

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 THE INTERSESSIONAL PERIOD OCTOBER 2012 – JUNE 2015

1. 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
- the 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 EIFAAC's stakeholders and members.

The functioning of the Commission has further strengthened by setting up a Management Committee (MC) and a 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.

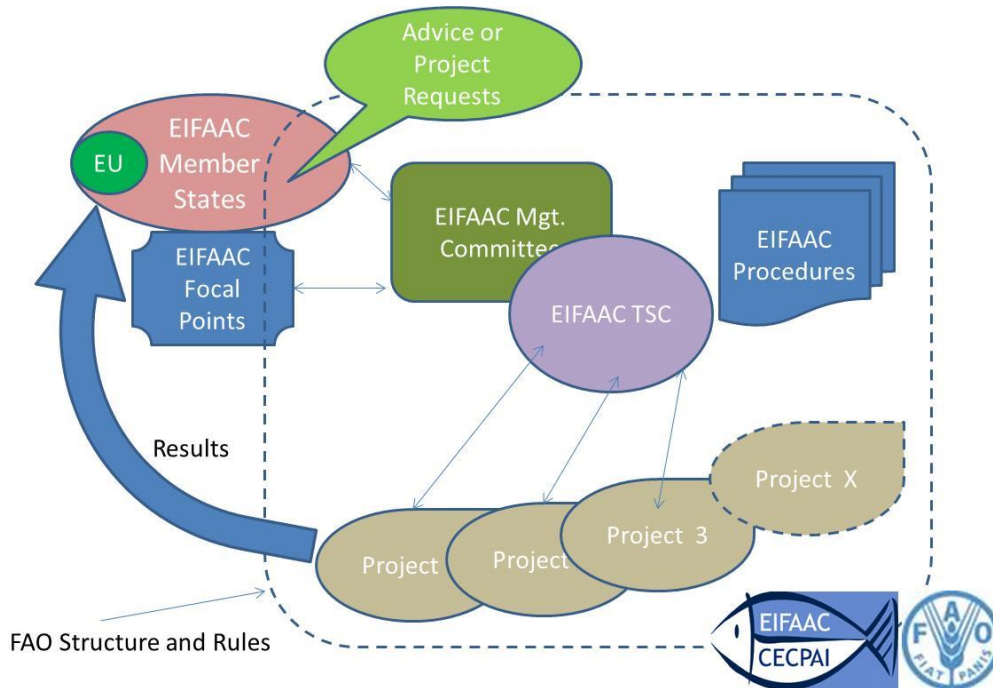


Figure 1: EIFAAC Operational Overview

A new strength of EIFAAC lays in the existence of the Technical and Scientific Committee the main functions of which 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.

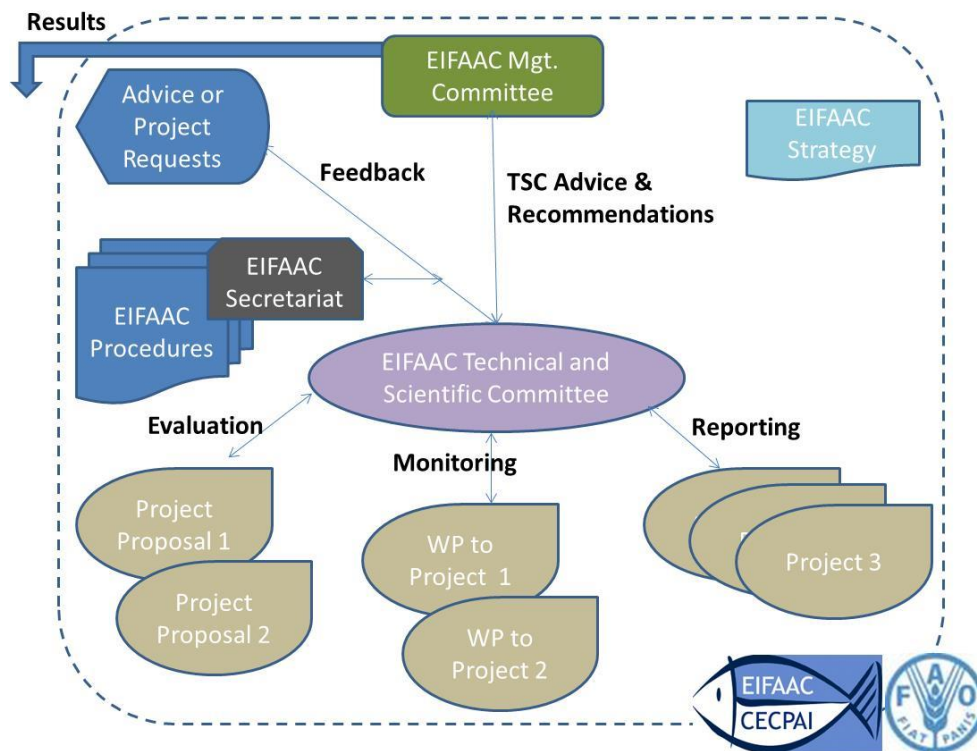


Figure 2: EIFAAC Technical and Scientific Committee operational overview

To support its work EIFAAC has developed 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 workplan which outlines how EIFAAC plans to deliver against this strategy in achievement of its goals.

2. 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:
 - 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
 - common problems and solutions, and harmonized approaches as appropriate.

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

3. WORKPLAN

3.1 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:

A process will be developed and 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 should also facilitate the review of active projects to ensure they are operating and supporting EIFAAC's objectives.

Timeline:

Process to be developed and implemented by Q2 2013.

Action:

- The EIFAAC MC should deliberate and 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 Focal Points and to the interested public.

Timeline:

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

3.2 Specific goals of EIFAAC

The specific goals of EIFAAC as outlined in the 2012-2016 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 or 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 2016.

Action:

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

Plan:

The TSC will develop 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 will also include a process of formal review of the drafts of intended publications (e.g. Technical Papers and reports) and advice. The EIFAAC Management Committee will also 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 2016.

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 2016.

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

Action:

- Identify a priorities list of projects, convenors and team members.

Plan:

The Management Committee of EIFAAC will request from members a list of important topics that EIFAAC could address. These topics will be collated and form a basis for project selection and approval.

Timeline:

Implementation to be complete by Q2 2014.

Action:

- Transfer the current prioritised working groups into successful projects.

Plan:

The Management Committee of EIFAAC will request an update from the leaders of the old Working Parties on the status of the project. The MC will develop project templates to facilitate new project development and transfer of Working Parties into projects. The EIFAAC MC will work with existing EIFAAC Working Parties to support the transition to projects and to inform of the new EIFAAC Rules of Procedure.

Timeline:

Implementation to be complete by Q2 2013.

Actions:

- To support the EIFAAC National 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 Focal Points in the decision-making process.

Plan:

The MC of EIFAAC will seek to communicate frequently and consistently to provide information and to seek inputs from the EIFAAC focal points. The MC will specifically request information/contact details from Focal Points on interested experts within their country as projects or networks require. Both the EIFAAC MC and the TSC will provide the 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 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 2016.

Action:

- 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 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 2016.

Action:

- 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 2016.

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 EIFAAC's 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, 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 EIFAAC Secretariat provided by FAO, to ensure efficient delivery for the Members objectives in accordance with best international practice

Action:

- Engage and motivate all EIFAAC stakeholders and familiarize them with the New EIFAAC.

Plan:

In 2013, the MC of EIFAAC will inform all parties of its new mode of operation with regard to both the Management Committee and Technical and Scientific Committee. Early in 2014 and 2015, EIFAAC 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 2016.

Action:

- 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 new EIFAAC structure, 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 Q1 2014 at which point the new EIFAAC structure will have been bedded in and there will be progress on projects to report.

Actions:

- Monitor and seek to improve the performance of EIFAAC structures, process and procedures;
- Efficiently administrate and coordinate the EIFAAC business in close cooperation with the National 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.