EFCA Regional Risk Assessment

Malta, 19 June 2025

EFCA
European Fisheries Control Agency

General objectives

- Compliance
- Harmonisation
- Cost-efficiency

The Agency shall cooperate with the Member States and the Commission and provide them assistance

WHY DO WE NEED A RISK BASED APPROACH?

Limited resources (human and economic)

As a tool to identify operational priorities:

1. Deployment of control means
2. Optimization of space and time
3. Best control / monitoring activities

Transparency in identifying priorities,
to allow continuous review and improvement

Introduction

What is risk?

The combination of the consequences of an event (hazard) happening and the associated probability of its occurrence

Risk of non-compliance in fisheries is…

Probability of a non-compliant event to happen and its consequences to the objectives of the Common Fisheries Policy

With the objective to…

Maximize the level of compliance with the fisheries regulation

Regional Risk Assessments (RRA)

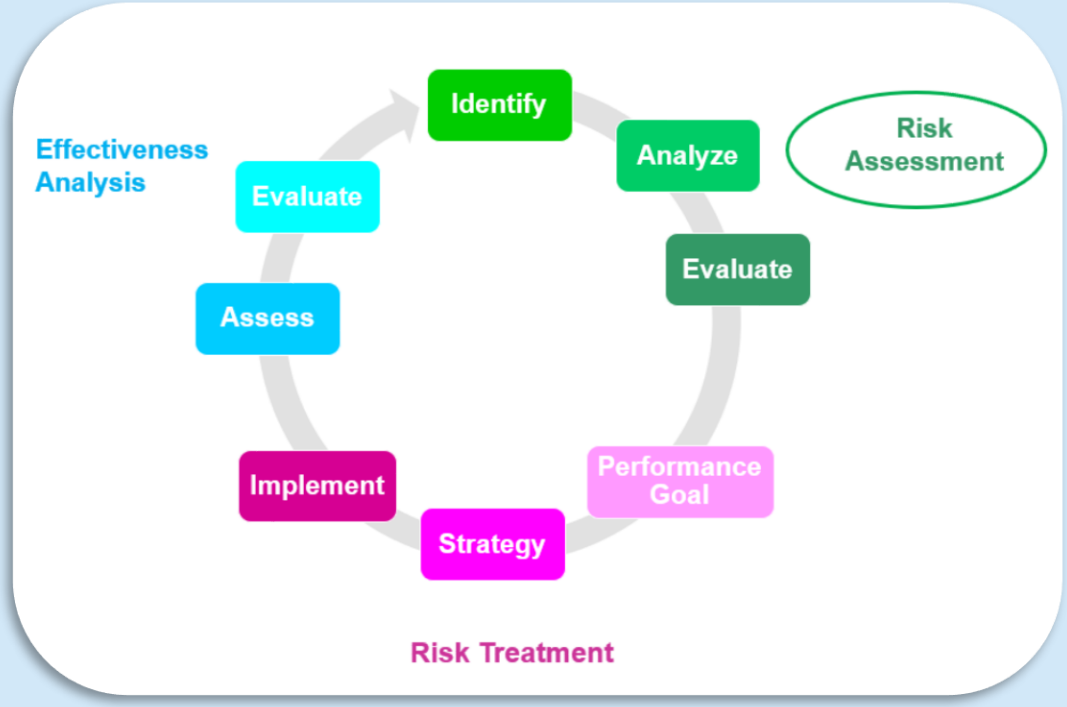
EFCA risk-based management approach of control and monitoring activities is used regionally at three levels during the life cycle of JDPs:

1. **Planning of JDPs:** to identify specific objectives for the yearly JDPs campaigns and to guide the deployment of control means.

2. **Strategic risk assessment:** to identify priority fisheries / fleet segments and to propose risk mitigation measures.

3. **Operational level:** to facilitate the exchange of best-practice and targets between different Member States at a short-term tactical level.

Risk assessment



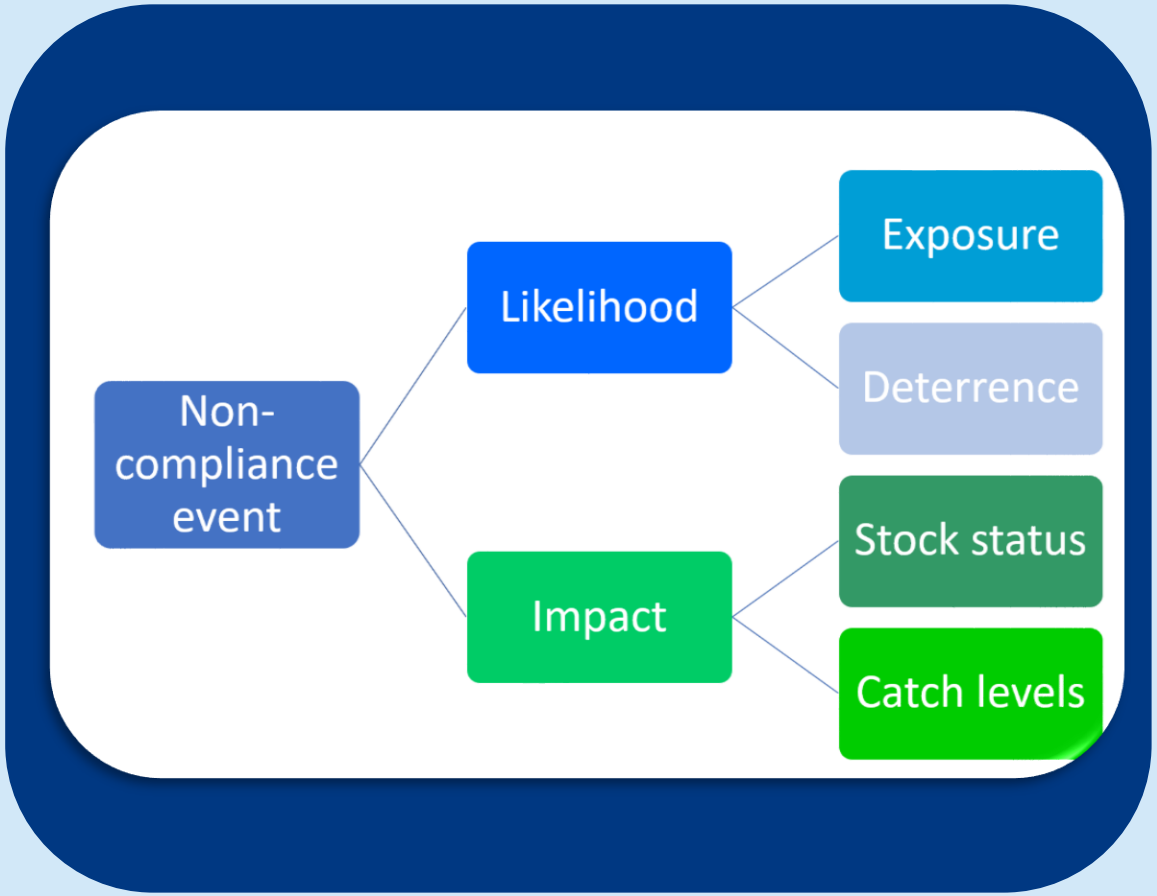
1. **Identification** of the main threats/sources of risk

2. **Analysis** of the risk (qualitative, semi-quantitative or quantitative):

   a) calculation of the impact
   b) calculation of the likelihood

3. **Evaluation** of the risk

Risk analysis



Risk analysis – impact

a) Stock status:

Stock status classifications by GFCM/STECF		RRA values used
Underexploited	Non-fully exploited	1
Moderately exploited		
Fully exploited	Fully Exploited	
Overexploited	Overexploited	4
Depleted		
Recovering		
Unknown	Unknown	3

b) Catch levels:

Fishery representing **<3%** of volume of catches (in relation to the total regional catches of that species)	Fishery representing **>3% and <20%** of volume of catches (in relation to the total regional catches of that species)	Fishery representing **≥ 20% and < 40 %** of volume of catches (in relation to the total regional catches of that species)	Fishery representing **≥ 40% and < 60 %** of volume of catches (in relation to the total regional catches of that species)	Fishery representing **≥ 60 %** of volume of catches (in relation to the total regional catches of that species)
0	1	2	3	4

c) Calculation of impact:

$$\frac{\text{Stock status} + \text{Stock status} + \text{Catch levels}}{3} =$$

- LOW (1)
- MEDIUM (2)
- HIGH (3)
- VERY HIGH (4)

1- Stock status

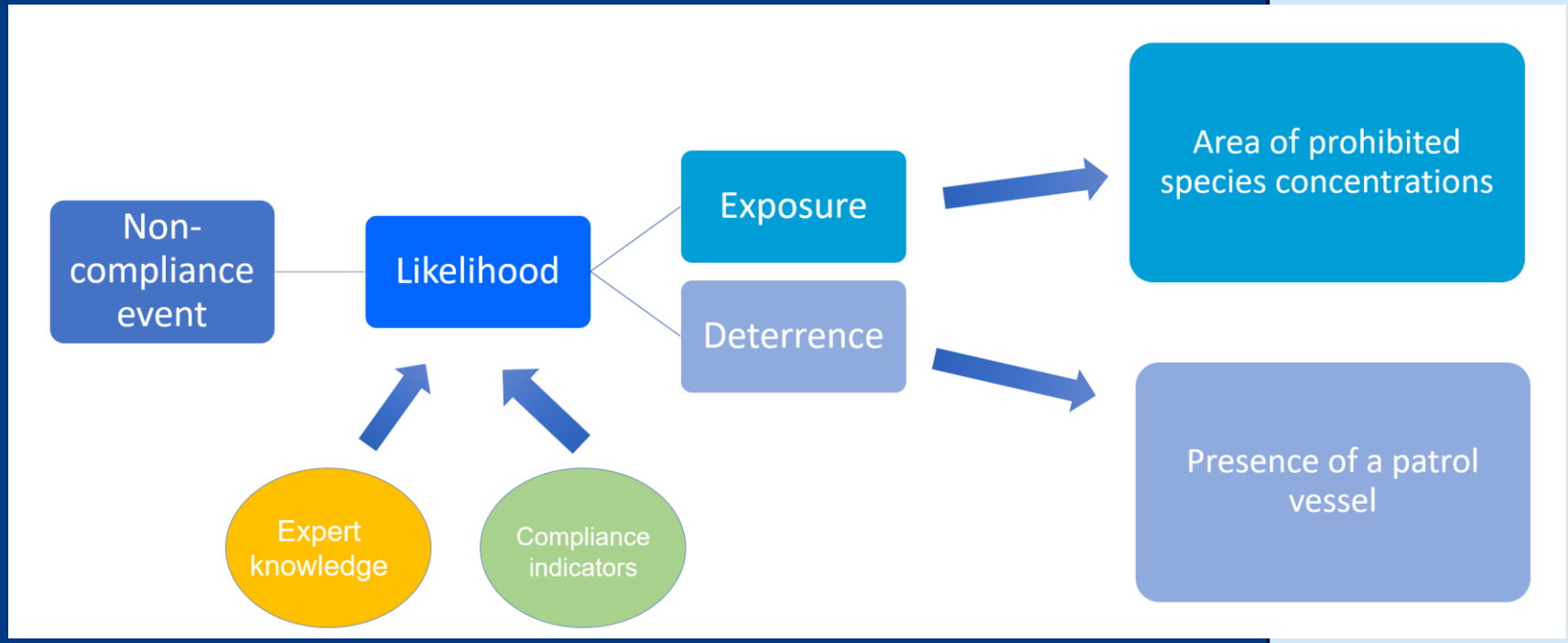
Agreed guidelines (criteria: level of exploitation, reproductive capacity)

Related with objective of sustainable use of marine resources

2- Catch levels

% of the catches of each fleet segment in relation to the total regional catch of that species

Risk analysis – likelihood



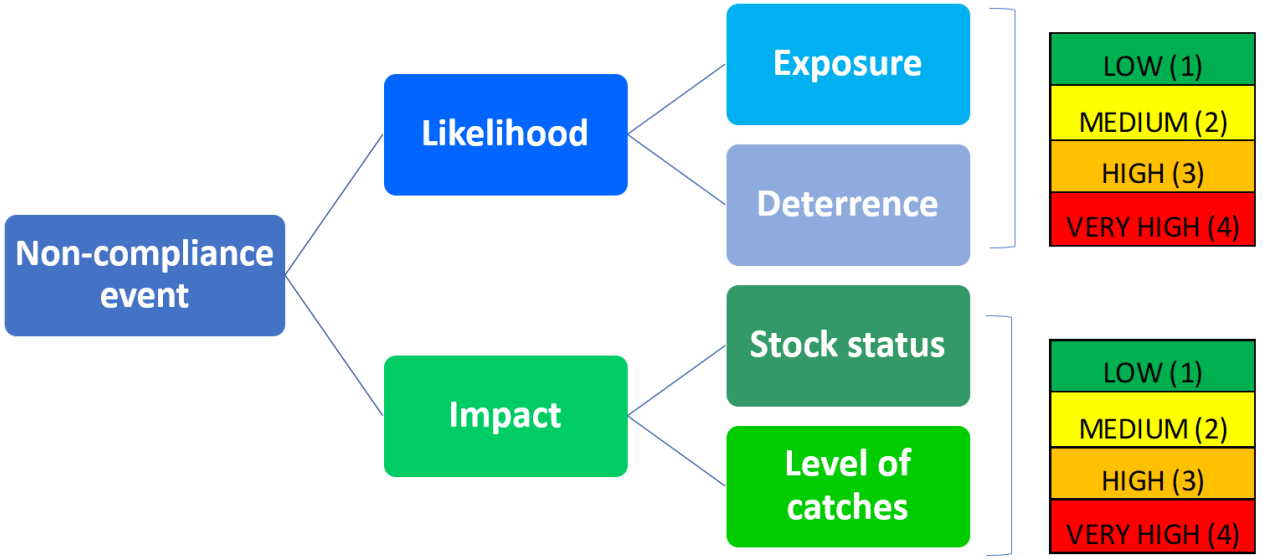
Information sources such as economic gain of committing an infringement, level of control effort, level of sanctions, and other compliance factors can be used

Impact	low	Medium	high	very high
Colour code	green	yellow	orange	Red
Numerical code	1	2	3	4

The four ratings to be used are:

1. **Low** - Could take place occasionally
2. **Medium** - Should occur from time to time
3. **High** - Will take place frequently
4. **Very high** - It is generally expected to take place

Risk Evaluation



FINAL CALCULATION OF RISK

Likelihood \ Impact	1	2	3	4
1	1	2	3	4
2	2	4	6	8
3	3	6	9	12
4	4	8	12	16

LOW	1-2
MEDIUM	3-7
HIGH	8-11
VERY HIGH	12-16

Key tool for the strategic planning of joint inspection and surveillance activities

https://www.efca.europa.eu/en/content/guidelines-risk-assessment-methodology-fisheries-compliance

Risk of non-compliance identified for each priority threat for the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea (two highest levels)

Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean Sea

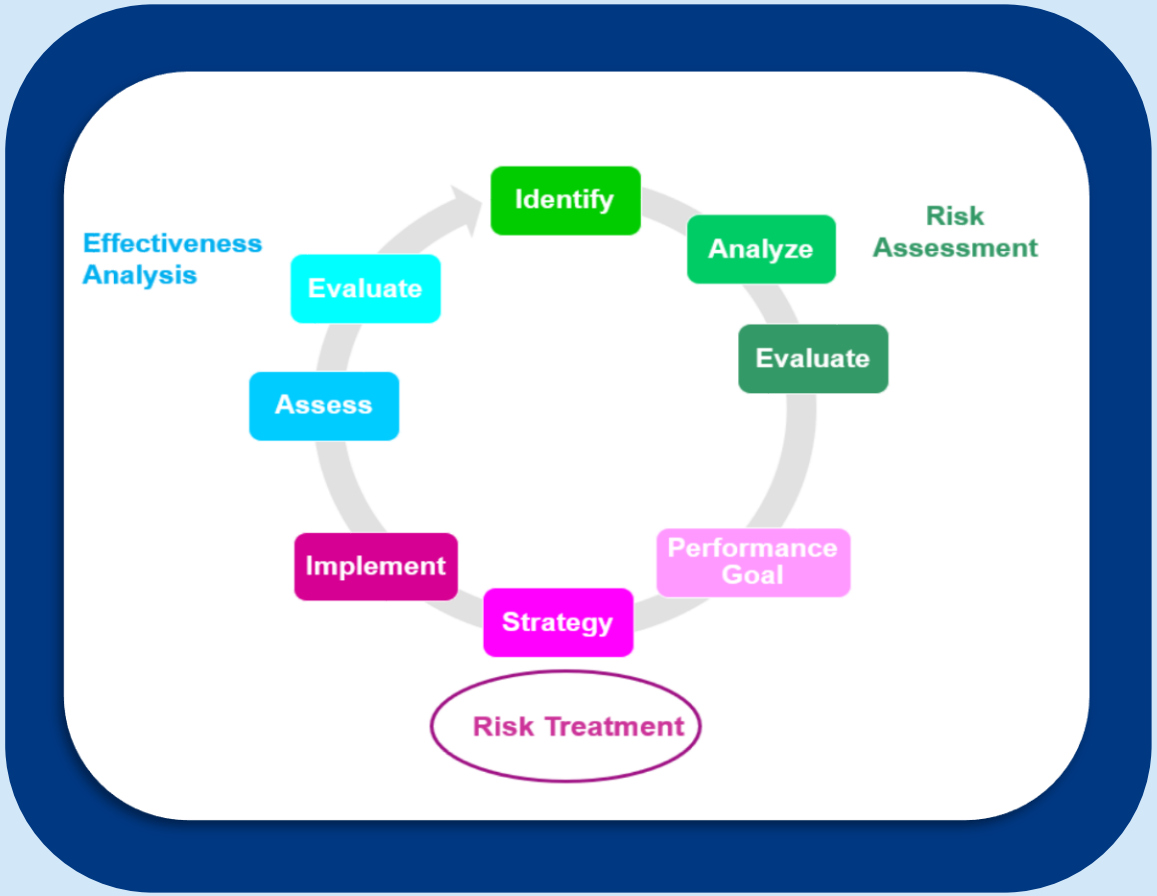
Fisheries with the highest risk of non-compliance

Eastern Atlantic
Alboran Sea
Western Mediterranean
Strait of Sicily
Adriatic Sea
Ionian Sea
Aegean Sea
Levant Sea

Gear	Area	Main target species	Non-compliance with the Landing Obligation	Misreporting	Non-compliance with other technical and management rules	Non-compliance with spatial / temporal closures	Use of illegal gear
Midwater trawls and pair trawls	Eastern Atlantic	Bluefin tuna		High	High		
Trawlers	Strait of Sicily	Deep-Sea rose shrimp, Hake, Blue and Red Shrimp	High	High			High
	Ionian Sea	Deep-Sea rose shrimp, Hake, Blue and Red Shrimp	Very High	Very High	High	High	Very High
	Aegean Sea	Deep-Sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp.	Very High	High		Very High	High
	Western Mediterranean	Deep-Sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp.	Very High	Very High	High	High	High
	Adriatic Sea	Deep-Sea rose shrimp, Hake, Mullus spp., Norway lobster, Sole	Very High	High		High	High
	Levant Sea	Hake, Mullus spp.	High				High
Purse seines	Mediterranean Sea without Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine	High	High			
	Adriatic Sea	Anchovy, Sardine		High	High		
Purse seines (catching vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High			
Purse seines (auxiliary vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High			
Purse seines (towing vessels)	Mediterranean Sea	Bluefin tuna		High			
Long Lines, hand-liners	Alboran Sea	Seabreams		High			
Long Lines, hand-liners	Mediterranean Sea	Albacore, Bluefin tuna, Swordfish	High	Very High	Very High	High	High
Trammel nets and gill nets	Western Mediterranean Sea	Hake, Mullus spp., Seabreams		High			
	Adriatic Sea	Pandora, Seabreams, Sole		High			
	Strait of Sicily and Ionian Sea	Hake, Mullus spp., Seabreams	High	High			
Sport and Recreational fishery	Eastern Atlantic and Mediterra-nean Sea	Albacore, Bluefin tuna, Swordfish		High	High	High	
Lampara	Mediterranean Sea	Dolphinfish					High
Diving	Mediterranean Sea	Red Coral		High	High	High	Very High

Level of risk: High Very High

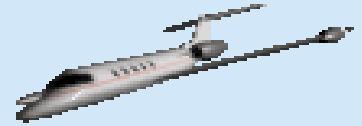
Risk Treatment



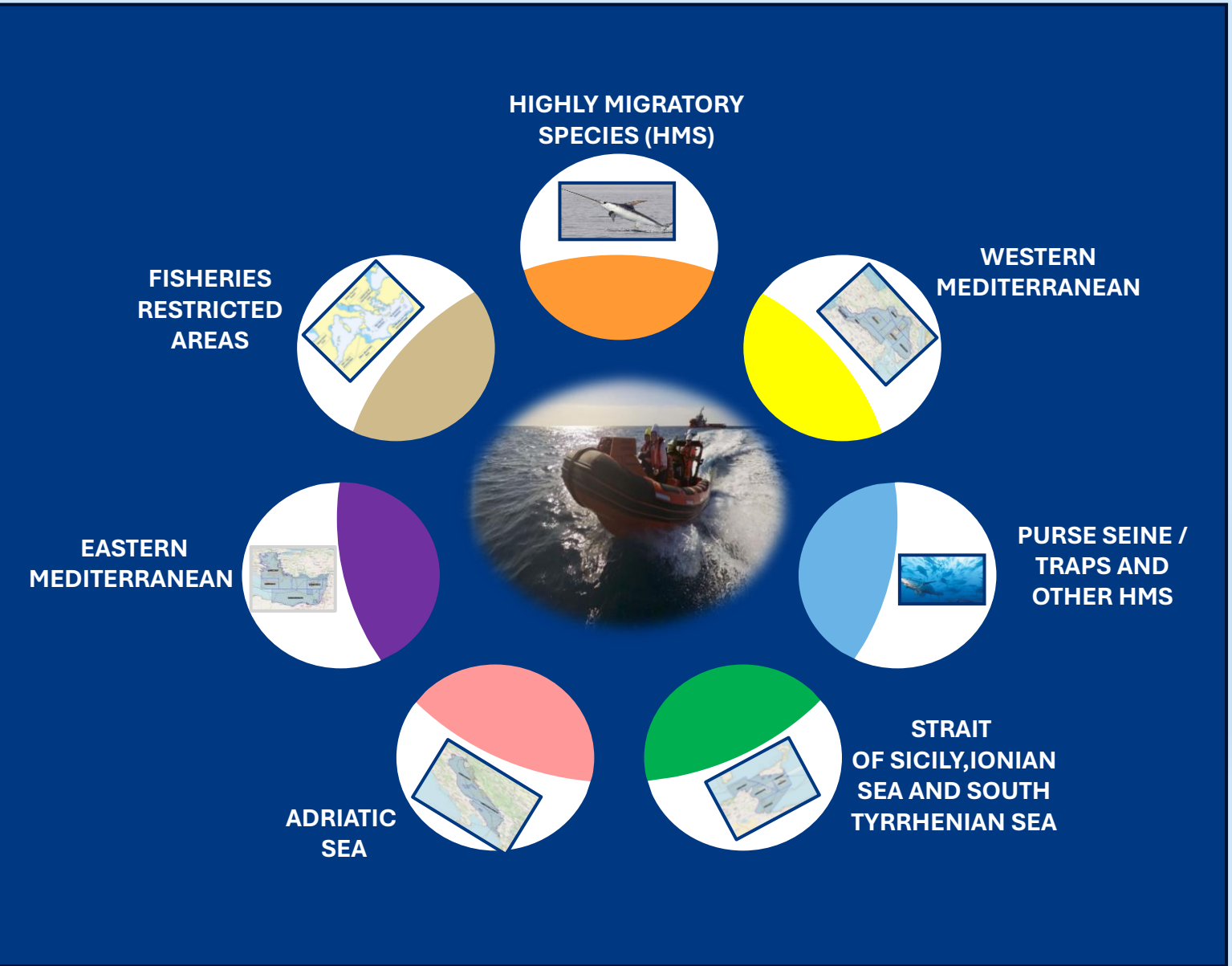
Once the fleet segments with the highest risks are identified, risk treatment measures are proposed

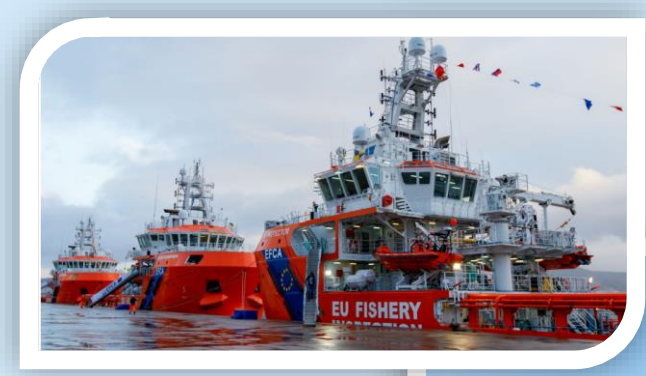
Types of measures:

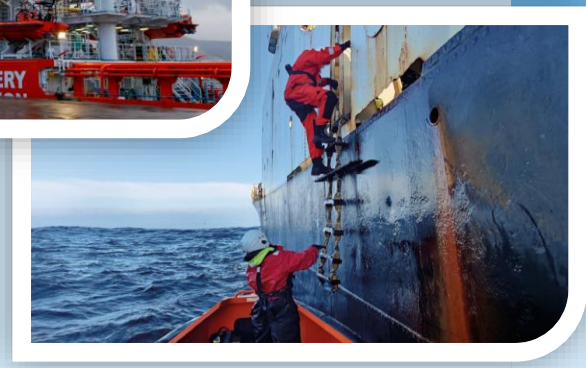
- ✓ Recommendations for control and monitoring
- ✓ Recommendations to raise awareness
- ✓ Recommendations for the development of regional compliance monitoring indicators



Mediterranean Specific campaigns





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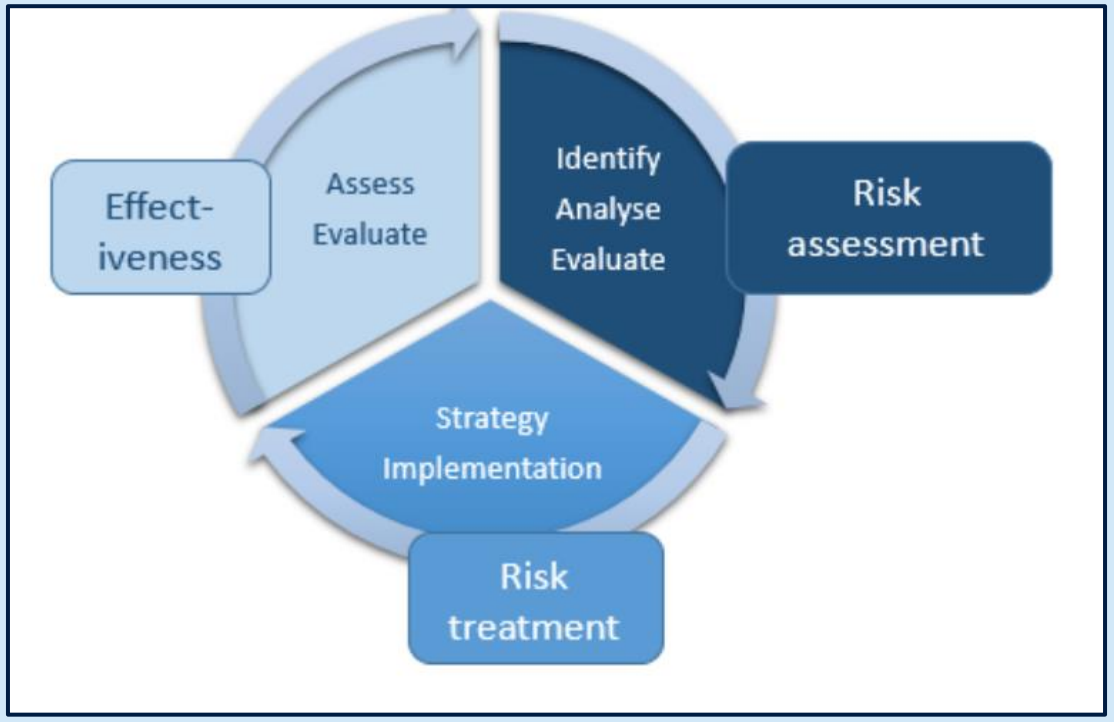
Risk Management Process



Structured iterative process for the identification, assessment, ranking and treatment of compliance risks

Risk assessment workflow

Steps

Yearly cycle

Year -1
- Fishery data

Year 0
- Risk analysis and planning

Year +1
- JDP implementation