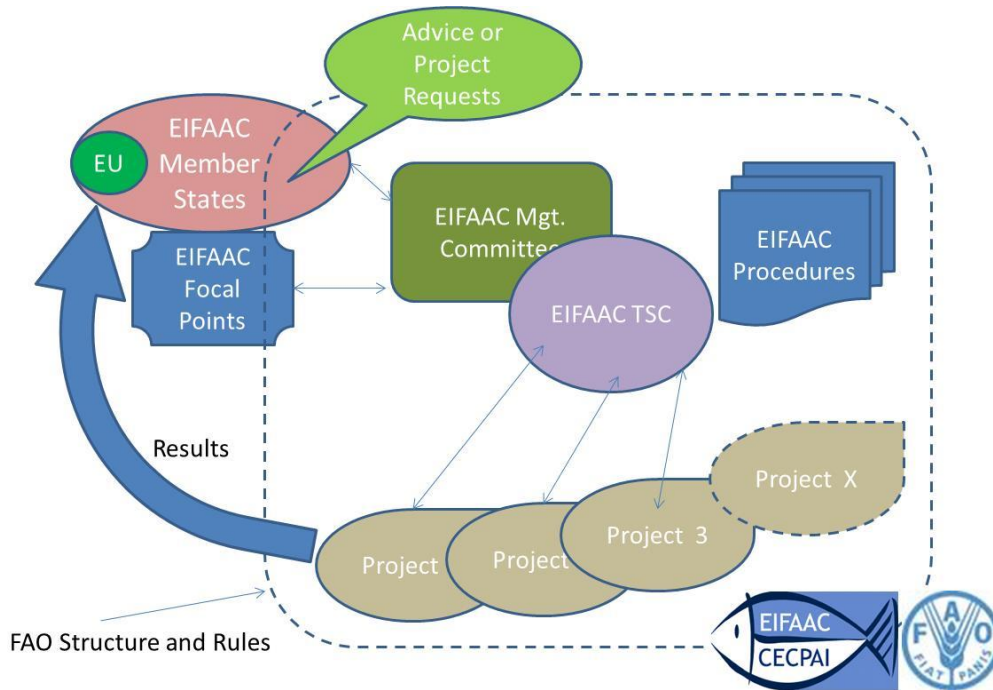


Figure 1: EIFAAC Operational Overview

Main functions of the Technical and Scientific Committee are the recommendation, evaluation and monitoring of programmes or projects. All work of the Commission is now captured and managed within projects. Figure 2 illustrates the operation of the EIFAAC Technical and Scientific Committee.

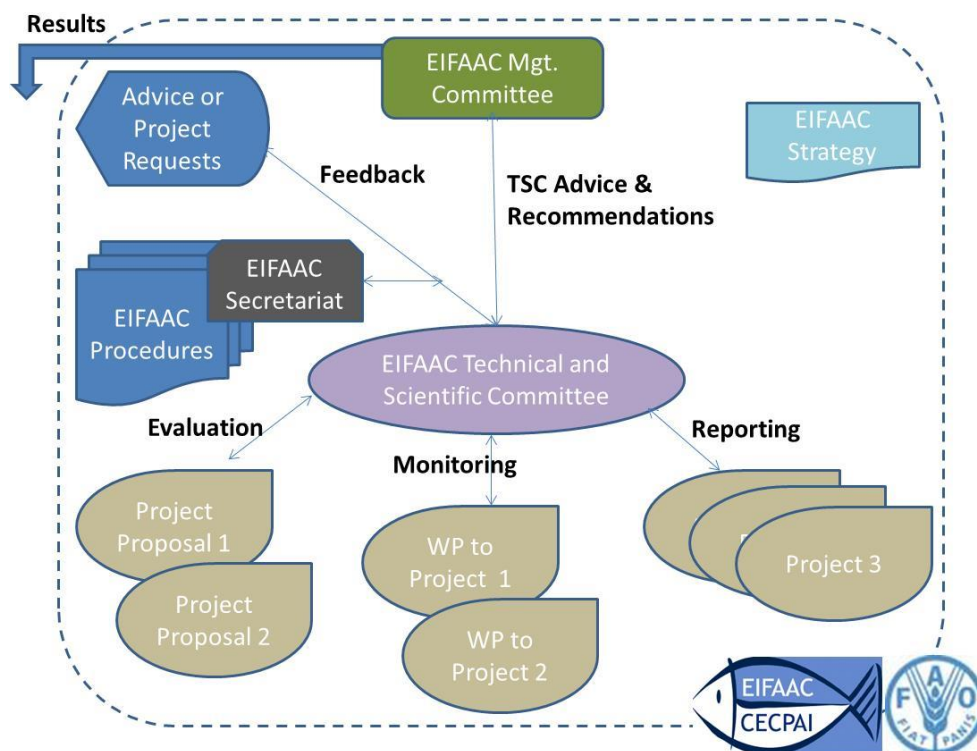


Figure 2: EIFAAC Technical and Scientific Committee operational overview

To support its work EIFAAC has a Strategy Plan for the period covering 2012 – 2016. This strategic plan details the goals and initiatives of the Commission to support achievement of its mission. To support EIFAAC's work this document contains a work plan which outlines how EIFAAC plans to deliver against this strategy in achievement of its goals. The strategy plan will cover the period 2012-2017 until the 29th Session. A new strategy plan will be developed for the next two intersessional periods 2017-2021.

4 Objectives, Goals and initiatives

The objectives of EIFAAC are:

- promote the sustainable development, utilization, conservation, management, protection and restoration of European inland fisheries and aquaculture resources based on the best available scientific advice and the application of an ecosystem approach, the precautionary approach and the need to safeguard biodiversity;
- identify and address strategic issues for European inland fisheries and aquaculture and provide advice and recommendations on future policies, measures and related actions needed to address the issues in a rapid and accountable manner as requested by Members;
- provide advice to managers/decision makers of inland fisheries and aquaculture as requested based on scientific, social, economic, legal and other factors; and
- serve as a forward-looking international platform for the collation, validation, dissemination and consideration of information on common challenges and opportunities to European inland fisheries and aquaculture, and to this end, inter alia, proactively identify:
 - o relevant scientific, social, economic, legal, statistical and other information and make recommendations for decision makers taking into account the need to protect and preserve the aquatic ecosystems; and
 - o common problems and solutions, and harmonized approaches as appropriate.

In order to achieve the goals and objectives of the EIFAAC organisation the MC have developed a work plan to support the delivery against the EIFAAC strategic plan. The follow section details actions and time bound plans to support EIFAAC in its work.

Workplan 2015-2017

General issues

Action:

It is important that EIFAAC, under the guidance of the Management Committee, ensures that all projects, collaboration and advice are in line with the stated objectives of the Commission.

Plan:

The process developed in 2013 will be implemented to ensure that all new project proposals document how the projects will promote EIFAAC's objectives and that the TSC and the MC will review these proposals prior to acceptance. The process also facilitates the review of activated projects to ensure they are operating and supporting EIFAAC's objectives.

TimeLine: Follow up that the projects are in accordance with the EIFAAC's objectives.

Action: The EIFAAC MC should report annually on progress against the agreed Strategic Objectives

Plan: The MC will hold a strategic meeting annually to review and plan progress against EIFAAC's Strategic Objectives. The outputs of this meeting will be documented and made available to the EIFAAC Operational Focal Points and to the interested public.

TimeLine: Meeting held Q4 annually with report circulated in Q1 of the following year.

Action: A new strategy plan proposal will be developed for the next two intersessional periods 2017-2021.

Plan: The MC will hold a strategic meeting to develop a new strategy plan proposal for the years 2017-2021 to be decided on at the 29th Session.

TimeLine: Meeting will be held in Q4 2016.

The specific goals of EIFAAC as outlined in the 2012-2017 Strategy Plan are addressed below:

Goal 1: Continue to develop EIFAAC as the leading pan-European Organisation in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture in Europe.

Actions:

- Initiate and enhance formalized collaboration with other organisations (e.g. EU, GFCM)
- Build stronger partnerships with fisheries-related institutions and stakeholders

Plan: The MC will formally contact relevant organizations with a view to define areas of common interest and seek collaboration to the benefit of EIFAAC Stakeholders.

EIFAAC will seek to develop a theme for its next symposium which will encourage participation of relevant organization, institutions and stakeholders.

Timeline: To be implemented throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Actions:

- Maintain and improve the release of EIFAAC advice and Technical Papers

Plan: The TSC has developed a process in accordance with the EIFAAC Rules of Procedure for reviewing the progress of the implementation of projects and assess the quality of their outputs. This includes a process of formal review of the drafts of intended publications (e.g. Technical Papers and reports) and advice. The EIFAAC Management Committee has put in place a process for reviewing the quality of advice and draft papers produced under the lead of the TSC to ensure they are consistent with the ethos, ethics, goals and objectives of the EIFAAC and FAO.

Timeline: To be implemented throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Actions:

- Alert, inform and gather specialist on inland fisheries and aquaculture from all over Europe
- Develop new, and improve existing, communication facilities

Plan: The MC of EIFAAC will seek to communicate frequently and consistently to provide information and to seek inputs from the EIFAAC Focal Points. EIFAAC will seek to modernize communication through enhancement of its Web Page and through the use of business focused social media. EIFAAC will seek through its Technical and Scientific Committee to build expert networks on topics close to EIFAAC's core goals.

Timeline: To be implemented throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Goal 2: To implement processes and procedures to provide advice through projects and networks in accordance with the requirements of the Members.

Actions:

- To support the EIFAAC Operational Focal Points in the development of a network of experts and stakeholders to assist EIFAAC's specific projects
- Enhance the communication and the participation of the Operational Focal Points in the decision-making process

Plan: The MC of EIFAAC communicates frequently and consistently to provide information and to seek inputs from the EIFAAC Operational Focal Points. The MC will specifically request information/contact details from Operational Focal Points on interested experts within their country as projects or networks require. Both the EIFAAC MC and the TSC will provide the Operational Focal Points with the information required to engage with experts across a range of disciplines. EIFAAC will seek to modernise communication through enhancement of its Web Page and through the use of business focused social media, such as LinkedIn. EIFAAC's Operational Focal Points will be provided with updates and requested for feedback in relation to projects and other initiatives as they arise.

Timeline: To be implemented throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Actions:

- Inform and advise policy-makers

Plan: The MC of EIFAAC will seek opportunities to develop projects to support the development of advice and policies. EIFAAC will increase its communication with EIFAAC member's Operational Focal Points to illicit inputs for policy requirements and in order to distribute information of projects. The EIFAAC Management Committee will also seek opportunities to contribute to policy discussions within the EU, with other agencies/organisations and with stakeholders.

Timeline: To be implementation throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Actions:

- Seek funding for the realization of the projects

Plan: The MC of EIFAAC will seek opportunities to develop projects and to fund projects while adhering to the Rules of Procedure and operating as an Article VI body of the FAO.

Timeline: To be implementation throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Goal 3: Development of an international network of organizations, stakeholders, communities and intergovernmental organizations that have an interest in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture to promote EIFAACs objectives in coordination with these bodies.

Actions:

- Identify organizations, stakeholders, communities and intergovernmental organizations which have an interest in Inland Fisheries and Aquaculture and catalogue their aims and objectives, points of contact and their relevance for EIFAAC.
- EIFAAC will brief these organization on the role of EIFAAC as an FAO regional fisheries organization and the rational for potential cooperation
- EIFAAC will develop a system of communication with these organizations.

Plan: EIFAAC's Management Committee will identify and assess the key organisations including intergovernmental organisations, stakeholders and communities, analyze their aims and objectives, identify their point of contact and spell out why they are relevant to EIFAAC. Once complete, each point of contact will be written to by the EIFAAC Chairperson with a view to provision of an overview of EIFAAC's goals and objectives and outlining the structure and mode of operation. This communication should also outline opportunities for collaboration and a rationale for the same. The MC will review the progress on communication at each MC meeting and focus strongly on delivery against this goal.

Timeline: To be implementation throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2016. Review of this item to take place at each MC meeting.

Goal 4: Implement EIFAAC structures, process and procedures, in coordination with the FAO secretariat, to ensure efficient delivery for the Members objectives in accordance with best international practice.

Actions:

- Engage and motivate all EIFAAC.

Plan: Yearly the MC of EIFAAC will inform all parties of the developments of the work by the Management Committee and Technical and Scientific Committee. Yearly in Q1 EIFAAC Operational Focal Points will be informed of the status of current projects and requested to provide inputs and comments. This communication will also extend to identify stakeholders.

Timeline: To be implemented throughout the entire period of the strategic plan 2012 to 2017.

Actions:

- Inform and convince the Members of the need for financial and human resource (e.g. secretarial, scientific, engineering) support for EIFAAC

Plan: EIFAAC's MC will draft a letter to each focal point and to the appropriate Ministry within each member state and within the EU Commission informing of the progress in EIFAAC, of the benefits to be accrued from EIFAAC engagement and of the need for continued support through the FAO but also through direct support in the form of financial and expert resources. This specific action will be supported by the communication actions outlined above.

Timeline: This action will be completed in Q4 2015.

Actions:

- Monitor and seek to improve the performance of EIFAAC structures, process and procedures to efficiently administrate and coordinate the EIFAAC business in close cooperation with the Operational Focal Points

Plan: Annually the EIFAAC MC will hold a meeting to review progress against this plan, key goals and objectives. This review will look specifically at the performance of the Commission, its processes, structures and procedures. This will include a review of progress on the projects and the operation of the TSC. This meeting will also make recommendations on improvements in how EIFAAC's work is being administered and coordinated.

Timeline: This action will be completed in Q4 annually.
