



International Monitoring, Control and Surveillance Network Strategic Plan

This Strategic Plan will be used to provide guidance to the development of work plans, which will establish specific performance indicators for measuring the performance of the Network and the activities included in this plan.

The Secretariat will ensure the implementation of the Strategic Plan, and will also use it to support raising short- and long-term funding to carry out the work of the Network.

This Strategic Plan will be updated at the election of the new Chair or at a time deemed otherwise necessary.

Mission: To promote and facilitate cooperation and coordination of the members of the Network through information exchange, capacity development and joint work in order to achieve the improved effectiveness of monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) activities.

Vision: To be recognized as the principal point of contact, facilitator and advisor on all issues regarding MCS to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing and related fisheries activities on local, regional and international levels.

Goals: In order to carry on the Mission, the Network will focus on the following three Strategic Objectives:

1. Facilitate increased information exchanges and collaborative MCS activities amongst members;
2. Coordinate and encourage international cooperation on MCS and raise awareness of MCS issues; and
3. Help to strengthen the capacity of members to implement and maintain effective MCS regimes.

In order to achieve these Strategic Objectives, the Network has identified a number of activity areas that will support long-term success. Work plans will be based on, and measured against, these action items.

Project Selection and Evaluation

The Network will develop work plans consisting of projects related to the activity areas under each Strategic Objective. Specific projects shall be selected and evaluated upon the following criteria, as appropriate:

- Relevance to the Mission and the overall Objective of the IMCS Network
- Value added by IMCS Network
- Cost effectiveness
- Potential partners
- Feasibility of carrying out the work within a reasonable time frame
- Potential to attract funding and other support
- Feasibility of replication of project outcomes

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: Facilitate increased information exchanges and collaborative MCS activities amongst members

Projects under the following activity areas will support this objective:

- a) Develop a communications strategy that will aim to increase knowledge, publication and dissemination of Network projects and achievements in journals and popular and social media as well as among members.
- b) Encourage members to share information with the Network regarding training programs, changes to domestic MCS regimes (laws, regulations, policies and/or programs) or the development of best management practices, etc.
- c) Encourage members to utilize and develop the Network for requests to other countries for MCS information.
- d) Generate a regular Newsletter that will highlight projects undertaken by members and other relevant matters, in particular those that showcase successful collaboration.
- e) Develop and maintain a Network website, including links to members' websites as appropriate.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: Coordinate and encourage international cooperation on MCS and raise awareness of MCS issues

Projects under the following activity areas will support this objective:

- a) Expand Network membership, particularly in currently underrepresented regions.
- b) Expand Network relationships with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations working on MCS activities and existing regional initiatives through the development of strategic partnerships or by encouraging them to be observers of the Network, where appropriate.
- c) Encourage attendance of Network representatives at relevant meetings to increase the visibility, knowledge base and connections of the Network.
- d) Bring together leaders of fisheries enforcement agencies on a regular basis to share information and to discuss issues of common concern.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: Help to strengthen the human and technical capacity of members to implement and maintain effective MCS regimes

Projects under the following activity areas will support this objective:

- a) Facilitate or provide assistance and/or appropriate contacts for members, in particular in responding to suspected IUU incidents or strengthening their capacities related to MCS activities.
- b) Facilitate and organize, where appropriate, international, national and/or regional MCS training activities, and provide associated follow-up support and evaluation.
- c) Facilitate and organize, where appropriate, “train-the-trainer” sessions.
- d) Monitor and communicate MCS training opportunities and technical support.