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Commission

Directorate-General for
Maritime Affairs and Fisheries

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INTRODUCTION

The **mission** of the Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (or "DG MARE") is: *"To strive for healthy seas and a sustainable use of the oceans and of marine resources in the EU and worldwide. This involves ensuring sustainable fisheries through the full implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy, promoting in the EU an integrated approach to all policies impacting the oceans and their good governance, including fostering a sustainable blue economy, thus providing jobs and prosperity to coastal communities and sustainable food, and contributing to a healthy environment for today's and future generations, as well as projecting these policies internationally."*

This mission statement guides DG MARE's strategy for the entire mandate of the current Commission, as set out in our [2020-2024 strategic plan](#)¹. The strategy is built around general objectives reflecting two of the Commission's headline ambitions ('A European Green Deal' and 'A Stronger Europe in the World') and specific objectives defining the contribution of DG MARE. A key initiative in 2022 will be the Joint Communication on international ocean governance².

DG MARE will also focus on recovering the fisheries and maritime sectors post the COVID-19 pandemic and making them more resilient for the future along the [Recovery plan for Europe](#)³ and a greener and more digital Europe. The new European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund (EMFAF) will provide financial support and innovative tools to protect, manage and sustainably use the ocean and its resources and the Mission Ocean under the Horizon Europe research programme will finance research and innovation into practical solutions for meeting the European Green Deal objectives of decarbonisation, biodiversity and pollution. The Commission will also report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy. It will continue to actively participate in legislative negotiations to push for an effective and modern fisheries control system. DG MARE will lead the Commission's efforts in developing diverse initiatives under the Biodiversity and Farm to Fork Strategies to make the sectors more sustainable, such as preparing an Action Plan **to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems**, revising the seafood Marketing Standards and proposing an Algae strategy. Together with the Member States, we will further develop a sustainable blue economy; and ensure the sustainable exploitation of fisheries across diverse sea basins.

As an organisation, we will continue our work towards a more modern, efficient and sustainable administration in line with the corporate HR strategy and the greening action plan. The uncertainty linked to the COVID-19 pandemic and its socio-economic impact require a degree of flexibility and adjustments in the implementation of this management plan whenever necessary.

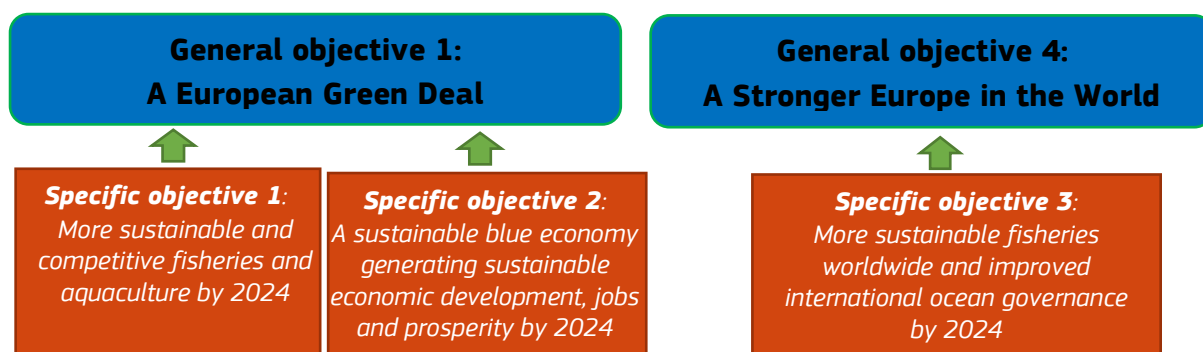
¹ [Strategic plan 2020-2024 – Maritime Affairs and Fisheries | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

² New initiative from DG MARE/EEAS included in the [Commission work programme 2022: Joint Communication on Setting the Course for a Sustainable Blue Planet - Update of the International Ocean Governance Agenda](#).

³ [Recovery plan for Europe | European Commission](#)

PART 1. Delivering on the Commission’s priorities: main outputs for 2022

This **management plan** defines the main outputs that DG MARE will deliver in 2022 to achieve the objectives set in the [2020-2024 strategic plan](#)⁴. **Part 1** reflects the priority actions defined in the [2022 Commission work programme](#)⁵ and follows the [Political Guidelines for 2019-2024](#)⁶, President von der Leyen’s [State of the Union 2021 address and Letter of Intent](#)⁷, and the priorities from Commissioner Sinkevičius’ [mission letter](#)⁸. These outputs contribute to the Commission’s headline ambitions of **A European Green Deal** and **A Stronger Europe in the World**. These two general objectives are translated in **three specific objectives** for DG MARE:



Our work will be a crucial contribution to the European Green Deal, and in particular the [Farm to Fork Strategy](#)⁹ and the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#)¹⁰, including their external dimension, but also to the [EU Strategy for Adaptation to Climate Change](#)¹¹. Internationally, we will contribute to the implementation of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), notably SDG 14 dedicated to life below water, SDG 2 on food security and SDG 6 addressing climate change and its impacts. Our work on International Ocean Governance and sustainable fisheries worldwide provides an important contribution to making “Europe Stronger in the World”.

The main outputs for each objective (general/specific) can be found in the ANNEX ‘Performance tables’.

Below follows an overview of our main deliverables for the year 2022:

⁴ [Strategic plan 2020-2024 – Maritime Affairs and Fisheries | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁵ Includes a MARE/EEAS key new initiative: *Joint Communication on Setting the Course for a Sustainable Blue Planet - Update of the International Ocean Governance Agenda* (ref. PLAN/2021/11284).

⁶ [political-guidelines-next-commission_en_0.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁷ [State of the Union 2021 | European Commission \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁸ https://ec.europa.eu/commission/commissioners/sites/default/files/commissioner_mission_letters/mission-letter-sinkevicius-2019-2024_en.pdf

⁹ https://ec.europa.eu/food/farm2fork_en

¹⁰ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/EU-biodiversity-strategy-2030_en

¹¹ https://ec.europa.eu/clima/eu-action/adaptation-climate-change/eu-adaptation-strategy_en

The **full implementation and enforcement of the Common Fisheries Policy** remains a top priority, as outlined in Commissioner Sinkevičius' mission letter. We strive to bring and maintain fish stocks to healthy levels in all EU sea basins. Fishing at maximum sustainable yield (MSY) increases the fleets' profitability. It is equally important for the fisheries sector's recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. Full implementation of the landing obligation is also essential. We also need to ensure an EU-wide level playing field through improved fisheries control and targeted enforcement action.

The Commission is due to **report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy** by the end of 2022. The purpose is to report on the implementation of the policy, including the main features of the [last reform from 2013](#)¹² such as the MSY target, the landing obligation and regionalised governance. Also, the report will explain whether the social dimension, climate change and pollution are being sufficiently addressed, taking a strategic and future-oriented approach.

As announced in the [EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030](#)¹³, the **Action Plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems** is planned for the first half of 2022. It will aim at concretely exploiting the synergies between fisheries and environmental policies and build on the [report on the implementation of the Technical Measures Regulation from September 2021](#)¹⁴.

The annual **Communication on the Common Fisheries Policy** is scheduled for June 2022. It will report on latest progress made towards sustainable fishing and on the balance between fishing capacity and fishing opportunities, and will set out main orientations of the Commission proposals on the fishing opportunities for 2023.

The **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund** (EMFF) 2014-2020 will continue to support the implementation of fisheries and maritime policies until the end of the programming period in 2023. With the new **European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund** (EMFAF) 2021-2027 now in place, we will continue working closely with Member States to ensure a smooth start of the programme implementation and full alignment with the Common Fisheries Policy and European Green Deal objectives and priorities. The local coastal communities that were severely hit by the COVID-19 crisis are encouraged to invest in the twin green and digital transitions.

Strategic **compliance and enforcement of the rules governing the Common Fisheries Policy** remains essential for its effectiveness and credibility. We will continue to pursue vigorous enforcement of the policy, and will develop a dedicated strategy in 2022. An EU-wide level playing field through better fisheries control continues to be the priority: by including it in annex 3 to the Commission Work Programme on priority pending

¹² [REGULATION \(EU\) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, as amended.](#)

¹³ https://ec.europa.eu/info/strategy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/actions-being-taken-eu/EU-biodiversity-strategy-2030_en

¹⁴ [COM\(2021\)583 final and SWD\(2021\)268 final of 23/09/2021](#)

legislative proposals¹⁵, the Commission has called on the co-legislators to make substantial progress on the negotiations of the review of the EU fisheries control system, on the basis of the 2018 Commission's proposal. We will also further enhance compliance by EU Member States through audits, verifications and appropriate follow-up actions.

Following the departure of the **United Kingdom** from the EU, almost all of the key stocks in the North Sea and the northeast Atlantic have to be managed on a bilateral basis (EU-UK). The implementation of the **Trade and Cooperation Agreement (TCA)**¹⁶, concluded with the United Kingdom, will continue to be a key priority for DG MARE in 2022.

DG MARE will carefully monitor the implementation of the EU-UK TCA and the possible impacts on the EU's fisheries sector, and will take mitigation measures, whenever necessary. In particular, DG MARE will monitor the implementation of the Brexit Adjustment Reserve as regards specific support for the fisheries sector.

The EU-UK TCA will also impact the current EU-Norway bilateral relationship as some key stocks in the North Sea and in the northeast Atlantic will henceforth have to be managed on a trilateral basis (EU-Norway and the UK) or multilaterally (EU and other coastal states in the northeast Atlantic).

The **Recovery Plan for Europe**, as a response to the COVID-19 crisis, aims at boosting the green and digital transitions and making the EU's economy fairer, more resilient and sustainable for future generations. The **EU blue economy** can contribute to achieving this goal: put on a more sustainable path, it will become a source of action and ideas creating innovation, spurring fast and lasting recovery and protecting our planet.

The strategy for a **new approach to the sustainable blue economy in the EU**¹⁷ sets a vision to transform the EU blue economy driven by green private initiatives and investment. In 2022, the focus will be on its implementation across all sectors of the blue economy.

In close alignment with Horizon Europe, **smart specialisation strategies** will help boosting innovation. To support smaller businesses accessing private capital, the Commission's **BlueInvest**¹⁸ platform will provide customised services and access to investors. A budgetary guarantee under **InvestEU**¹⁹ and support from the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund will help 'blue tech' start-ups and early-stage companies.

One of the actions announced in the Farm to Fork Strategy is the **revision of the marketing standards for fisheries products**, which the Commission will propose in 2022. The main objective is to increase the transparency regarding environmental performance across the seafood supply chain.

¹⁵ COM(2021)645 final - [2022 Commission Work Programme \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom/eu-uk-trade-and-cooperation-agreement_en)

¹⁶ https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom/eu-uk-trade-and-cooperation-agreement_en

¹⁷ [COM\(2021\)240 final of 17/05/2021](https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom/eu-uk-trade-and-cooperation-agreement_en)

¹⁸ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/frontpage/1451>

¹⁹ [InvestEU \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/info/relations-united-kingdom/eu-uk-trade-and-cooperation-agreement_en)

Also under the Farm to Fork Strategy, the **EU Algae Initiative** is to be adopted in 2022. It aims among others to increase sustainable algae production and to address regulatory obstacles.

The Commission will propose an initiative on **ocean observation** to obtain more reliable marine data, thus underpinning the delivery of the European Green Deal. A Commission report will outline the progress in the implementation of the **Maritime Spatial Planning Directive**²⁰ and how this can contribute to the European Green Deal. Enforcement action will continue to focus on Member States' obligation to adopt maritime spatial plans.

In 2022, DG MARE will undertake several key actions to contribute to the Commission's headline ambition of a "**Stronger Europe in the World**". Most importantly, together with the European External Action Service we will **update of the International Ocean Governance Communication**, inter alia to align our vision for better ocean governance to the European Green Deal and take on board the results of the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference and the COP 15 UN Biodiversity Conference.

We will also ensure that the EU takes a leading role to conclude rapidly the negotiations on a **High Seas Treaty on marine biodiversity (BBNJ)**²¹ in 2022 and reach an ambitious agreement. Likewise, we will promote the adoption of an ambitious and comprehensive **deep seabed mining** code at the International Seabed Authority based on the precautionary and ecosystem approach as advocated by the EU Biodiversity Strategy, and promote EU positions and policies in relevant **multilateral fora** (e.g. UN, FAO and Regional Fisheries Bodies). The **Our Ocean Conference** (Palau, 16-17 February)²² and the **UN Ocean Conference** (Lisbon, 27 June-1 July)²³ will be important opportunities to make commitments and showcase the EU's engagement in delivering Sustainable Development Goal 14 on Life below Water. We will also celebrate and communicate on the **International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture**.

The updated **Arctic policy**, including the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean, will be implemented. We will continue our efforts to reach an agreement at the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) on the designation of new large-scale **marine protected areas (MPAs) in the waters around Antarctica**. We will contribute to the comprehensive EU-Africa Strategy through the launch of an EU-Africa ocean strategic group.

The EU will also in 2022 take the lead in **Regional Fisheries Management Organisations** for better science, stronger compliance, science based conservation

²⁰ [Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning](#)

²¹ [Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction \(BBNJ\)](#)

²² [Our Ocean Palau](#)

²³ [2022 UN Ocean Conference | United Nations](#)

measures to sustainably manage the stocks, and transpose those measures into EU law. 2022 should provide an opportunity for the Regional Fisheries Management Organisations to decide on key initiatives that were postponed during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as the revision of the tropical tuna conservation measures by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) or the strengthening of climate change provisions by the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR). In the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, we will undertake actions to deliver on the new **2030 Strategy**²⁴ for sustainable fisheries and aquaculture, established by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM).

The **fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated** (IUU) fishing will unabatedly be continued in cooperation with third countries. The development of the IT system 'CATCH' in support to the catch certification scheme and a legal basis for its compulsory use by stakeholders will bring greater assurances that fishery products imported in the EU stem from legal fishing operations.

We aim to ensure an efficient management of the **sustainable fisheries partnership agreements** in force, a timely renewal of the agreements that are expiring, and if possible, extend the network of agreements. An evaluation of the agreements will be finalised in early 2022 and feed into a reflection to improve further the policy.

DG MARE will pursue its **communication** priorities, tying in with and supporting major Commission initiatives, and in particular the green strand of NextGenerationEU. For some campaigns, such as the EU-wide aquaculture campaign, this will include aligning with NextGenerationEU visual identity in order to ensure a strong link with economic recovery in coastal and rural areas. Several actions will directly underpin the 2022 European Year of Youth, most notably #EUBeachCleanup, which in agreement with the European External Action Service and the United Nations will have an overarching youth theme.

A. General objective 1: A European Green Deal

Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024

Result indicator: Stocks fished at maximum sustainable yield (MSY) levels (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 33)

A full implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy - including the landing obligation, multiannual management plans, and effective control and enforcement - remain a top priority in line with Commissioner Sinkevičius' mission letter. It is an important contribution to the European Green Deal, to the Farm to Fork Strategy and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030. The Commission will **report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy** by the end of 2022. It will cover the implementation of the policy, including the

²⁴ [GFCM 2030 Strategy | General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean](#)

main features of the [last reform from 2013](#)²⁵, such as the MSY target, the landing obligation and regionalised governance. Also, the report will explain whether the social dimension, climate change and pollution are being sufficiently addressed.

DG MARE will continue to work towards the achievement of the **key objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy**, in particular:

- Bringing fish stocks to and maintaining them at healthy levels;
- Ending the wasteful practice of discards through full implementation of the landing obligation;
- Minimising the negative impact of fishing on the marine environment, including on sensitive species through appropriate technical measures.

In mid-2022, we will publish the annual Communication on the **state of play of the Common Fisheries Policy and orientations for 2023**, outlining our approach for setting the fishing opportunities for 2023. The stakeholders' feedback and our socio-economic analysis will underpin the Commission's annual proposals setting the total allowable catches, fishing efforts and quotas for the EU sea basins (Atlantic, North Sea, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean and Black Seas) and beyond EU waters whose adoption is planned between end of August and November 2022. The aim is to maintain or reach maximum sustainable yield (Fmsy) for MSY-assessed stocks.



Figure 1 - source:
© Rudmer Zwerver/Shutterstock.com

We will continue working with the regional groups of Member States on delegated acts specifying rules on the **landing obligation** (discard plans) and will encourage a more frequent and effective use of regionalisation under the Basic Regulation on the Common Fisheries Policy and the [Technical Measures Regulation](#)²⁶ to establish regional technical measures for conservation purposes, including to avoid bycatch of sensitive species.

In 2022, and as a follow-up to the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030, the Commission will present an **action plan to conserve fisheries resources and protect marine ecosystems**. It will contain recommendations and actions that link the Common Fisheries Policy with environmental objectives from the Birds, Habitats and the Marine Strategy Framework Directives, and it will build on the [Commission Report on the implementation of the Technical Measures Regulation](#)²⁷, Member States are expected to take proactive steps to deliver on the plan.

Despite significant improvements in lowering the fishing pressure in the **northeast Atlantic** and increasing biomass, challenges remain. The Commission will work with scientific bodies to improve scientific advice and thus, better stock management. For stocks

²⁵ [REGULATION \(EU\) No 1380/2013 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 11 December 2013 on the Common Fisheries Policy, as amended.](#)

²⁶ [Regulation \(EU\) 2019/1241, as amended.](#)

²⁷ [COM\(2021\)583 final and SWD\(2021\)268 final of 23/09/2021](#)

shared with third countries, the Commission will aim for an agreement in line with the long-term management strategies or, in the absence of such strategies, the Fmsy advice.

Vigorous conservation efforts are needed in the **Mediterranean and Black Seas** to achieve sustainable fisheries and aquaculture. 2022 will be the third year that the [multiannual plan for demersal stock in the western Mediterranean](#)²⁸ is fully implemented. The plan aims to achieve maximum sustainable yield at the latest by 2025. An annual effort reduction is to be fixed for both seas, in addition to measures adopted by the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) in 2021. In the Black Sea, the Commission is proposing to set catch limits and quotas for turbot and sprat.

We will undertake actions to deliver on the ambitious [GFCM 2030 Strategy](#)²⁹. Specific actions will address today's challenges and facilitate a green transition, support the coastal communities and preserve food security based on solidarity between all Mediterranean countries.

We expect that the co-legislators will adopt the Commission's [proposal for a recast](#) that will transpose into EU law the recommendations adopted by the GFCM in 2018 and 2019³⁰. If the COVID-19 situation allows for the required data collection, more recommendations will be adopted at the 45th Annual Session of the GFCM, covering management and control measures, the protection of sensitive species, new fisheries restricted areas, fishing capacity limitations, stronger compliance and fighting against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing.

Promoting sustainable fisheries will remain a linchpin of communication. Building on the first season, DG MARE will implement the **"Taste the Ocean"** campaign in 9 other Member States. With celebrity chefs as ambassadors, the campaign will promote consumption of local, sustainable seafood. Taste the Ocean will primarily be a social media action, but will also involve local and national press and the Representations. In line with NextGenerationEU, covering both fisheries and aquaculture, the campaign will promote the blue economy as an important source of sustainable growth and new jobs, notably in Europe's coastal areas.



Figure 2 – source: © European Union

Result indicator: Profitability of the EU fishing fleet (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 35)

Our work in 2022 towards **sustainable fisheries** in the different EU sea basins also contributes to **boosting the economic performance** of the EU fishing fleets. The [2021 Annual Economic Report on the EU fishing fleet](#)³¹ (re-)confirms a correlation between the

²⁸ [Multiannual plans \(europa.eu\)](#)

²⁹ [GFCM 2030 Strategy | General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean \(GFCM\)](#)

³⁰ [COM\(2021\)434 final of 30.07.2021](#)

³¹ <https://stecf.jrc.ec.europa.eu/reports/economic>

sustainable exploitation and management of fisheries and the **economic returns and overall profitability in fisheries**.

Result indicators on aquaculture (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 36):

New [Strategic guidelines for a more sustainable and competitive EU aquaculture for 2021-2030](#)³² were adopted in 2021. The guidelines promote **better environmental performance** of EU aquaculture activities, as well as the diversification of EU aquaculture towards an aquaculture with a lower carbon footprint and lower impact on the environment, including organic aquaculture and algae farming. DG MARE will review the Member States’ multiannual national strategic plans for 2021-2027 on aquaculture taking into consideration the new guidelines.



Figure 3 – source: © Sodel Vladyslav / Adobe Stock

One of the actions announced in the Farm to Fork Strategy is the **EU Algae Initiative**. Algae represent a largely untapped resource that can contribute to several axes of the European Green Deal: sustainable food and feed, decarbonisation, zero pollution, circularity and biodiversity. A study and an impact assessment will prepare for the Commission Communication in 2022. The objective is to increase sustainable algae production, ensure safe consumption and boost the innovative use of algae in the EU.

We will table a proposal on the **revision of the marketing standards** for fishery products, whether produced in or imported into the EU. The standards will be reviewed to better support implementation of the objectives of the [Regulation on the Common Market Organisation](#)³³, in particular as regards sustainability, competition and transparency. This proposal is linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction regarding the revision of the current marketing standards.

We will prepare a “toolbox” as the basis for a **communication campaign on aquaculture** to be rolled out by Member States. The objective is to create familiarity with the new guidelines among stakeholders with potential spill-over to wider audiences regarding the sustainability of EU aquaculture. The campaign material will also be adapted for use on DG MARE’s own platforms. The Algae initiative will be accompanied by an extensive package of social media products and press outreach - including a dedicated episode of Euronews OCEAN - and tie in with Taste the Ocean campaign on sustainable seafood consumption.

Result indicator: Effectiveness of Member States’ fisheries control systems measured by the number of control action plans implemented within the deadline set (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 37)

An effective **fisheries control system in the Member States** is key to the success of the Common Fisheries Policy. We will further step up our efforts to improve the application,

³² [COM\(2021\)236 final of 12.05.2021](#)

³³ [Regulation \(EU\) No 1379/2013, as amended](#)

implementation and enforcement of the Common Fisheries Policy rules. Among others, this requires an active monitoring of the implementation of the control action plans, as well as audits and verifications of the Member States' fisheries control systems.

Strategic compliance and enforcement action helps tackling overfishing. This applies in particular to the landing obligation as well as the weighing and catch registration and documentation systems of Member States. An **enforcement strategy** will be developed to focus on the cases with the most substantial contribution to the objectives of the fisheries policy.

The Commission adopted a **[proposal to review the EU fisheries control system](#)**³⁴ in May 2018. As a

priority, we will continue working closely with the co-legislators to make progress on this very important proposal. If agreed by the co-legislators, the proposed revision of the EU fisheries control system would modernise fisheries controls, ensure a better quality and sharing of fisheries data, reduce the administrative burden and strengthen the enforcement provisions. It would also support the implementation of the landing obligation and the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.



Figure 4 - source: © LuisPortugal / istockphoto

Result indicator: Contribution from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) for 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 to climate-related EU spending (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 39)

The **European Maritime and Fisheries Fund** (EMFF) for 2014-2020 and the **European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund** (EMFAF) for 2021-2027 are the main financing instruments to support the full implementation of the Common Fisheries Policy, as well as the maritime policy, the EU Blue Economy Strategy and International Ocean Governance. The funds provide support to fishers in the transition towards more sustainable fisheries, and to Member States for data collection and fisheries control, both essential to ensure sustainable fisheries. DG MARE will facilitate the adoption of the Member States' programmes for 2021-2027 to start programme implementation as soon as possible. Member States will be encouraged to give the necessary consideration to **climate and biodiversity** related actions to deliver the expected contribution of 30% of the EMFAF 2021-2027 budget towards EU climate objectives and to reflect the agreement between the co-legislators to reach an intermediate target of 7.5% for biodiversity in 2024 and to strive for 10% in 2026 and 2027.

Throughout 2022, we will encourage Member States to improve the use of the EU funds, including for dedicated climate related actions and to cater for the **impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic**.

³⁴ [COM\(2018\)368 final and 2018/0193\(COD\) of 30.05.2018](#). This proposal includes amendments to the Control Regulation 1224/2009, the IUU Regulation 1005/2008 and the founding Regulation of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA).

DG MARE will align with **corporate communication** on the Multi-annual Financial Framework 2021–2027. We will apply appropriate visual identity and engage in the INFORM EU network of Member States’ managing authorities. Showcasing successful EU-funded projects, where possible including projects financed under NextGenerationEU, will remain a fixture of DG MARE’s televised magazine, “Ocean”. Produced in cooperation with Euronews, the new season will broadcast 12 monthly episodes, accompanied by extensive social media support with tailored visuals like infographics and 360° videos. We will further develop our close cooperation with the European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA), the new Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring and Evaluation Network to ensure a continuous flow of success stories. The extensive publication of new success stories will be maintained in MARE’s newsletter and on social media.

Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

Result indicator: Size of the EU blue economy (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 40)

Contributing to the European Green Deal, the Commission adopted a Communication on a **new approach for a sustainable blue economy in the EU**³⁵ in May 2021, focusing on the EU blue economy and economic recovery. Our priority for 2022 will be the implementation of the new strategy through a dedicated inter-service group.

We will work with DG REGIO on developing a **Smart Specialisation Platform for Blue Economy**. The aim is to have the platform fully operational by 2023, to allow for a continuous and structured support to EU blue economy stakeholders.

To help smaller businesses, the Commission’s **BlueInvest**³⁶ platform will provide customised support, visibility, access to investors and investment-readiness advice. Businesses can combine the EU budgetary guarantee under **InvestEU**³⁷ with support from the European Maritime, Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund. **BlueInvest Day** in March will be promoted with an attractive package of onsite and online communication products, disseminated via MARE’s principal channels (FB, Twitter), and with the aim to position the popular matchmaking event in the wider context of NextGenerationEU and the contribution of the blue economy to the EU green transition and digital transformation.

The **Ministerial declaration of the Union for the Mediterranean on sustainable blue economy**³⁸ of February 2021 sets an ambitious framework to strengthen regional cooperation between EU and non-EU countries. DG MARE will continue to foster cooperation in Europe’s sea basins, also with third countries. DG MARE is closely involved in the drafting of a roadmap on the implementation of the Ministerial Declaration.

³⁵ [COM\(2021\)240 final of 17/05/2021](#)

³⁶ <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/maritimeforum/en/frontpage/1451>

³⁷ [InvestEU \(europa.eu\)](#)

³⁸ [Declaration-UfM-Blue-Economy-EN-1.pdf \(ufmsecretariat.org\)](#)

We will support the implementation of the revised Atlantic Action Plan, the WestMED Initiative and the Common Maritime Agenda for the Black Sea. In 2022, the Commission will report to the European Parliament and to the Council on the **implementation of the WestMED Initiative**³⁹. We will follow the work under the Adriatic and Ionian (EUSAIR) and Baltic Macro-regional strategies. We will continue to support outermost regions to adopt and implement their blue economy strategies.

As the EU's sustainable blue economy expands, it is using more maritime space, notably for offshore renewable energy. We will set up a **"Blue Forum of users of the sea"** to coordinate the dialogue between different users of the sea. The forum will develop synergies between activities and reconcile competing uses of the sea.

By March 2022, the Commission will prepare a report to the European Parliament and the Council outlining the progress made in implementing the **Maritime Spatial Planning Directive**⁴⁰. It will include an analysis of how the maritime spatial plans of the coastal Member States can contribute to the objectives of the European Green Deal. Strategic compliance and enforcement action will continue to focus notably on the compliance by Member States with their obligation to adopt Maritime Spatial Plans.

The **European Maritime Day** (EMD), 19-20 May, will remain a fixture for **blue economy communication** and will be accompanied by an ambitious package of press and digital material, underscoring the contribution of sea borne activities – from energy production to aquaculture – to the EU's green and digital recovery.



Figure 5 - source: © European Union

While an EU-wide event, a particular focus will be on audiences in Italy as a major recipient of NextGenerationEU funding. The EU-wide **EMD in my country** campaign will support the organisation of local events in coastal communities throughout the EU.

Result indicator: Improved marine knowledge measured by the degree of use of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) in terms of the quantity of downloaded data per month (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 41)

In 2022, the Commission will adopt an initiative bringing together the different communities – fisheries, environment, navigation, research and licensing – that are engaged in **ocean observation**. This way, more reliable marine data will be available to meet the requirements of EU law and the challenges of the European Green Deal.

More than 120 organisations already contribute to the **European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)**⁴¹ to collect and disseminate marine data, products and metadata for public and private users. During 2022, a special effort will begin to ease

³⁹ [WestMED Initiative at a glance - WestMED \(westmed-initiative.eu\)](https://westmed-initiative.eu)

⁴⁰ [Directive 2014/89/EU establishing a framework for maritime spatial planning](#)

⁴¹ [European Marine Observation and Data Network \(EMODnet\)](#)

access to data provided to authorities under licensing agreements with coastal and offshore business.

The Commission launched the Mission **“Restore our Ocean and Waters by 2030”**⁴² in 2021 under the Horizon Europe research programme. The budget for 2021-2023 is EUR 344 million with additional effort from Member States, regions and international partners. The “lighthouse” projects to start in 2022 aim to demonstrate practical solutions for meeting the European Green Deal objectives of decarbonisation, biodiversity and pollution. Actions will be financed for citizen engagement (e.g. as citizen science) and setting up a digital ocean and knowledge system building on EMODnet and Copernicus Marine to assess possible scenarios. DG MARE will contribute to monitoring the projects and to the work programmes. We will promote Mission Ocean through the networks under the sea basin strategies and raise commitments of the regional stakeholders for the lighthouses.

Additionally, DG MARE will implement in 2022 a pilot project proposed by the European Parliament, on **marine noise**. EMODnet will collaborate with data on marine noise, also to support the relevant Marine Strategy Framework Directive descriptor.

Result indicator: Reduction of economic impact of marine litter in the EU measured in terms of median number of litter items per 100 metres of beach in the EU (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 42)

The Commission has already taken unprecedented action to reduce the quantity of plastic reaching the sea:

- [Directive \(EU\) 2019/904](#)⁴³ targets the 10 single-use plastic products most often found on Europe’s beaches and seas, as well as **lost or abandoned fishing gear containing plastic** and obliges its **producers** to ensure its safe disposal.
- [Directive \(EU\) 2019/883](#)⁴⁴ on port reception facilities for the delivery of waste from ships removed incentives to dump waste at sea.
- As part of the extended producer responsibility, the Commission has asked⁴⁵ the European Committee for Standardisation to deliver standards for the **circular design of fishing gear** and adopted protocols⁴⁶ for reporting what is put on the market and what is brought ashore.

At the same time, we will continue to extend the collection and dissemination of **data on marine litter on beaches** through the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) to floating, seabed litter and micro plastics in order to meet requirements of the Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Zero Pollution Action Plan.

⁴² [Restore Our Ocean and Waters by 2030 - Communication on Missions](#)

⁴³ [EUR-Lex - 32019L0904 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁴⁴ [EUR-Lex - 32019L0883 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁴⁵ Commission Decision C(2021) 739 final of 10 February 2021

⁴⁶ Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2021/958 of 31 May 2021

DG MARE has stepped up efforts in [ocean literacy and its EU4Ocean platform](#)⁴⁷ is now operational. It unites ocean literacy efforts in the EU with an emphasis on a better understanding amongst youth of how humankind and the ocean influence each other. During 2022, a grant to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO will join this up with similar efforts in other continents. The European Atlas of the seas has been adapted for use in schools and, in 2022, workshops will assess its benefits for schoolteachers and their pupils.

DG MARE will co-organise the 6th edition of the **#EUBeachCleanup** campaign, jointly with the European External Action Service and the United Nations. To mark the **European Year of Youth**, it will be designed with a cross-cutting youth theme. The campaign is set up to mobilise thousands of volunteers, with a particular emphasis on young people. Cleaning events on beaches worldwide will be accompanied by an ambitious multi-language digital component. Working with the ActNow app, the campaign will also contribute directly to citizen action in favour of the sustainable development goals, with a focus to increase the number of branded grassroot events.



Figure 6 - source:

<https://www.euneighbours.eu/en/south/stay-informed/news/300-volunteers-participate-eu-beach-clean-event-alexandria>

Result indicator: Maritime security measured by the number of new CISE (Common Information Sharing Environment) connections/nodes (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 42)

DG MARE – acting as the coordinator for the Commission – together with the European External Action Service, will continue to promote the **EU Maritime Security Strategy** (EUMSS) and its revised Action Plan. In line with the Council Conclusions of June 2021, we will carry out a joint assessment to decide whether the EUMSS and/or its Action Plan should be updated.

In 2022, DG MARE will implement further the **Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE)**. The current transitional phase towards operations is managed by the European Maritime Safety Agency, with the support of the Joint Research Centre and close involvement of Member States. DG MARE monitors the dedicated inter-agency cooperation between the European Maritime Safety Agency, the European Fisheries Control Agency and FRONTEX for better assistance to Member States' national authorities performing coast guard functions. As the transitional phase will be completed by end 2023, DG MARE will start planning the next steps for the CISE operational phase, including its governance.

⁴⁷ [Learn more about the EU4Ocean Platform | Maritime Forum \(europa.eu\)](#)

Result indicator: Installed capacity of offshore wind energy and ocean energy in the EU (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 43)

In 2022, we will work further on the implementation of the [EU Strategy on Offshore Renewable Energy](#)⁴⁸. We will facilitate the setting up of a Community of Practice in the North Sea and the Baltic Sea. This will complement the [Blue Forum of users of the sea](#), to be started in 2022.

Innovative multi-use projects combining offshore renewable energy with other activities and/or with nature protection in the Atlantic Ocean will be launched. Another call will support the further implementation of [Maritime Spatial Planning](#) in the EU, in particular the development of innovative responses to tackle specific challenges that EU Member States might encounter when putting into effect, monitoring and/or revising their maritime spatial plans.

See also the section above: Result indicator ‘Size of the EU blue economy’.

B. General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World

Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

2022 will be a **“Big Year for Oceans”** with many international milestones: the One Ocean Summit in February, the Our Ocean Conference in February, the fourth session of the BBNJ intergovernmental conference in March, the UN Biodiversity Conference (COP 15) in May and the UN Ocean conference in June to support the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14. The EU, represented by the Commission, is committed to leading the way on international ocean governance by playing a prominent role in these discussions and in other oceans-related multilateral meetings.

In this important year, our main deliverables will be the following:

- A new Joint Communication on [International Ocean Governance](#)⁴⁹ to update the 2016 EU Agenda following Council conclusions of 2019, results of the stakeholder consultation in 2020-2021 and recommendations by the International Ocean Governance Forum. Based on the European Green Deal, this will set the course for a sustainable blue planet, addressing threats such as pollution, climate change impacts and biodiversity loss. It will confirm the EU as a driving force in the implementation of global commitments set out in the [2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development Goals](#)⁵⁰ and take account of key milestones, namely the BBNJ negotiations, COP 26 and the negotiations on a post-2020 global framework on biodiversity, which affect the policy context in which ocean governance operates globally.

⁴⁸ [COM\(2020\)741 final of 19.11.2020](#)

⁴⁹ [International ocean governance \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁵⁰ [The Sustainable Development Agenda – United Nations Sustainable Development](#)

- We strive to conclude the negotiations of a High Seas Treaty on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction (**BBNJ**) with an ambitious agreement, which is also an objective of the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.
- Ensuring participation and EU contributions in the **UN processes and agencies**, in particular: the FAO Committee on Fisheries and related processes, the UNGA resolutions on Oceans and the Law of the Sea and on Sustainable Fisheries, the UN Informal Consultative Process, as well as on the outcome document of the UN Ocean Conference.
- Continuing to promote a stronger EU role and EU coordination under the **International Seabed Authority**, notably to implement the Biodiversity Council conclusions of 16 October 2020 (“the need for urgent action” on sea bed mining).
- Delivering on the **EU Arctic Policy** as set out in the [Joint Communication: “A stronger EU engagement for a greener, peaceful and prosperous Arctic”](#)⁵¹ of October 2021. The EU will continue to develop sustainable relationships with its partners in the region, such as Iceland, Norway, the United Kingdom, Greenland and the Faroe Islands, including through fisheries agreements, and to support the implementation of the Agreement to Prevent Unregulated High Seas Fisheries in the Central Arctic Ocean.
- Enhancing cooperation with **African partners** to encourage better ocean governance, sustainable fisheries and blue economy. DG MARE will continue its work towards the set-up of an EU-Africa Ocean strategic group and organise the first edition of BlueInvest outside the EU.

The UN Ocean Summit will be one of the communication highlights in 2022. We will draw on existing partnerships to multiply messages linked to the EU’s international ocean governance agenda.

Result indicator: Sustainable management of the main regulated tuna and tuna-like species fished by the EU fleet under the purview of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations of which the EU is a Member (cf. Annex ‘Performance tables’, p. 44)

Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) are key vectors for the joint management of straddling and highly migratory fish stocks under the Law of the Sea. Their good performance will be essential to ensure sustainable fisheries worldwide by:

- promoting science and science based conservation and sustainable management of the stocks under their purview and the ecosystems;
- better compliance with rules and regular performance reviews;
- a stronger fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, and
- a better performance of these organisations in line with the external objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy and the EU Biodiversity Strategy for 2030.

⁵¹ [JOIN\(2021\)27 final of 13.10.2021](#)

In 2022, we expect the co-legislators to adopt in particular two regulations regarding the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas: the multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, and the catch documentation programme for bluefin tuna.

Result indicator: Conservation measures based on scientific advice adopted for the main regulated species fished by the EU fleet under the purview of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations of which the EU is a Member (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 45)

The EU, represented by the Commission, plays an active role in five tuna Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs), twelve non-tuna RFMOs and two Regional Fisheries Bodies without decision making power (Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic, and Western Central Atlantic Fishery Commission). The transposition of binding conservation and control measures adopted by these organisations into EU law ensures legal certainty and compliance within the EU. In 2021, the EU secured accession, pending completion of the ratification process in 2022, to the North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

In 2022, we expect the following legislative work to be completed:

- The co-legislators to adopt three regulations transposing control, conservation and management measures (Indian Ocean Tuna Commission, Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission, Commission for the Conservation of Southern bluefin tuna);
- The Council to adopt two decisions relating to the ratification of the North Pacific Fisheries Commission Convention (subject to consent by the Parliament);
- The Commission to adopt two transposition proposals (Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Agreement, South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation).

Strategic compliance and enforcement action will tackle overfishing and illegal trade. To that end, infringement action will focus on the efficiency of the systems put in place by Member States to control the activities of their fishing fleet in non-EU waters and of their farms for bluefin tuna.

Result indicator: Fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing measured by the number of non-EU Member States that the Commission has engaged in a dialogue with and the number of countries having addressed their deficiencies (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 47)

EU has a zero tolerance policy towards IUU fishing, which has strong detrimental effects on stocks, profitability of operators, viability of coastal communities, on food security and undermines conservation efforts.

The **carding system** – established by the [IUU Regulation](#)⁵² – can incentivize fishers to avoid IUU fishing. Using a system of green, yellow and red cards, the EU warns third countries that they could be listed as a non-cooperating country in the fight against IUU fishing, if they do not comply with their obligations as flag, coastal, port and market State

⁵² [EUR-Lex - 02008R1005-20110309 - EN - EUR-Lex \(europa.eu\)](#)

under international law. Since November 2012, the Commission entered into formal dialogues with 27 third countries, meaning that they are officially warned of the need to take action against IUU fishing (yellow card; one country has been warned twice). Only a few countries have not demonstrated the willingness to carry out the necessary reforms. As a result, the fishery products caught by their vessels cannot be imported into the EU (red card). DG MARE will pursue close cooperation and dialogue to foster the necessary reforms in all third countries that are currently subject to the carding system.

Result indicator: Control of imports of fisheries products in the EU measured by the number of catch certificates import refusals by Member States (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 47)

One of the key elements of the [EU Regulation on the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated \(IUU\) fishing](#)⁵³ is the **catch certification scheme**. The scheme requires that all imports into the EU of fishery products are accompanied by a catch certificate that is validated by the flag States of the catching vessels. Member States must apply the scheme and the controls and verifications on imports of fishery products. Up to now, the competent authorities of 93 third-countries have been notified to the EU for the validation of catch certificates.

The system is paper-based since 2010 but an IT system '[CATCH](#)'⁵⁴ is being developed to digitalise the submission of the catch certificates. CATCH is operational since May 2019 but not used by Member States yet. The use of CATCH by EU operators and Member States is still voluntary but in 2022, the Commission will as part of the ongoing revision of the fisheries control system continue working with co-legislators to make the use of CATCH mandatory.

Result indicator: Number of sustainable fisheries partnership agreements (SFPAs) in force (cf. Annex 'Performance tables', p. 48)

Sustainable fisheries partnership agreements (SFPAs) give access for the EU long distance fleet to fishing zones in third country waters. They provide support to those third countries for better fisheries governance and ensure a sustainable development of their local fishing sector. The EU has currently [13 SFPAs protocols in force](#)⁵⁵ with third countries:

- 9 tuna agreements with: Cabo Verde, Ivory Coast, Sao Tomé e Príncipe, Gabon, Cook Islands, Seychelles, Mauritius, Senegal and The Gambia (with a hake component for the last two), and
- 4 mixed agreements with: Greenland, Morocco, Mauritania and Guinea-Bissau.

In 2022, the Commission will give priority to the implementation of the existing SFPAs, to monitoring the fisheries activities of the EU vessels, an adequate programming and

⁵³ See previous footnote.

⁵⁴ [CATCH \(europa.eu\)](#)

⁵⁵ [Sustainable fisheries partnership agreements \(SFPAs\) \(europa.eu\)](#)

application of the sectoral support under the agreements. We will also prepare negotiation mandates for those agreements that will expire in 2022 or 2023, such as the agreement with Morocco. Depending on the outcome of on-going negotiations with third countries concerned, the Commission may also put forward proposals for the conclusion of new agreements or protocols with countries such as Madagascar, Mauritius and Kiribati.

PART 2. Modernising the administration: main outputs for 2022

The internal control framework⁵⁶ supports sound management and decision-making. It notably ensures that risks to the achievement of objectives are taken into account and reduced to acceptable levels through cost-effective controls.

DG MARE has established an internal control system tailored to its particular characteristics and circumstances. The effective functioning of the service's internal control system will be assessed on an ongoing basis throughout the year and be subject to a specific annual assessment covering all internal control principles.

A. Human resource management

To contribute to improved Human Resources management, DG MARE adopted its **2021-2024 local HR Strategy**⁵⁷ and an **Equality Workplan**⁵⁸, focusing on four specific objectives:

- better managing our workload;
- strengthening our specialist skills;
- strengthening our leadership and management;
- making DG MARE a more equitable, inclusive and diverse workplace.

The focus in 2022 will be to start implementing priority actions from the MARE HR Strategy Action Plan and the Equality WorkPlan complementing the **local HR Strategy**. If necessary, our HR Strategy Action Plan and the Equality WorkPlan will be adapted, to align with corporate ongoing initiatives.

In 2022, DG MARE will continue to promote flexible working methods (including teleworking, flexitime and part-time arrangements) as a way to boost productivity and ability to adapt to changing workloads and demands. The Commission Staff Survey at the end of 2021 will provide us with input on how we are implementing this work-life balance policy in MARE⁵⁹ and whether more efforts are needed in this area.

DG MARE is committed to ensuring that the **gender balance** targets are fully attained at all management levels. To ensure the target of 50% of women at all levels of management by 2024 is met, we will continue monitoring closely vacancies at management level. We will also continue to support female staff in MARE for the corporate Female Talent Development programme.

We will establish by the end of 2022, a list of laureates in the field of maritime affairs and fisheries to ensure that MARE's needs for highly specialised expertise in our policy areas

⁵⁶ [Communication C\(2017\)2373 - Revision of the Internal Control Framework](#)

⁵⁷ <https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/dg/mare/Staff/Documents/Strategy/MARE-HR-strategy.docx>

⁵⁸ <https://myintracomm.ec.europa.eu/dg/mare/NewsPortal/Pages/DG-MARE-Equality-WorkPlan-for-2021-2024-Adopted.aspx>

⁵⁹ A specific question on the extent to which the policy is being implemented in MARE will be included in the Staff Survey just for MARE staff.

are met. In parallel, we continue recruitments from the specialised reserve lists of temporary agents in the areas of fisheries science and management, control and inspection.

We will continue to regularly launch satisfaction surveys to facilitate internal **communication and feedback**. The various communities of staff that have been set up in recent years also enable to effectively share HR-related news within the DG. Examples are the MARE Staff Engagement Diversity and Inclusion group, MARE cyclists and the Greening DG MARE team.

Objective: DG MARE employs a competent and engaged workforce and contributes to gender equality at all levels of management to effectively deliver on the Commission’s priorities and core business.

Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Gender balance at all management levels	1 woman out of 2 first appointments in middle management	50% women in middle management
Staff engagement	Staff engagement index	80%

B. Sound financial management

1. Shared management (+/- 75% of the budget):

For the 2014-2020 programming period, DG MARE has developed a Single Audit Strategy in conjunction with DG REGIO and DG EMPL, which is being updated for the programming period 2021-2027. This This Single Audit Strategy provides for compliance audit assignments, which focus on assessing the legality and regularity of expenditure declared to the Commission. These will continue to form the main audit work in 2022, together with other targeted audit assignments focussing on specific horizontal themes or risks.

26 Member States transmitted substantial (i.e. non-zero) accounts in February-March 2021. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic two thirds of the audits related to these assurance packages had to be carried out remotely from the premises of DG MARE and for some of them the field work will continue in 2022.

In February/March 2022 DG MARE expects to receive 25 substantial assurance packages (versus 2 Member States with zero accounts). The accompanying documents, in particular the annual control reports of the national audit authorities, will be the subject of thorough desk reviews and will be complemented by targeted audits, based on a risk assessment. DG MARE’s related audit plan includes 25 audits in 2022, to be carried out remotely or on-the-spot, depending on the further developments of the pandemic.

The constraints relating to the lack of on-the-spot audit work have mainly translated into more time spent for desk reviews (efficiency) in order to receive sufficient assurance (effectiveness). However, the mitigating actions taken by DG MARE are at this stage expected to effectively limit the assurance risk linked to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The risk related to the expenditure declared to DG MARE in the accounting year 2020/2021 (assurance packages to be received in February 2022) is considered limited since most of the national authorities appear to have been able to carry out their respective controls to a sufficient level. In addition, DG MARE is expecting to reach an adequate level of assurance through its own audits planned on those controls.

DG MARE therefore has reasonable assurance on EU payments made for the 2014-2020 programming period since they bear practically no risk (pre-financing) or, for the interim payments made, adequate mechanisms are in place to ensure that only legal and regular expenditure is included and certified in the annual accounts. In addition, the retention of 10% from each of the interim payments made by the Commission will protect the EU budget year on year.

2. (In)direct management +/- 25% of the budget:

Since its establishment in 2021, DG MARE delegated a substantial part of its directly managed budget to the new Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA). Further to the previous delegation on maritime policy and scientific advice actions to its predecessor agency EASME, actions under the International Ocean Governance, the Regional Fisheries Management Organisation's compulsory contributions and the voluntary contributions with non-pillar assessed entities were delegated in 2021. In order to further gain on efficiency, in 2022, pilot projects will also be delegated to CINEA. When it comes to the remaining (non-delegated) part, DG MARE ensures 100% ex ante verification of all payment above EUR 5000. The financial verification team checks payment transactions below EUR 5000 on a sample basis as part of the accounting controls on the quality of the financial data. 100% of the grants and procurement procedures are also verified ex-ante before the award decisions are issued.

With the evolution of the Qualified Electronic Signature and the use of a single signatory on the contract procedure, we save time and avoid multiple registrations when both parties use the Qualified Electronic Signature, without the need to keep a paper copy, as the electronic version constitutes the original. In 2022, DG MARE is planning to roll a new feature allowing contractual signatures by both parties under the same document registration number. This will further increase the efficiency of this process.

Starting from 2022, DG MARE is aiming at introducing a simplified form of grants for the operating grants to the Advisory Councils that will take the form of lumps sums. This change will enable a lower financing risk while bringing a significant reduction in the cost of control.

As part of maintaining a strong internal control system, the usual quarterly meetings with the Director-General of DG MARE will be maintained. They aim at informing of the status and implementation of financial and internal control. In addition, periodical meetings will continue to be held with the Budget Correspondents in the DG, offering guidelines, a communication channel, and a forum for discussion.

Objective: The authorising officer by delegation has reasonable assurance that resources have been used in accordance with the principles of sound financial management and that cost-effective controls are in place which give the necessary guarantees concerning the legality and regularity of underlying transactions.

Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Effective controls: legal and regular transactions	Risk at payment	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
	Estimated risk at closure	remains < 2 % of relevant expenditure
Efficient controls	Budget execution	remains 100% of payment appropriations
	Time-to-pay	remains 97% of payments (in value) on time
Economical controls	Overall estimated cost of controls	remains < 5% of funds managed

C. Fraud risk management

The Joint Anti-Fraud Strategy of DG REGIO, DG EMPL and DG MARE was updated in December 2019, following the new 2019 anti-fraud strategy of the Commission. The Joint Anti-Fraud Strategy covers the whole anti-fraud cycle: prevention, detection, investigation and corrective measures. It seeks to reinforce measures in place to protect the financial interests of the EU by providing support to Member States in their anti-fraud efforts and strengthening the capacity of DGs to deal with fraud, as well as intensifying cooperation with OLAF. The controls aimed at preventing and detecting fraud are essentially the same as those intended to ensure the legality and regularity of the transactions.

The Joint Anti-Fraud Strategy builds upon the relevant measures implemented both at administrative and at institutional level, including as part of the action plan attached to the previous Joint Anti-Fraud Strategy and the outcome of a stocktaking study on Member States' compliance with the new anti-fraud requirements following the entry into force of the Common Provisions Regulation (EC) No 1303/2013. The main actions for 2022 will continue focussing on further developing cooperation with key partners such as OLAF based on established exchange and information sharing practices. The joint action plan of the updated Joint Anti-Fraud Strategy includes several actions for the three DGs, for one of which DG MARE is in the lead – Development of a new checklist for Key Requirement (KR) 7 agreed by the three DGs. This checklist was drafted by DG MARE and tested during the three related thematic audits carried out in October-November 2019. Three additional assignments were carried out in 2020-2021 and one further audit is planned for 2022.

DG MARE is also contributing to the implementation of any outstanding actions from the Commission Anti-Fraud Action Plan, in close cooperation with OLAF and the other shared management DGs.

Objective: The risk of fraud is minimised through the application of effective anti-fraud measures and the implementation of the Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy (CAFS)⁶⁰ aimed at the prevention, detection and correction⁶¹ of fraud.

Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Raising awareness regarding OLAF-related procedures and update of the anti-fraud training offer to ensure that Commission staff remains vigilant to fraud	Information sessions organised about OLAF-related procedures	At least 2 information sessions in 2022
Support to Member States in their anti-fraud efforts	Continuous support, as applicable	Discuss fraud related matters with Member States during the annual control meetings and/or other suitable occasions
Regular meetings with counterparts from OLAF policy and investigative units	Number of meetings per year	At least 4 meetings in 2022

D. Digital transformation and information management

1. Digital transformation

With regard to the further implementation of the local **data governance in DG MARE**, in line with corporate principles, the DG will undertake the following actions:

- Strengthen the local data network in line with its work programme and mandate;
- Particular attention will be paid to further detailing the MARE data landscape, with a focus on data definitions and data governance in place, and the identification of possible synergies;
- Create and further develop a MARE data competence centre, build around data advisory services and data analytics and visualisation;
- Raising awareness by creating a dedicated entry point (web site) related to the existing data assets and services to be used by MARE colleagues (data@MARE).

The **IT plan** supporting business needs will continue to be implemented according to the **priorities** established by the DG MARE Digital Steering Committee:

- Ensuring the smooth functioning of existing operational systems under the Integrated Fisheries Management Programme (IFDM) and progressing with the decommissioning of legacy systems. An action plan to address legacy systems has been put in place as a part of one of the four key principles of our new Digital Strategy 2021-2025;

⁶⁰ Communication from the Commission 'Commission Anti-Fraud Strategy: enhanced action to protect the EU budget', [COM\(2019\)196 final of 29.04.2019](#) – 'the CAFS Communication' – and the accompanying action plan, [SWD\(2019\)170 final](#) – 'the CAFS Action Plan'.

⁶¹ Correction of fraud is an umbrella term, which notably refers to the recovery of amounts unduly spent and to administrative sanctions.

- Providing IT support to business Units with IT initiatives, ensuring alignment with corporate requirements (Data Protection, IT Security, IT Governance, IT Architecture) and with the EC Digital Strategy;
- Delivering the foundations of our cloud architecture supporting the Ocean Store and starting the implementation in the cloud of the system for aggregated catch reports (ACDR). Both actions are part of the “IFDM Migration to Cloud” programme endorsed by the Information Technology and Cybersecurity Board in June;
- Gathering requirements of the future system for Electronic Reporting for small fishing vessels;
- Progressing with the implementation of Digital Solutions Modernisation Plan, notably by aligning key systems with the digital strategy principles;
- Coordinating with DG DIGIT and other services the modernisation of our Digital Workplace and our Digital Solutions.

With regard to **IT Security**, DG MARE adopted in May its Digital Strategy 2021-2025 containing a full chapter with our strategic approach to IT Security, notably:

- Governance: IT risk management is centralised. IT risks are escalated through the IT governance structures of DG MARE, notably the Project Steering Committees, the IFDM Steering Committee and the Digital Steering Committee;
- Compliance: Security Plans have been updated for all our information systems in 2020 according to the IT Security and Risk Management methodology and the corporate IT Security Strategy, this in coordination with the Local Informatics Security Officer;
- The implementation of priority actions identified in the Security Plans will continue in 2022: progressing with a cultural change, secure infrastructure and communications, cloud security, secure code, incident response, IT service continuity and Governance.

With regard to the **protection of personal data**, DG MARE’s work in 2022 will continue to focus on ensuring compliance with the data protection rules, in particular by:

- Keeping an updated and complete inventory of all data processing operations;
- Continued assessment of compliance with general principles in particular as regards lawfulness, data minimisation and storage limitation;
- Ensuring consultation of the European Data Protection Supervisor on proposals for a legislative act, of recommendations or of proposals to the Council pursuant to Article 218 TFEU falling under the remit of DG MARE (in relation to Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements and related protocols), where there is an impact on the protection of individuals’ rights and freedoms with regard to the processing of personal data;
- Ensuring that external processors used by DG MARE are applying the high standards set out in the Internal Data Protection Regulation, including by ensuring that EU/EEA external processors are preferred, whenever possible, as a consequence of the judgment of 16 July 2020 in case C-311/18, known as ‘Schrems II’;
- Ensuring that appropriate information is provided to the data subjects concerned through concise and intelligible privacy statements;

- Organisation of awareness raising events such as lunch conferences about the topic, trainings to newcomers and eDomec correspondents and, if necessary, joint workshops with the Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA) to explain how to protect personal data when managing projects delegated to the Agency by DG MARE.

Objective: DG MARE is using innovative, trusted digital solutions for better policy-shaping, information management and administrative processes to forge a truly digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven Commission

Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for the DG MARE key data assets	Percentage of implementation of the corporate principles for data governance for the DG MARE key data assets	Interim milestone by 2022: 50%
Progressing with the migration to cloud-based technology with the system for aggregated catch reporting	Number of new applications in the cloud	1 (ACDR ready for tests)
Implementation of the actions included in the Digital Solutions Modernisation Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data Store (ocean store) • FLUX-FMC • EUMOFA 	Degree of implementation of the digital strategy principles.	Interim milestones by 2022: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 67% • 61% • 85%
Key actions on information management and data protection:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping updated records and specific privacy statements for each processing operation of personal data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Informing natural persons when collecting personal data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full compliance every time personal data are collected and processed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness raising on the rules and principles of personal data protection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of events organised and trainings given by the Data Protection Coordinator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Controllers and MARE staff fully informed about rules on the protection of personal data

2. Document management

In 2022, DG MARE will continue to implement the document management policy according to Commission Decision C(2020)4482 and its Implementing Rules SEC(2020)800, now focused on **records** management and archives. To that end, DG MARE will keep on contributing to corporate objectives such as:

- a digital, paperless administration through ARES and HAN implementation;
- sharing of data, information and knowledge;
- networking by promoting the widest sharing of files whilst ensuring protection and security of sensitive and classified information;
- the implementation of the Digital Preservation Strategy, following the participation in the 2021 pilot project regarding long term preservation of IT systems.

Objective: DG MARE is using innovative, trusted digital solutions for better policy-shaping, information management and administrative processes to forge a truly digitally transformed, user-focused and data-driven Commission

Main outputs in 2022:

Output	Indicator	Target
Implementation of e-signatory workflow as a general rule applying the Qualified Electronic Signature whenever required by legal reasons, replacing the blue ink signature	Minimum percentage of non-incoming registered documents with a fully approved e-signatory	95%
	Minimum percentage of usage of the Qualified Electronic Signature	90%
	Maximum percentage of above mentioned documents with a paper circulation in parallel	5%
Sharing data, information and knowledge: files opened to the entire Commission	Minimum percentage of MARE files opened to the entire Commission	40%
Filing of registered documents	Percentage of non-filed registered documents	≤1%
Use of internal message in ARES	Minimum number of total internal messages used in ARES at the end of 2022	200
Reducing paper storage in eligible case	Minimum reduction of volume of paper files stored in MARE archives spaces (in linear meters and corresponding number of files (physical units) approximately)	15 linear meters / ±180 files (physical units)
Progressive development of Smart Specialisation Platform for Blue Economy	• Draft architecture	2 versions
	• Number of services progressively activated	• 1 • 3
Identifying Information Systems that can be decommissioned after a preservation assessment in the framework of the Digital Preservation Strategy, action I.4.	Implementation period	Q3 2022

E. Sound environmental management

In 2022, DG MARE will continue to implement the [Strategy to Reduce DG MARE's Carbon Footprint](#)⁶², adopted in 2020. This Strategy covers the following core areas for which we set targets to reduce DG MARE's carbon footprint: MARE conferences, missions, commuting to work, resources and waste, electricity and gas. We will achieve the reductions through a combination of structural measures and supporting actions, such as training. In addition, the strategy presents “good practices” which all colleagues are encouraged to adopt on a voluntary basis to help us reduce our carbon footprint, and meet our targets.

We will review in 2022 our local greening Strategy, including local priority actions and targets, in light of two corporate developments:

- The Commission Communication on Greening, planned for early 2022, and

⁶² [strategy-to-reduce-dg-mare-s-carbon-footprint.pdf \(europa.eu\)](#)

- The outcomes of the corporate 2021 EMAS staff survey, for which DG-level results should be available in late 2021.

This reflection is likely to focus amongst other on how best to achieve corporate reduction targets for missions, and how we move more of our events and conferences online, without reducing our impact and outreach.

In addition, DG MARE is part of the Focus Group for the OIB Biodiversity project. Based on the outcomes of that exercise at site level (Brussels), we will decide whether we can include in our local greening Strategy some concrete actions to promote local biodiversity around MARE's building. We will also launch a reflection in early 2022 on how to promote green public procurement in DG MARE for both events and services.

The table below reflects the targets and outputs adopted in our Strategy to Reduce DG MARE's Carbon Footprint. According to the UNEP's Emissions Gap Report 2019, the greenhouse gas reduction required worldwide to meet the objective of the Paris Agreement is of a magnitude of 7.6% per year⁶³. At our level, therefore, we set a target to reduce the carbon footprint of DG MARE by 8% per year as of 2020. The target for 2022 is a reduction of 22% compared to the baseline, the year 2019. As we do not have data on DG MARE's total emissions, beyond those generated by our missions, this target will be applied to each of the areas in the Strategy, at the level at which we can monitor our progress.

Objective: DG MARE takes account of its environmental impact in their actions and actively promotes measures to reduce the related day-to-day impact of the administration and its work, with the support their respective EMAS Correspondents/EMAS Site Coordinators.		
Main outputs in 2022:		
I. More efficient use of resources (energy, water, paper):		
Output	Indicator	Target⁶⁴ (2019 as baseline)
Participation in the end of the year energy saving action, by closing down DG's buildings during the Christmas and New Year's holiday period.	Number of buildings participating	MARE's main building (J-99) is participating
II. Reducing CO₂, equivalent CO₂ and other atmospheric emissions		
Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Greener MARE events and conferences	Number of conferences organised in line with the MARE Greening Strategy criteria	50% of conferences organised in line with the MARE Greening Strategy criteria ⁶⁵

⁶³ The UNEP emissions gap report 2019 calculated that to get in line with the Paris Agreement, emissions must drop 7.6% per year from 2020 to 2030 for the 1.5°C goal.

⁶⁴ To contribute internally to the Green Deal, and be consistent with the Paris Agreement, DG MARE has developed this strategy, which sets an annual target of 8% reduction of its carbon footprint as of 2020. The target for 2022 is therefore 22% compared to the baseline, the year 2019.

Link: [strategy-to-reduce-dg-mare-s-carbon-footprint.pdf \(europa.eu\)](https://europa.eu/strategy-to-reduce-dg-mare-s-carbon-footprint.pdf)

⁶⁵ We do not have baseline data, so the target is an absolute number.

Reduced carbon emissions caused by MARE missions	Emissions from MARE missions	Reduce by 22% compared to 2019 baseline
Reduced carbon emissions caused by commuting of MARE staff	Average number of working days on which MARE staff travelled to work by car	Reduce by 22% compared to 2019 baseline
Staff awareness actions on reducing GHG emissions (such as actions on sustainable commuting during EU Mobility week and VeloWalk corporate events) and/or raise staff awareness on sustainable commuting in Reduce carbon emissions generated by staff commuting to work	Number or % of staff informed/participated	100 % of staff informed of Velomai & Walking Challenge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of staff participating in Velomai • % of staff participating in Walking Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10% increase of staff participating in Velomai compared to 2019 • 10% increase of staff participating in Walking Challenge compared to 2020⁶⁶
Gradual increased use (and number of) videoconferencing (VC) meeting rooms for meetings with stakeholders (avoiding business trips) in the DG, in collaboration with DG SCIC, OIB and OIL.	Number of videoconference meeting rooms	Increase by 100% the number of videoconference meeting rooms compared to 2019 baseline

III. Reducing and management of waste

Output	Indicator	Target (2019 as baseline)
Staff awareness actions about waste reduction and sorting in the framework of EMAS corporate campaigns and/or staff awareness actions about DG's waste generation in collaboration with OIB/OIL where appropriate (for example, promote and label the waste sorting schemes in place).	Number or % of staff informed/participated	100 % of staff informed/participated
	% unsorted waste generation per person (in J-99)	Reduce by 22% compared to 2019 baseline
	% sorted waste	Increase waste sorting by 5% compared to 2019 baseline

F. Initiatives to improve economy and efficiency of financial and non-financial activities

1. Human resources

One of the specific objectives of our **local HR Strategy** is to better manage our workload, including through **improvement in our working methods**. This includes specific actions which should lead to efficiency gains such as:

- explore possibilities to pool some horizontal tasks at directorate or directorate-general level;
- reviewing how we use TEAMS to facilitate collaboration in DG MARE and reduce emails;
- setting up a list of MARE experts in different IT applications to offer peer support.

⁶⁶ A 2019 baseline is not possible as the Walking Challenge started in 2020.

The efficiency gains will be assessed via the results of the Staff Survey following the one in 2021, which includes dedicated questions on working methods and on how efficiently a DG is organised.

If successfully implemented, the environmental measures presented under section E. should result in financial savings for the Commission, for example fewer missions, fewer travel costs to reimburse for participants in MARE events/meetings, fewer resources (energy, paper used) and improvement of our image as an institution.

2. Financial management

We strive to continuously improve and optimise the financial process. While our control mechanisms will ensure full respect of the Financial Regulation requirements, further opportunities for simplification are explored on a continuous basis.

In the interest of efficiency, as of 2022, DG MARE plans to issue financing decisions covering its work programmes on direct and indirect management for periods longer than one year. This will lead to significant savings on administrative effort, concentrating the future interventions only when needed. More time will be available to reflect on and launch amendments of these programmes, as necessary.

3. Information and communications technology

As regards information and communications technology, the following MARE actions in 2022 aim at working more efficiently:

- We will step up our ambitious objective to migrate MARE IT systems to cloud-based technologies. This will allow a faster delivery of IT services, more modular applications, an increased and more flexible storing capacity and improved business intelligence tools;
- Promotion of standard methods for using collaborative tools (MS Teams);
- Reduction of the number of commitments for small contracts on information and communications technology (licences and small purchases) through a general commitment covering them.

ANNEX: Performance tables

This annex includes under each specific objective the main outputs planned for 2022, namely: new policy initiatives (legislative and non-legislative), initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction, main evaluations and all fitness checks⁶⁷, public consultations, enforcement actions, external communication actions and other important outputs.

General objective 1: A European Green Deal Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024		
<i>Related to spending programmes: European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027</i>		
Result indicator: Stocks fished at maximum sustainable yield (MSY) levels		
Main outputs in 2022:		
New policy initiatives		
Output	Indicator	Target
Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council: Report on the functioning of the Common Fisheries Policy (PLAN/2021/10767)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Action Plan to conserve marine resources and protect marine ecosystems (PLAN/2020/9887)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council “Towards more sustainable fishing in the EU: state of play and orientations for 2023 ” (PLAN/2021/12547)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
Proposals for Council Regulations fixing for 2022 the fishing opportunities in:	Adoption by the Commission	
○ the Baltic Sea (PLAN/2021/11841)		August 2022
○ the Mediterranean and Black Seas (PLAN/2021/13016)		August/September 2022
○ Union waters and, for Union fishing vessels, in certain non-Union waters (PLAN/2021/12899)		Q4 2022
Proposals for Council Regulations amending Regulation (EU) 2021/xxx as regards certain fishing opportunities :	Adoption by the Commission	
○ 1st amendment (PLAN/2021/12893)		Q1 2022
○ 2nd amendment (PLAN/2021/12895)		Q2 2022
○ 3rd amendment (PLAN/2021/12896)		Q3 2022
Commission Delegated Regulations establishing discard plans for:	Adoption by the Commission	
○ Turbot in the Black Sea (PLAN/2021/13017)		Q3 2022
○ certain demersal fisheries in the Adriatic and south-		Q3 2022

⁶⁷ The [Interinstitutional Database of EU studies](#) contains the full list of ongoing evaluations and related studies.

eastern Mediterranean Sea (PLAN/2021/13018)		
○ certain demersal stocks in the western Mediterranean Sea (PLAN/2021/13019)		Q3 2022
○ Western Waters for 2023 (PLAN/2021/12698)		Q3 2022
Commission Delegated Regulations amending the discard plan for:	Adoption by the Commission	
○ certain fisheries in the North Sea for the period 2021-2023 (PLAN/2021/12021)		Q3 2022
Commission Delegated Regulation establishing technical measures for:	Adoption by the Commission	
○ red seabream (PLAN/2021/12707)		Q1 2022
○ the South Western Waters (PLAN/2021/12699)		Q2 2022
○ the North Sea for 2023 (PLAN/2021/12022)		Q3 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation laying down the detail rules and the specifications provided by Article 24 of Regulation (EU) No 2019/1241 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on the conservation of fisheries resources and the protection of marine ecosystems through technical measures (PLAN/2020/8437)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
Commission Delegated Regulation establishing a derogation to the minimum size for the clams (PLAN/2021/13020)	Adoption by the Commission	Q3 2022
Commission Delegated Regulations amending fisheries conservation measures in:	Adoption by the Commission	
○ the Dogger Bank (PLAN/2021/12673)		Q2 2022
○ the Baltic Sea (PLAN/2021/12700)		Q2 2022
○ the Kattegat (SE) (PLAN/2021/12702)		Q2 2022
○ the Skagerrak (DK) (PLAN/2021/12703)		Q2 2022
○ the Baltic Sea (DE) (PLAN/2021/12704)		Q2 2022
○ the North Sea (SE and DK, Kattegat) (PLAN/2018/4366)		Q4 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation establishing measures in respect of certain third countries to ensure the conservation of certain stocks in the North East Atlantic (PLAN/2021/11662)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation establishing the deep-sea fishing footprint in EU waters, including the establishment of a list of areas where Vulnerable Marine Ecosystems are known to occur or are likely to occur (PLAN/2018/2448)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
Commission Delegated Regulation establishing specific conditions for fishing for deep-sea stocks in the north-east Atlantic and provisions for fishing in international waters of the north-east Atlantic (PLAN/2018/4411)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation establishing specific conditions for fishing for deep-sea stocks in the north-east Atlantic and provisions for fishing in international waters of the north-east Atlantic and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 2347/2002 (PLAN/2018/4409)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022

Commission Delegated Regulation amending Regulation 2015/242 on the functioning of the Advisory Councils (PLAN/2020/9952)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
External communication actions		
Output	Indicator	Target
“Taste the Ocean” - Campaign promoting sustainable seasonal fish species among consumers	Number of impressions Number of engagement	10 million 30,000
Seminar for journalists on the Common Fisheries Policy	Number of journalists participating (physical and online)	20
Seminar on Fisheries Science	Number of participants	100

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Profitability of the EU fishing fleet

Main outputs in 2022:

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
2022 Report on the balance between fleet capacity and fishing opportunities (STECF)	Report published	December 2022
2022 Annual Economic Report on the EU fishing fleet (STECF)	Report published	November 2022
2022 Annual Economic report on processing (STECF)	Report published	2nd semester 2022
2022 Report on Social data in the EU fisheries sector (STECF)	Report published	December 2022
EU Fleet Portal on Europa web site ⁶⁸	Further development of the portal	December 2022

⁶⁸ https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fleet-europa/index_en

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicators on aquaculture:

- **Volume and value of aquaculture production in the EU**
- **Volume of organic aquaculture production in the EU**
- **Profitability of aquaculture production in the EU**

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions - Towards a strong and sustainable EU Algae sector (PLAN/2020/7855)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on a review of the marketing standards framework for fishery and aquaculture products (PLAN/2019/5780)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
Report from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council on the Implementation of Regulation (EU) No 1379/2013 on the Common Market Organisation (PLAN/2021/12404)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022

Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal on the review of the marketing standards framework - see above ⁶⁹	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Impact assessment on the Proposal for a review of the marketing standards framework for fishery and aquaculture products (PLAN/2019/5780)	Impact assessment published together with proposal	Final impact assessment report: Q4 2021
Impact assessment on Commission Communication - Towards a strong and sustainable EU Algae sector (PLAN/2020/7855)	Impact assessment published together with proposal	Launch of study: February 2021
		Impact assessment published: Q4 2022
2022 EU Fish Market report	Report published	December 2022
Digital maps of potential for algae and shellfish production taking into account nutrient availability	Delivery of draft digital maps	Q3 2022
Report on greenhouse gas implications of expansion of algae cultivation	Delivery of draft report	Q4 2022

⁶⁹ This proposal is linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction regarding the revision of the current marketing standards but it will add burden as regards the new element on sustainability information.

Launch of an assistance mechanism for aquaculture (platform and website)	Contract signed & kicked off	Q2 2022
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General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Effectiveness of Member States fisheries control systems measured by the number of control action plans implemented within the deadline set

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposal on the revision of the Fisheries Control System (REFIT initiative) (COM(2018)368; 2018/0193(COD) of 30/05/2018)	Adoption by the co-legislators	By end 2022

Initiatives linked to regulatory simplification and burden reduction

Output	Indicator	Target
See 'New policy initiatives': Proposal on the revision of the Fisheries Control System		

Enforcement actions

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Implementing Decisions establishing an action plan to improve the fisheries control and enforcement system of certain Member States (PLAN/2020/9576)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Control of the implementation of the landing obligation	Number of infringement cases moved or closed	2022
Control of weighing systems	Number of infringement cases moved or closed	2022
Enforcement strategy	Comprehensive strategy for enforcement	2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Control expenditure under the: – EMFF Regulation (EU) No 508/2014 (shared management) and Regulation (EC) No 861/2006 – EMFAF Regulation (EU) 2021/1139	Payments	Continuous in 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) amending Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 404/2011 of 8 April 2011 laying down detailed rules for the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 establishing a Community control system for ensuring	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022

compliance with the rules of the Common Fisheries Policy (PLAN/2020/9523)		
Commission Implementing Decisions approving sampling plans and control plans for the weighing of fishery products in accordance with Article 60 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (PLAN/2020/9577)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Commission Implementing Decisions approving common control programmes for the weighing of fishery products in accordance with Article 61 of Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (PLAN/2020/9578)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Commission Implementing Decision revoking the approval of sampling plan, control plan or common control plan for the weighing of fisheries products in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (PLAN/2020/9541)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Commission Implementing Decision granting an exemption from the obligation to submit the sales note for fisheries products landed, in accordance Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 of 20 November 2009 (PLAN/2021/10945)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Implementing Commission decision granting and exemption from the obligation of prior notification in accordance with Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (PLAN/2021/12554)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Commission Opinion on the draft Single Programming Document for 2023-2027 of the European Fisheries Control Agency (EFCA) (PLAN/2021/12555)	Adoption by the Commission	Q3 2022
Commission Implementing Decision establishing the list of Union inspectors who may carry out inspections pursuant to Council Regulation (EC) No 1224/2009 (PLAN/2020/9487)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Establishment of a Mediterranean virtual regional training academy on fisheries control and inspection	Grant allocation	2022
Roll-out of FLUX UN/CEFACT in the EU for all domains	Number of Member States exchanging in the EU	Increase the number of Member States exchanging in the EU by 5 for logbooks and sales notes
Further Roll-out of FLUX FMC in DG MARE	System operational in DG MARE and EFCA	System operational in MARE for main components
Commission Implementing Regulation adding to the 2022 fishing quotas certain quantities withheld in the year 2021 pursuant to Article 4(2) of Council Regulation (EC) No 847/96 (PLAN/2021/12838)	Adoption by the Commission	Q3 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation operating deductions from fishing quotas available for certain stocks in 2022 on account of overfishing (same stocks) in the previous years (PLAN/2021/12837)	Adoption by the Commission	Q3 2022
Commission Implementing Regulation operating deductions from fishing quotas available for certain stocks in 2022 on account of overfishing of other stocks in the previous years (PLAN/2021/12836)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Issuing of fishing stops due to established overfishing	Adoption by the	Continuous in 2022

(several entries in Decide Planning)	Commission (subdelegation)	
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General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 1: More sustainable and competitive fisheries and aquaculture by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Contribution from the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) for 2014-2020 and 2021-2027 to climate related EU spending

Main outputs in 2022:

External communication actions

Output	Indicator	Target
Televised magazine OCEAN, Season 4	Average number of views per month (as measured by Euronews – quarterly reports)	2,000,000
Regular publication of success stories showcasing EU/EMFF and EMFAF-funded projects	Average page views per success story	200

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Implementing Decisions on the modification of the EMFF operational programme of the Member States (except Luxemburg)	Adoption by the Commission	2022
Commission Implementing Decisions for the adoption of Member States' EMFAF 2021-2027 programmes (except Luxemburg)	Adoption by the Commission	2022
Commission Delegated Regulation on supplementing Regulation (EU)2021/1139 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the EMFAF as regards the periods of time and the dates for the inadmissibility of applications for support (PLAN/2021/10324)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
Commission Implementing Decision(s) revising the work plan of [Member State] for data collection in the fisheries and aquaculture sector for 2023-20xx (PLAN/2020/9991)	Adoption by the Commission (delegated to DG)	2022
Commission Decision establishing that the Member State has seriously failed to comply with its obligations under the CFP (PLAN/2020/9531, 9534, 9540, 9559)	Adoption by the Commission	2022
Suspension of the EMFF interim payments (PLAN/2020/9533 and 9539)	Adoption by the Commission	2022

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Size of the EU blue economy in terms of:

- Percentage of gross value added (GVA) generated by the blue economy relative to the total economy
- Percentage of employment in the blue economy relative to the total economy
- Direct employment in the blue economy in number of persons in the established sectors

Main outputs in 2022:

External communication actions

Output	Indicator	Target
Maritime Forum	Number of active communities posting material	5
BlueInvest 2022	Satisfaction of participants	80%
European Maritime Day 2022	Number of participants (physical and online)	700
	Number of 'EMD in my country' events	120

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Report to the European Parliament and the Council - Review of the implementation of the western Mediterranean Initiative for the sustainable development of the blue economy (PLAN/2021/12915)	Adoption by the Commission	Q4 2022
Maritime Forum upgrade	Migrated to Drupal9	Q4 2022
Preparation of a charter for sustainable cruise tourism	Charter to be endorsed by cruise tourism players at Second Pan-European Cruise Dialogue	Q1 2022
Flagships project in support to the implementation of sea basin strategies	Call for proposals published	Q3 2022
New contractor for BlueInvest assistance	Contract signed	April 2022

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Improved marine knowledge measured by the degree of use of the European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) in terms of the quantity of downloaded data per month

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Initiative on Ocean Observation accompanied by an impact assessment (PLAN/2020/7284)	Adoption by the Commission and publication of the impact assessment	Q2 2022

Evaluations and fitness checks

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation of EMODnet (PLAN/2017/1441)	Staff Working Document published	Q3-Q4 2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Upgrade of EMODnet so that all data and data products are available through one portal	Shutdown of previous thematic portals	Q4 2022
Hackathon for marine data	1 event organised	Q3 2022
EMODnet for Business	Events organised	At least 2 new events with industry
	Associated partnerships of companies with EMODnet	10% in Associated Partners
Commission Decision on the financing of the pilot project on marine underwater soundscape (PLAN/2021/12808)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022
Digital maps showing error bounds for vessels density maps	Incorporation in EMODnet	Q3 2022
Launch of the EU Blue Observatory	Launch of the Observatory	First semester 2022
Ocean literacy conferences in the framework of EU4Ocean	5 sea-basin events and a final conference	Final conference in Q2 2022
Maintenance of 3 EU4Ocean communities	Sum of registered members of EU4Ocean coalition, Blue Schools and Youth 4Oceans	400
Co-creation and collaboration events with European teachers and students for ocean literacy using the European Atlas of the Seas	Number of events	Minimum 2 teacher engagement events
Improved skills in the EU blue economy:		
– “Blue careers” projects	All grants signed	Q4 2022

Output	Indicator	Target
– Study on skill gaps in the EU blue economy	Contract signed	Q3 2022

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Reduction of economic impact of marine litter measured in terms of median number of litter items per 100 metres of beach in the EU

Main outputs in 2022:

External communication actions

Output	Indicator	Target
6th edition of the global #EUBeachCleanup campaign, led by DG MARE	Number of events organised worldwide	150

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Preparation of port authorities for reporting for new obligations under Single Use Plastics and Port Reception Facilities Directives	Workshop	Q2 2022

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Maritime security measured by the number of new CISE (Common Information Sharing Environment) connections/ nodes

Main outputs in 2022:

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
European Coast Guard Functions Forum (ECGFF)	Grant allocation	Q2/Q3 2022
Mediterranean Coast Guard Functions Forum (MCGFF)	Grant allocation	Q4 2022
Creation of a CISE incident alerting service	Award	Q2 2022
Creation of new CISE nodes	Number of CISE nodes (currently: 12)	15 nodes (by end 2022)

General objective 1: A European Green Deal
Specific objective 2: A sustainable blue economy generating sustainable economic development, jobs and prosperity by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Installed capacity of EU offshore wind energy and ocean energy

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Report to the European Parliament and the Council on the implementation of the Maritime Spatial Planning Directive 2014/89/EU (PLAN/2021/12430)	Adoption by the Commission	Q1 2022

Enforcement actions

Output	Indicator	Target
Adoption of national Maritime Spatial Plans	Number of infringement cases launched, moved or closed	2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Staff Working Document on the implementation of the WestMED Initiative	Staff Working Document published	Q3 2022
Supporting development of sustainable blue economy under the sea basins strategies and in the outermost regions	Calls for tenders published	Q3 2022
The EU Blue Economy report 2022	Report published	May 2022
Blue Indicators IT Tool	New features in the IT tool to measure indirect employment; Regional analysis besides the regular maintenance of the tool.	Q4 2022
Supporting cross-border projects on maritime spatial planning in European sea basins	Kick-off of projects from the EMFAF WP 2021 call (call for tenders September 2021)	Q3 2022
Innovative multi-use projects combining offshore renewable energy with other activities and/or with nature protection in the Atlantic Ocean	Kick-off of projects from the EMFAF WP 2021 call (call for tenders September 2021)	Q3 2022
Setting up a Community of Practice in the North and Baltic Sea	Deliverable on the maritime spatial planning project from the EMFAF work programme 2020 call	Q4 2022


General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World
Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

*Related to spending programme:
Regional Fisheries Management Organisations*

Sustainable management of the main regulated tuna and tuna-like species fished by the EU fleet under the purview of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) of which the EU is a Member

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
 Key initiative from Commission work programme 2022: Joint Communication on Setting the Course for a Sustainable Blue Planet - Update of the International Ocean Governance Agenda (MARE/EEAS, PLAN/2021/11284)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
EU accession to the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC)	Ratification by the Council subject to consent by the Parliament	Q1 2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Regional Ocean Forum	2nd conference and preparatory meetings co-hosted with partners in the Western Indian Ocean region	2022-2023
BBNJ ⁷⁰	EU takes a leading role at the 4th meeting of IGC-4, or number of preparatory meetings under the extended intersessional period	March 2022
	Launch of a High Ambition Coalition	2022
Implementation of the support for the FAO global capacity development umbrella programme on the Port States Measures Agreement	Number of third countries that received support	Number to be determined early 2022 (cumulative total at end 2022)
Our Ocean Conference 2022 – commitments	Adoption by the Commission and endorsement by Council	2022
UN Ocean Conference commitments	Adoption by the Commission and endorsement by Council	2022
Study on the costs of sound ocean governance	Study published	2022
Implementing the EU's arctic policy	Progress towards key actions	2022 and beyond

⁷⁰ [Intergovernmental Conference on an international legally binding instrument under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction \(BBNJ\)](#)

Output	Indicator	Target
	identified in the Joint Communication	
Arctic Forum	Conference takes place	2022
Indigenous People Forum	Conference takes place	2022
5 th and 6 th editions of International Maritime Spatial Planning Forum	Workshops to be organised	5 th edition: Q2 2022 6 th edition: Q4 2022
3 rd International Maritime Spatial Planning Conference; jointly organised between DG MARE and Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO	Conference takes place	2022
Setting-up of an EU-Africa Strategic Group for policy cooperation and dialogue on international ocean governance	Group established	1 st semester of 2022
Africa Blue Invest event (Seychelles)	Event takes place	March 2022
Joint Implementation of Ocean Partnerships with China and Canada	State of implementation Organisation of partnership forum	2022
Web site, protocols for mutual data access, digital maps in the framework of collaboration with Chinese National Marine Data and Information Service (NMDIS)	Handover of deliverables	Q2 2022

General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World

Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

*Related to spending programme:
Regional Fisheries Management Organisations*

Result indicator: Conservation measures based on scientific advice adopted for the main regulated species fished by the EU fleet under the purview of Regional Fisheries Management Organisations (RFMOs) of which the EU is a Member

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Transposition of RFMO rules into EU law – proposals for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council:	Adoption by the European Parliament and by the Council	2022
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o establishing a multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna in the eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, amending Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EU) 2017/2107, and (EU) 2019/833 and repealing Regulation (EU) 2016/1627 		EP first reading corresponding to provisional agreement in trilogues in November 2020 (but rejected in Coreper) and revised Council mandate approved in Coreper of 16/06/2021. PECH secretariat asked Council Presidency in July 2021 about proposal to move back to the original agreement.

Output	Indicator	Target
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o establishing an electronic catch documentation programme for bluefin tuna repealing Regulation (EU) No 640/2010 		The proposal contains cross-references to the multi-annual management plan for bluefin tuna. Progress on this file is subject to progress on the multiannual management plan for bluefin tuna.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o laying down management, conservation and control measures applicable in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission Area of Competence, amending Council Regulations (EC) No 1936/2001, (EC) No 1984/2003 and (EC) No 520/2007 		<p>EP PECH adopted the report in October 2021.</p> <p>Council should work on Presidency compromise of December 2021.</p> <p>Trilogies in Q1 2022.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o laying down conservation and management measures applicable in the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention Area and amending Council Regulation (EC) No 520/2007 		<p>EP PECH to vote on the report in November 2021.</p> <p>Presidency adopted in September 2021.</p> <p>Trilogies in Q1 2022.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o laying down conservation and management measures for the Conservation of the Southern Bluefin Tuna 		<p>CCSBT: proposal adopted in August 2021.</p> <p>The file has not been yet discussed at PECH and Council Working Party.</p> <p>Trilogies in Q2-3Q 2022.</p>
Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council regarding the introduction of the electronic reporting system in the North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC) (PLAN/2020/7568)	Adoption by the Commission	Q2 2022
Transposition of conservation and control measures adopted by the following RFMOs:	Adoption by the Commission	
o ICCAT Regulation 2107 amendment (PLAN/2021/10410)		Q1 2022
o NAFO Regulation amendment (PLAN/2021/12674)		Q2 2022
o Southern Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SIOFA) (PLAN/2020/9697)		Q3 2022
o South East Atlantic Fisheries Organisation (SEAFO) (PLAN/2021/12669)		Q4 2022
o NAFO – Commission Delegated Regulation (PLAN/2021/12629)		Q1 2022
o ICCAT – Commission Delegated Regulation (PLAN/2021/12782)		Q2 2022
Enforcement actions		
Output	Indicator	Target
Appropriate control system of Member States in relation to Bluefin Tuna farming	Number of infringement cases launched, moved or closed	2022
External communication actions		
Output	Indicator	Target
Prepare and launch a new podcast series in cooperation with Euronews	Average number of listeners per episode	Benchmark to be established during 2022

General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World
Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing measured by the number of non-EU Member States that the Commission has engaged in a dialogue with and the number of countries having addressed their deficiencies

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Decisions on pre-identification of a third country as a non-cooperating third country in fighting IUU fishing	Adoption by the Commission	2022
Revocations of pre-identifications		2022
Commission Decisions on identification of a third country as a non-cooperating third country in fighting IUU fishing		2022
Revocations of identifications		2022
Proposals for Council Implementing Decisions amending Implementing Decision 2014/170/EU, establishing a list of non-cooperating third countries in fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing		2022
Commission Implementing Regulation on the EU list of vessels engaged in IUU fishing (update of list) (PLAN/2021/12580)		Q2 2022

General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World
Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

*Related to spending programmes:
European Maritime and Fisheries Fund for 2014-2020 and
European Maritime Fisheries and Aquaculture Fund for 2021-2027*

Result indicator: Control of imports of fisheries products in the EU measured by the number of catch certificates import refusals by Member States

Main outputs in 2022:

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Modernisation of the IUU catch certification system (CATCH 1.0) as part of DG SANTE TRACES system	List of amended functionalities in CATCH environment	2022
	List of modifications in CATCH environment following adoption of legal basis for its compulsory use (Proposal on the revision of the Fisheries Control System)	

General objective 2: A Stronger Europe in the World

Specific objective 3: More sustainable fisheries worldwide and improved international ocean governance by 2024

*Related to spending programme(s):
Sustainable fisheries partnership agreements*

Result indicator: Number of sustainable fisheries partnership agreements (SFPAs) in force

Main outputs in 2022:

New policy initiatives

Output	Indicator	Target
Proposals for negotiation mandates and/or for the signature and conclusion of a new SFPA/Protocol or the renewal of an existing SFPA/Protocol with the following third countries ⁷¹ :	Adoption by the Commission	
○ Angola – mandate (PLAN/2019/5338)		Q4 2022
○ Equatorial Guinea – mandate (2016/MARE/068) and proposals (PLAN/2020/9474, 9475, 9476)		Q4 2022
○ EU-Seychelles Agreement on access to the waters of Mayotte (PLAN/2018/4897 and 4899)		Q1 2022
○ Guinea – mandate (PLAN/2019/5069) and proposals (PLAN/2020/9741, 9763 and 9764)		Q4 2022
○ Kenya (proposals: 2016/MARE/053, 054 and 055)		On hold
○ Kiribati (proposals: 2015/MARE/006, 007 and 008)		Q2 2022
○ Liberia – proposals (PLAN/2020/9477, 9479, 9480)		Q4 2022
○ Madagascar – proposals (PLAN/2017/1307, 1308 and 1309)		Q2 2022
○ Mauritius: extension (PLAN/2021/12783 and /12784) and new protocol (PLAN/2020/9639, 9640 and 9642)		Q2 2022
○ Morocco mandate (new SFPA) (PLAN/2021/12867) and proposals (PLAN/2021/12852, 12952, 12965)		Mandate: Q3 2022 Proposals: Q4 2022
○ Mozambique (proposals: 2015/MARE/009, 010 and 011)	On hold	

Evaluations and fitness checks

Output	Indicator	Target
Evaluation Equatorial Guinea (SWD to be published together with mandate)	Staff Working Document published	Q4 2022
Evaluation Guinea (SWD to be published together with mandate)		Q4 2022
Evaluation Morocco (SWD to be published together with mandate)		Q3 2022
Evaluation of the Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreements (PLAN/2020/9451)		Q1 2022

Other important outputs

Output	Indicator	Target
Commission Decisions regarding credits for the implementation of SFPAs (financing decisions)	Adoption by the Commission	2022

⁷¹ SFPAs and their associated protocols enter into force after concluding negotiations with the third country concerned.