



SFPA

AN t-ÚDARÁS UM CHOSAINN IASCAIGH MHARA
SEA FISHERIES PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority Strategy Statement 2015 - 2017





Message from the Minister

I am very pleased to welcome this new Strategy from the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority. As we face into significant challenges in the coming years under the new Common Fisheries Policy, the Authority, together with the Naval Services, will have a central role to play.

The introduction of the discards ban on a phased basis from 2015 will see many fundamental changes in fishing industry practice. These changes will ultimately lead to a sustainable industry and a secure future for fishermen and their families. It is essential that these changes are implemented successfully. I do not underestimate the resources, skills and investment required by the SFPA to fulfil this key aspect of its role.

The period of this Strategy Statement and beyond to 2020 will see a major programme of capital investment undertaken by the Authority, co-funded by Government and the EU under the new Seafood Development Programme.

This unprecedented investment programme will equip the Authority with the tools to deliver on this Strategy. I have every confidence that the Authority will succeed in its mandate and continue to make a huge contribution to our ambitions for the seafood sector.

Simon Coveney TD

Minister for Agriculture, Food, the Marine and Defence

Introduction from the Authority

Ireland enjoys extensive, valuable marine resources and worldwide markets with huge potential. 'Food Harvest 2020' and 'Harnessing our Ocean Wealth' set out the shared visions of the Irish Government and key stakeholders for this sector.

Fair, effective and independent implementation of regulation is key to achieving these visions. This document sets out our strategy for the period to 2017, highlighting our key priorities in meeting our mandate.

This strategy provides a high-level framework for our annual plans and performance targets. It outlines our approach to our work and where we want to be: a progressive agency continuously improving, growing and innovating, respected and trusted by our stakeholders and working in the public interest.



“ Fair, effective and independent implementation of regulation is key to achieving these visions. ”

Underpinning the strategy are the highest standards in corporate governance, promotion of excellence through people in the organisation and the need to ensure the most beneficial, effective and efficient use of the SFPA's resources.

In the shared marine resource, those who choose not to comply undermine the livelihoods of those who are complying. The SFPA aims to create a level playing field.

Susan Steele (Chair), Andrew Kinneen, Micheál O'Mahony.



Our Ethos

The SFPA is committed to the effective and fair regulation of the sea fishing and seafood sectors that fall within our mandate. This means all fishing vessels operating within Ireland's 200 mile limit, Irish fishing vessels wherever they operate, and all seafood produced in Ireland wherever it is marketed.

We want our stakeholders to have the utmost trust and confidence in the integrity, quality and efficiency of our operations and in our effective contribution to the delivery of the shared vision for the marine resources surrounding Ireland. We will be transparent in our approach and open to scrutiny of our performance.

We will apply the law in a fair, consistent and sensible manner. We treat people with impartiality, transparency and respect, whether large operators or small. We use risk analysis and intelligence to target, and hence deter and detect non-compliance in order to support a culture where compliance is the norm.

We commit to innovate continuously to simplify processes and improve effectiveness. We seek to build partnerships and consultation mechanisms with all our stakeholders to work successfully towards the achievement of our common goals.



Our Vision: Seas full of fish, coasts full of jobs



SFPA

AN t-ÚDARÁS UM GHOSAINT BASCÁIGH MHARA
SEA FISHERIES PROTECTION AUTHORITY



SUPPORT



ADVISE



VALIDATE



ENFORCE



SUPPORT

GOALS:	Support all staff in the effective delivery of their roles.
OBJECTIVES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Enhanced service delivery through improved internal capabilities.• Review and adapt structure to achieve strategy.• Implement best practice in corporate governance and support.• Strengthen performance management capabilities and leadership skills and prioritise communication throughout the organisation.
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective corporate and resource management achieving optimal results from available resources.• High performance and engaged staff, recognised for good performance and supported in the effective delivery of their responsibilities.





ADVISE

GOALS:	SFPA viewed as the authoritative source of information on the protection and regulation of sea-fisheries and seafood production.
OBJECTIVES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Foster a high level awareness amongst all key stakeholders of the benefits of compliance.• Listen through the most effective and efficient communication channels in a planned and structured manner.• Provide clear, relevant, timely and authoritative advice on sea-fisheries and seafood safety regulation.• Proactively advise on the formulation of policy regarding sea-fisheries control and seafood safety.
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Proactive provision of advice and information through a clear communications strategy.• Current accurate advice on sea-fisheries and seafood safety readily available for key stakeholders.



VALIDATE

GOALS:	Ensure high quality data, analysis and risk assessment.
OBJECTIVES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear criteria and ownership specified for content and delivery of specified reporting functions.• Necessary information management systems in place to support the efficient and effective operation of SFPA.• Introduction of internal quality audits to inform clear, concise and practicable procedures for all routine work.• Implementation of high quality data analysis and reporting.
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Streamlined data capture and reporting systems in place to support the efficient and effective operation of the SFPA.• Relevant data sets readily available in a timely manner.• Consistent, high quality service delivery.





ENFORCE

GOALS:	Consistent superior service delivery of control activities within an integrated risk based framework to achieve increased compliance rates.
OBJECTIVES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Effective partnership and co-operation with key control partners nationally and internationally to maximise effectiveness and consistency of control activities.• Review and update all relevant procedures and systems.• Reliable and timely identification of non-compliance risks using recognised risk analysis techniques.• Efficient and effective deployment of all available operational resources to achieve planned control outcomes.
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Compliance rates increase.• Formal agreements in place with all relevant organisations.• Documented fisheries control and food safety risk analysis procedures in place.



Strategic Outcome:

A seafood industry built on compliance partnering with us towards the successful realisation of the vision for the shared marine resources surrounding Ireland.

