



FAME Support Unit

CT06

**EMFF questions and
answers**

Final

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Contact:

FAME Support Unit
Boulevard de la Woluwe 2
B-1150 Brussels
T : +32 2 775 84 44
FAME@fame-emff.eu

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Abbreviations

AIR	Annual Implementation Report
AR	Annual Report
AWP	Annual Work Plan
CCI	Common Code for Identification
CFR	Community Fleet Register
CIR	Commission Implementing Regulation
CISE	Common Information Sharing Environment
CLLD	Community-led Local Development
CMES	Common Monitoring and Evaluation System
COM	European Commission
CPR	Common Provisions Regulation No 1303/2013
DCF	Data Collection Framework
DG MARE	Directorate-General for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries DG MARE
EC	European Commission
EFF	European Fisheries Fund
EMFF	European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
FAME	Fisheries and Aquaculture Monitoring & Evaluation
FAME SU	FAME Support Unit
FLAG	Fisheries Local Action Groups
FTE	Full Time Equivalent
GPO	Geographic Policy Officer
MA	Managing Authority
MC	Monitoring Committee
MS	Member State
NUTS	Nomenclature of Territorial Units for Statistics
OP	Operational Programme
RI	Result Indicator
SFC	Shared Fund Management Common System
SME	Small and Medium Enterprise
SO	Specific Objective
STECF	Scientific, Technical and Economic Committee for Fisheries
TA	Technical Assistance
UID	Unique Identifier
UP	Union Priority

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

The FAME SU Annual Work Plan (AWP) makes provision under Core Task 06 for a systematic response to questions asked by EMFF stakeholders (Member States, the European Commission, other EU institutions, evaluators and other parties). These questions are mainly on the Common Monitoring and Evaluation System (CMES), but also on other issues.

Questions may relate to terminology and definitions, or to the monitoring and evaluation requirements of the EMFF in terms of timelines, technical issues, and logistical arrangements for data provision and the monitoring/evaluation process.

The principal rationale for this task is to give stakeholders consistent and systematic guidance. This will help to create a stable interpretation of the operative framework.

In the period July 2015 – November 2017, 82 questions (2015: 13, 2016: 33, 2017: 36) were received from Managing Authorities (MAs) and Geographical Policy Officers (GPOs). FAME SU drafted answers and discussed these with DG MARE Unit D3. Approved answers were delivered to the submitters.

1.2 Objectives

The present paper aims to:

- Collect all the questions and answers to date in one reference document;
- Provide MAs with a working reference for common questions from their peers, with approved answers.

1.3 Target group

This paper is addressed primarily to MAs. As a reference, however, it may also be valuable to thematic and geographical experts as well as DG MARE officers.

The answers and comments in this paper do not constitute legal interpretation of any kind. They serve only discussion and exchange at a technical level.
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1.4 Structure of the paper

This paper presents the questions received and answers provided by FAME SU in the period January 2015 – November 2017. These questions and answers are grouped under three main headings:

- Art. 97.1 reporting,
- Result Indicators,
- specific articles.

2 Questions and answers on Art. 97.1 reporting

2.1 Infosys general

2.1.1 Number of Infosys tables (annexes)

Question
Is it correct to provide four separate tables (covering Annexes I–IV respectively) for each Union Priority?
Answer
No. There should be only four tables altogether: one for each of the four Annexes (Annexes I–IV of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1242/2014). As far as applicable, each of these four tables should cover all Union Priorities.

2.1.2 Relation between Commission Implementing Regulations 1242/2014, 1243/2014 and 2017/788

Question
Commission Implementing Regulations (EU) 1242/2014 and 1243/2014 show some differences in their structure and content concerning Art. 35, 49, 63, 68 and 76 of the EMFF regulation. Which of the two regulations should we refer to when recording operation data on the FAME database?
Answer
The codes used for fields 20 and 21 of the infosys data are only provided by Annex V of regulation 1242/2014, so please use this regulation as your reference for these two fields. Looking at the issue more widely, regulations 1242/2014 and 1243/2014 follow two different adoption procedures because they relate to two different articles of the EMFF regulation (97 and 107), with different types of empowerment. As regulations 1242/2014 and 1243/2014 are closely related, we recommend consulting them jointly, along with regulation 2017/788 (amending 1243/2014) from May 2017.

2.1.3 Operation reference period

Question
<p>Can you say more exactly how to handle reference periods? For example, perhaps we should say explicitly that the MA should set the reference period for the operation, and that the report should be delivered no later than 6 months after commissioning (this timing should also match what was said on the application).</p> <p>In many cases the reporting figures would be more representative if they were averaged over defined time periods, both before and after project implementation. Examples are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • numbers of employees (6 months would be more representative than one day, which appears to be the current standard); • result indicators such as production volumes. <p>In other cases where reference periods are defined, the values chosen may not be the best. Considering Field 37 (Annex III, Reg.480/2014), for instance, in some cases the last annual value is not the best solution. An example is RI 1.4 “Reduction of Unwanted Catches”: this fluctuates, so an average over 3 years would be better. In the case of Net Profit, the most recent annual value could be sufficient.</p> <p>Some reference periods are defined as “up to 5 years after the operation”, yet every MA defines their own periods, which may be as short as 2 years. To what extent is 5 years the rule, and when can or should it be reduced?</p>
Answer
<p>The provisions of the FAME SU working paper on definitions of common indicators should be understood as minimum requirements.</p> <p>As a minimum, therefore, use the most current annual value. But if it is possible to calculate an average over a longer period – say 3 years – then the MA may choose to do this.</p> <p>On RI 1.4 “Change in Unwanted Catches” specifically, the definition might be improved at a later stage when baselines become available following the implementation of the landing obligation. At the moment there are hardly any 3-year figures at EU level.</p> <p>The reference periods of up to 5 years after the operation relate to cases such as organic farming (Art.53 operations) where legal obligations require this time frame.</p>

2.1.4 Collecting data from beneficiaries

Question
Is it necessary to collect data from beneficiaries during the project implementation period?
Answer
Data from beneficiaries is covered in the application form and in the reporting cycles defined by the MA. It is usually collected: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at the beginning of the operation (i.e. in the application form); • during payment requests (financial data only); and • after completion (in the final report of the operation).

2.1.5 Time for reporting data in Infosys

Question
When is it necessary to report data in Infosys (Art. 97 reporting)?
Answer
Every year by 31 March MAs have to report data on operations selected for funding (i.e. where there is a signed grant contract between the MA and the beneficiary) until the end of the previous calendar year, according to Art. 97 of the EMFF regulation. Regardless of its state of implementation, every selected operation must be reported every year (cumulative data)..
All fields in the appropriate part of the database should be filled in. In exceptional cases, if some data is not available by the 31 March deadline, leave the field blank and add the data as soon as possible.

2.1.6 Decimals and rounded numbers

Question
For data that requires decimal numbers (such as kW, m ² , percentages), how should we round or truncate the figures?
Answer
Please give figures to the nearest whole number. Round up if the decimal part is 0.5 or greater. Round down if the decimal part is less than 0.5 as defined in the FAME working paper on “Definitions of Common Indicators” (October 2016).

2.1.7 Reporting more than one type of investment

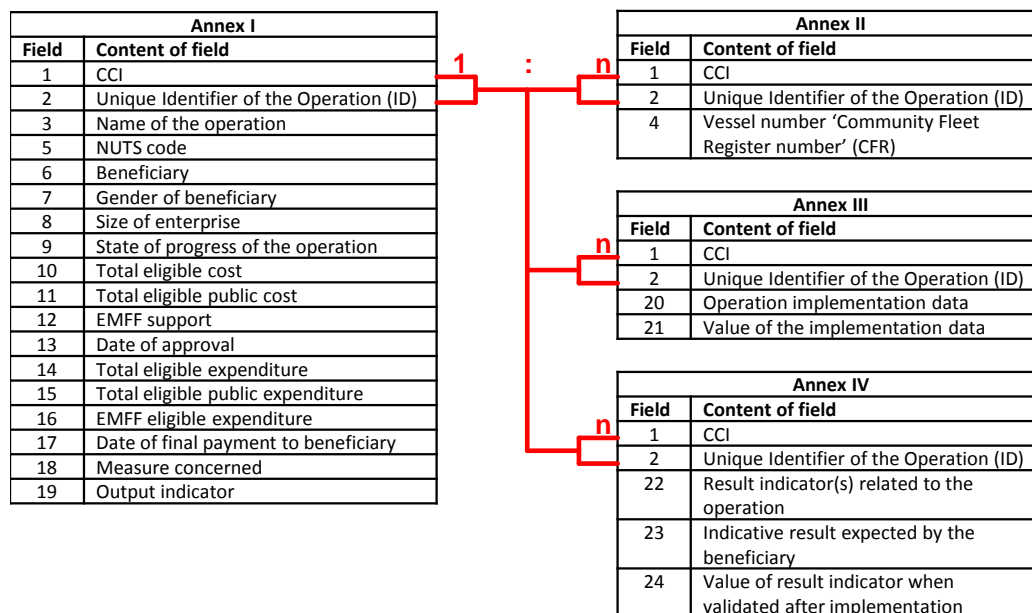
Question
Is it possible to report more than one investment type for some operations? For example, Regulation 1243, Annex II, code II.2 covers several investment types (productive; diversification; modernisation; animal health; product quality; restoration; complementary activities).
Answer
No, only one investment type per operation can be recorded in Infosys (Implementing regulation 1242/2014 Annex III, field 21).
You are correct that some operations might include more than one type of investment. In this case the MA must decide which type is the most important, and use this code in Infosys.

2.1.8 Multiple entries per Infosys field

Question
What do we do when more than one value is available for a field in the FAME database, especially for fields 4, 6, 20–21 and 22–24?
Answer

Our database uses the following structure for the Art. 97.1 data:

Figure 1: Database structure



Every operation is represented by *exactly one row* in the “Annex I” table. It may comprise *more than one row* in the “Annex II” table (if it concerns more than one vessel), in the “Annex III” table (if more than one type/code of operation implementation data is required for the measure concerned), and in the “Annex IV” table (if more than one result indicator is associated with the Specific Objective under which the operation is allocated). The different tables are linked through a combination of field 1

(CCI) and field 2 (Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)).¹

Hence if there is more than one value in fields 4, 20–21 and 22–24, these values will be recorded in additional rows of the “Annex II”, “Annex III” and “Annex IV” tables.

The situation is different for field 6 (Beneficiary). Regulation 1242/2014 does not allow for a sub-table listing beneficiaries. If there is more than one beneficiary, they must all be fitted into field 6 of the “Annex I” table.

¹ Within a single MS, field 2 (Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)) would be sufficient as a key. Since two MSs might coincidentally use the same ID for different operations, however, the FAME SU database combines fields 1 and 2 to create a truly unique identifier.

2.2 Infosys specific fields

2.2.1 Infosys field 2: Unique Identifier of the Operation

Question
Is there a legally binding specification for the Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID) used in field 2?
Answer
No. The only requirement for the Unique Identifier of the Operation ID field is that it should be unique within each MS and have a maximum length of 250 characters. We also recommend avoiding non-ASCII characters. We support proposals to harmonise IDs so that each one is unique within the EU.

2.2.2 Infosys field 4: one record per vessel number?

Question
According to IR 1242/2014 Annex II, field 4 contains the numbers of all the vessels concerned. Is it correct that there is one record per vessel and that the Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID) (field 2) is repeated for each vessel? And is the vessel number to be included even though that vessel is concerned with only some of the actions collected in the operation?
Answer
Yes, your interpretation is correct.

2.2.3 Infosys field 5: NUTS refers to the location of an operation

Question
In Annex I field 5, does the NUTS code refer to the location of the beneficiary or the actual location of the operation?
Answer
The NUTS code in Infosys field 5 refers to the place where the operation is carried out, just as it did for the EFF (see column 4 in Annex III of COM Reg. 498/2007).

2.2.4 Infosys field 5: NUTS classes

Question
Which NUTS classes are appropriate for operations carried out on different geographical scales, and in particular those operations that take place in EU as opposed to national waters?
Answer
Use the smallest NUTS area that encompasses all the projects within a single operation. That means NUTS III if all projects are in the same district, or NUTS II or I for projects that cover larger areas within one MS. For operations at national level and in international waters please use NUTS 0, for example NUTS 0 ES.

2.2.5 Infosys field 5: NUTS codes across borders

Question
We have an application for a project that will be executed partly in the MS and partly elsewhere. Is it correct to report only the NL NUTS code, as this is the location from where the project is financed? We also have an application for a project relating to the whole of the Netherlands. Is it OK to report 'NLZZZ'?
Answer
With cross-border projects, use the MS NUTS code (or more precisely the country code) for the MS financing the project and reporting in Infosys. So in this case please use NL. NLZZZ refers to an "Extra-Regio" area of the Netherlands at NUTS III level (see Regulation 1059/2003), so you should not use this code for the whole of the Netherlands. Instead use the MS code, which is again NL.

2.2.6 Infosys field 6: names of beneficiaries

Question
Infosys field 6 (Beneficiary) requires a comma-separated list if the project has multiple beneficiaries. Since this field has a limit of 250 characters, it may be difficult to include all the beneficiaries. How do we deal with this?
Answer
If the names of the beneficiaries are too long to fit the field you may use abbreviations. Only list those beneficiaries that are actually receiving grants.

2.2.7 Infosys field 7: gender of beneficiaries

Question
How do we treat “Gender of beneficiary” (IR 1242/2014 Annex I, field 7) if the beneficiary is a company or other legal entity?
Answer
According to CIR 1243/2014, Annex I, field 7 is to be filled in “where relevant”. If the beneficiary is not a natural person, leave the field blank. Also make sure than field 6 (Beneficiary) shows the legal form of the beneficiary (e.g. S.R.O.). This is particularly important when the legal entity is named for the person who owns it. If the beneficiaries are of mixed gender, please use code “3” in field 7.

2.2.8 Infosys field 8: beneficiary is not an enterprise

Question
How do we deal with IR 1242/2014 Annex I, field 8 (Size of enterprise) when the beneficiary is not an enterprise?
Answer
If the beneficiary is not an enterprise, leave field 8 blank. If the beneficiary is an enterprise, enter one of the four codes: 1: micro, 2: small, 3: medium, 4: large.

2.2.9 Infosys field 9: codes 1 and 2

Question
In Reg. 1243/2014 Annex I field 9 (State of progress of the operation), what is the difference between codes 1 and 2?
Answer
<p>Please note that field 9 of Annex I has been subject to changes; EC 2017/788 contains the amendments. This is how to use codes 1 and code 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Code 1, operation interrupted following partial implementation (for which some expenditure has been declared by the beneficiary to the Managing Authority). Means: The operation is <i>temporarily</i> interrupted, but may be continued at a later stage. • Code 2, operation abandoned following partial implementation (for which some expenditure has been declared by the beneficiary to the Managing Authority). Means: The operation has been permanently abandoned and is not expected to be taken up again.

2.2.10 Infosys field 9: completed operations

Question
When is an operation completed?
Answer
<p>An operation is considered completed when it is “physically completed or fully implemented, meaning all related payments have been made by beneficiaries and the corresponding public contribution has been paid to the beneficiaries” (CPR, Art.2 (14)).</p> <p>As long as not all expenses have been paid to the beneficiary, an operation may be fully implemented (code 5 in field 9 according to CIR 2017/788), but is not considered completed (code 3 field 9).</p>

2.2.11 Infosys fields 13 and 17: date of approval and date of final payment

Question
What is the difference between the date of approval (field 13) and the date of final payment to the beneficiary (field 17)?
Answer
<p>Field 13 (Date of approval) is the date when the operation has been approved and selected for support. This is not necessarily a payment date.</p> <p>Field 17 (Date of final payment) to beneficiary refers to payment made when the operation has been completed.</p>

2.2.12 Infosys field 19: when to report an output indicator value

Question
When should output indicator values be reported?
Answer
Output indicators should be reported when selecting an operation.

2.2.13 Infosys field 19: output indicator value

Question
What should the value of the output indicator be?
Answer
The value of the output indicator (field 19) is usually “1”, that is one operation. Exceptions are Art.63 (measure code III.2), Art.66 and Art.70, where the value can also be equal to or larger than 1 in some cases.

2.2.14 Infosys fields 20, 21, (and field 4), when no vessels are involved

Question
<p>According to Reg. 1242/2014 Measure I.18. (Reg. 508/2014, Art.40 (1)(b) to (g) and (i)) it is necessary to enter the registration number of the vessel if the operation is “related to the sea”.</p> <p>Operations under these sections of Art.40 take place in maritime areas and are clearly “related to the sea”, but they are often not directly linked to fishing activities and vessels. In these cases, how do we complete field 20?</p> <p>The same applies to Reg. 508/2014, Art.26 on innovation. Here it is also mandatory to include the ship code in field 21, but what do we do if the work is carried out by a scientific organization that has no ships?</p>
Answer
<p>In Infosys table 3, “Operation implementation data”, only fields 20 and 21 have to be completed.</p> <p>The text in Reg. 1242/2014 Annex V, last column of the table, should read “yes if the operation is linked to any fishing vessel registered in the CFR” instead of “if operation relates to the sea”.</p> <p>The Community fleet register number (CFR) is entered in table 2, field 4. In the cases discussed (Art.26 and Art.40 (1)(b) to (g) and (i)) the field remains blank if the operation is not linked to any fishing vessel registered in the CFR.</p>

2.2.15 Infosys field 21: updates

Question
Some implementation data changes during the course of an operation. Should field 21 be updated regularly?
Answer
According to CIR 2017/788, field 21 value will be inserted when the operation is selected and maybe updated when the operation is fully implemented (field 9 code 5) or completed (field 9 code 3). when field 9 equals to code 0 and code 5.

2.2.16 Infosys field 22: programme-specific result indicators

Question
In field 22 (“Result indicator(s) related to the operation”), every result indicator has a COM code derived from a list discussed in the EMFF Expert Group. How do we deal with programme-specific result indicators? Our example relates to the two programme-specific result indicators under UP5 (jobs created and jobs maintained).
Answer
There is no common code for programme-specific result indicators. It is up to the MA to define a system. However, we strongly recommend to use different indicator codes for programme specific result indicators than those used for common result indicators. In the case of your UP5 example, codes 5.2 and 5.3 are fine. When reporting in the frame of Art.97.1, however, the values for codes 5.2 and 5.3 cannot be reported, since only common result indicators can be included. When reporting in the frame of the AIR, include only cumulative values of the OP common and programme-specific indicators.

2.2.17 Infosys fields 22, 23, 24: when to report a result indicator value

Question
When should result indicator values be reported?
Answer
When selecting an operation, the beneficiary reports the expected results and these feed into field 23. This field can be left blank if the common result indicators (field 22) are not applicable at the operation level. After the operation is completed the beneficiary reports a numeric value for the result achieved, if the result indicator is applicable. This value feeds into field 24. All operations require a validated value. The most suitable time to collect the validated result indicator for each common result indicator is discussed in the FAME SU working paper on “Definitions of Common Indicators” from October 2016.

2.2.18 Infosys fields 22, 23, 24: multiple indicators for a single operation

Question
What do we do when a number of indicators apply to an operation?
Answer
<p>The question applies only to result indicators, not to output indicators, because every operation has only one output indicator. Use field 19 to record the value for this output indicator (not the code of the indicator). Which output indicator to use for an operation is determined by the measure under which the operation is implemented (field 18).</p> <p>In many cases, however, more than one result indicator has to be used for a single operation. This again depends on the measure under which the operation is implemented. Every measure is associated with exactly one SO (e.g. in Chapter 3.3 of the national Operational Programme (OP)). The Art. 97.1 data should include values for all common result indicators listed in Chapter 3.2 of the MS OP for the relevant SO.</p> <p>When an operation is selected under a specific measure, the following cases are possible:</p> <p>Field 22 (Result indicator(s) related to the operation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ List the codes for all common result indicators associated with the relevant SO in SFC2014 (and in the national Operational Programmes), with one result indicator code per row. This includes result indicators marked as “not applicable” in the national OP, but excludes OP-specific result indicators; <p>Field 23 (Indicative result expected by the beneficiary):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If a result indicator is marked “NOT APPLICABLE” to the relevant SO in the national OP, or is not relevant to a specific type of measure (i.e. when an operation has by definition no effect on the result indicator value), then leave field 23 blank. For example, operations under Art. 55 “Public health measures” relate only to compensation for mollusc farmers; we can usually be sure they will have no effect on result indicator 2.5 “Change in the volume of production of recirculation systems”. ○ If a result indicator is relevant to a specific type of measure (i.e. an operation can in theory affect the result indicator) then field 23 must contain a value. This value can be: “0”, when a specific operation is <i>not expected</i> in practice to affect the value of the result indicator. An example is “modernisation of aquaculture units” under Art. 48.1.c: this may in some cases lead to a change in the value of production, but in other cases it may not, so the expected change is “0”; or a number higher than zero, when the operation is <i>expected</i> to affect the value of the result indicator. <p>Where an indicator value has to be given in field 23, the relevant information should usually be collected from the beneficiary, e.g. in application forms, which should be designed accordingly.</p> <p>Field 24 (Value of result indicator when validated after implementation):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ If a result indicator is marked “NOT APPLICABLE” to the relevant SO in the national OP, or if it is not relevant to a specific type of measure – i.e. field 23 was left blank – then field 24 also remains blank. <p>If a result indicator is relevant to a specific type of measure, i.e. field 23 has a value (zero or higher),</p>

then field 24 must also have a value, which should usually be collected from the beneficiary after completion of the operation. If the value in Field 23 was zero, field 24 may also be zero. However, field 24 may also have a non-zero value, for instance if the operation delivered an unexpected effect related to a result indicator.

2.2.19 Infosys field 24: validation after implementation

Question
<p>Field 24 is “Value of result indicator when validated after implementation”. Does this mean that the beneficiary can send us the data, or does the MA need to ensure verification?</p> <p>Do we have to validate after the end of the reference period of the operation, for example if the new job was created one year after the last day of implementation? And what is the connection with Art. 71?</p> <p>And when do we have to report? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An operation starts on 1.1.2017 and is finalised on 31.12.2019. A new job is created the following year (2020). So do we conduct the validation in 2021 and report the new job in Infosys for 2020? How does this fit with the fact that according to Art. 71 the beneficiary has to maintain the new job for a minimum of 3 years from the final payment? • An operation starts on 1.1.2017 and is finalised on 31.12.2019. A new job is created after 1.1.2017 but before 31.12.2019. When do we validate it, and when do we report the validated number?
Answer
<p>We suggest that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Field 24 should affect all operations. • Validation means an examination of whether the “indicative result expected by the beneficiary” (i.e. field 23) was met. • CIR 1242/2014 and 1243/2014 require only that the result indicator is validated. One way to do this is to ask the beneficiary. • Monitoring tasks should not be confused with audit obligations. However, MAs should ensure a reliable system to collect the data on result indicator values. <p>Considering your question on Infosys reporting: you are free to select a suitable time for the collection of validated data for field 24. For validations at the end of the programming period COM may request timely reporting so that data is available in due time, e.g. for <i>ex post</i> evaluations.</p>

3 Result indicators

3.1 Intervention logic and links between measures and result indicators

Question
Is it appropriate to link the result indicators to single measures?
Answer
<p>Result indicators are linked to SOs only, not to single measures.</p> <p>Result indicator 1.4 “change in unwanted catches” is formally linked to the UPI SO 1 “reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches”.</p> <p>This SO includes the following measures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art. 37: Support for the design and implementation of conservation measures and regional cooperation. • Art. 38: Limiting the impact of fishing on the marine environment and adapting fishing to the protection of species (+ Art. 44.1.c Inland fishing). • Art. 39: Innovation linked to the conservation of marine biological resources (+ Art. 44.1.c Inland fishing). • Art. 40.1.a: Protection and restoration of marine biodiversity – collection of lost fishing gear and marine litter. • Art. 43.2: Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters – investments to facilitate compliance with the obligation to land all catches. <p>In this sense Art. 37 can be formally linked to result indicator 1.4 “change in unwanted catches”. However, bear in mind that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Result indicators relate to effects detected at the beneficiary level, and for this to be possible the beneficiary must have a fishing activity. For example, if the beneficiary under Art. 37 is a research institute, and the operation is a pilot project for a new type of selective gear, then the direct effect on the indicator value might be zero. Subsequently fishers might use the new selective gear, but by then the reduction in unwanted catches would be a more distant impact and would not be experienced by the original beneficiary under Art. 37. • The target settings in the OP depend only on the measured effects of the operations that have been funded; it should not be confused with national policy targets. For the reasons explained above, the effect of Art.37 is expected to be limited.

3.2 Result indicator values

Question
Are the indicators that do not affect the project to be left blank when we prepare the AIR? Is the non-applicability of the indicators compatible with completion of the AIR?
Answer
<p>An indicator can be applicable, or not, at the operation level. If <i>all</i> the operations in an OP consider a result indicator (RI) to be non-applicable, then the RI should also be non-applicable at OP level.</p> <p>It is strongly recommended to use the common RIs as much as possible. Applicability or non-applicability of an RI should be defined by the MA. Non-applicability of a RI can be declared at three levels:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The indicator is applicable at the OP level, but not consistently applicable at operation level. For example, an OP is implemented under UP1/SO1 Art. 37 and Art. 38; here indicator 1.4 “change in unwanted catches” is applicable to Art. 38 and non-applicable to Art. 37. For all operations under Art. 37, fields 23 and 24 remain blank. A specific case would be an operation under Art. 37 where one beneficiary is a fisher deploying a device; in that case the distinction on whether or not the indicator is applicable is made at the beneficiary level. • The indicator is applicable at the OP level and relevant to the Article in question, but the change for the given measure can intentionally be negative. For example, Art. 33 on temporary cessation should always lead to a decrease in volume, value and net profit. In this case indicators 1.1, 1.2 and 1.3 should be considered non-applicable. • The indicator is non-applicable at the OP level. For example, suppose an OP implements only Art. 37 under UP1/SO1 and all operations concern research on conservation measures. Here indicator 1.4 “change in unwanted catches” is non-applicable at OP level.

3.3 Result indicator values: splitting among operations

Question																				
<p>If a beneficiary is involved in two operations with the same result indicators, these indicators may be counted twice despite the fact that the beneficiary has achieved the result only once. Is that the correct approach?</p> <p>For example, we have two operations under Art 43(1) “Fishing ports, landing sites, auction halls and shelters”. For both these operations, the following has been reported against the result indicators in the Art.97 return:</p>																				
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>1 CCI</th> <th>2 Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)</th> <th>22 Result indicator(s) related to the operation</th> <th>23 Indicative result expected by the beneficiary</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2014xx14MFOP001</td> <td>1052</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>110000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014xx14MFOP001</td> <td>1052</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014xx14MFOP001</td> <td>1097</td> <td>1.3</td> <td>110000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2014xx14MFOP001</td> <td>1097</td> <td>1.8</td> <td>6</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	1 CCI	2 Unique Identifier of the Operation (ID)	22 Result indicator(s) related to the operation	23 Indicative result expected by the beneficiary	2014xx14MFOP001	1052	1.3	110000	2014xx14MFOP001	1052	1.8	6	2014xx14MFOP001	1097	1.3	110000	2014xx14MFOP001	1097	1.8	6
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2014xx14MFOP001	1097	1.8	6																	
<p>One enterprise is delivering two operations, calculating the results at an enterprise level, and reporting these results for both operations. This will count the data twice even though only one set of results will be achieved.</p>																				

If the beneficiary were to submit a further application for an operation in the same area, the same 6 members of staff would remain employed. Should the beneficiary claim that 6 jobs have been maintained as part of the new application, even though they have been reported twice already?

Answer

Double counting must be avoided! If a beneficiary is involved in more than one operation, the results must be split between those operations.

However, there may be a certain exception with respect to RI 1.8, “employment maintained”. It is often very difficult to decide which jobs have been maintained by an operation (the FAME SU working paper on “Definitions of Common Indicators” explains this). In theory the same job can be maintained several times over a period of seven years, but if this occurs in simultaneous operations it should be divided into different sub-groups. This division can be done based on the budget.

3.4 Time for reporting a result indicator value

Question

In Infosys field 24 we report the value of the result indicator, validated after implementation. Regulation 1243/2014 Art. 3 requires this data to be reported twice during an operation: once on approval, and once on completion of the operation.

In some cases, however, the result is only available some time after the operation is complete. For instance, the yield of a fish farm may not be known for 2–3 years after completion of the operation. How do we report the result indicator when the planned result is not yet available?

Answer

We have highlighted the question of the time of reporting in our working paper “EMFF Article 97 (1) (a) reporting data requirements” and in the working paper on the “Definition of Common Indicators”.

The best time for a validation satisfies two conditions:

- When sufficient time has passed for the result to materialise. For example, if the result indicator refers to an annual value of production, this may be a full calendar or business year after implementation of the operation.
- Before too many external factors may have influenced the value of the result indicator.

There may certainly be cases when the full result does not materialize until some years later. However, this may exceed the programming period, and external factors may affect the results of the operation. A specific date for the collection of result indicators is therefore required. The FAME SU working paper on the “Definition of Common Indicators” proposes the earliest possible dates for collecting the ex-post values. In the case of operations selected at the end of the programming period, these dates should also be regarded as informal “cutoff” dates in order to allow for the finalisation of OP reporting.

In summary, you need to decide when to report the result indicator. We suggest following the timeframe proposed in the working paper “Definition of Common Indicators”.

3.5 On-the-spot verification

Question
Does the MA have to provide validation through administrative and on-the spot verifications of result indicators? Or can validation be done simply by asking the beneficiary?
Answer
<p>We understand that all beneficiaries will provide information on the applicable result indicators at a certain time, e.g. during application for reimbursement; this will be the “validation” for field 24 based on the “data communicated by the beneficiaries in relation to the indicators”.</p> <p>To decide whether to check the data provided by the beneficiaries via on-the-spot verifications (or any other intensive examination of the data), ask:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Is the ex-ante value of the result indicator claimed by the beneficiary (field 23) a selection criterion for the OP/MA?</p> <p>Imagine an application that claims to create five jobs, while a second application – otherwise equivalent to the first – says it will create only two jobs. If the number of jobs created is a selection criterion, the examination (and the “justification of the difference between the committed and the actual contribution”) should be relatively strict.</p> <p>If the claimed ex-ante value of the result indicator is not a selection criterion, the examinations can be less strict.</p> <p>In either case, deeper examination is possible during the evaluation process. Here, however, the focus is on explanation rather than verification and compliance.</p> <p>On-the-spot verifications, where required, should refer to samples based on the sampling method established by the MA.</p>

3.6 Measuring employment

3.6.1 Employment created/maintained in the Implementing Regulations 480/2014 and 1243/2014

Question
<p>We have a question on the difference between target values and indicative results expected for three result indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employment created • Employment maintained • Change in the volume of production. <p>In line with Regulation 480/2014/EU, Annex III we have to supply “Target value for the result indicator provided” (field 38), while for Regulation 1243/2014/EU we have to collect “Indicative result expected by the beneficiary” (field 23). What is the difference, if any?</p> <p>For “Change in the volume of production”, are we correct in thinking that the target value is the final volume expected, while the indicative result is the change in volume after the operation is completed?</p>
Answer
<p>From a technical point of view, FAME SU considers that:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Reg. 480/2014 field 38 – Reg. 480/2014 field 37 = Reg. 1243/2014 field 23</p> <p>So the first example (Employment created) might be:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Target value for the result indicator provided: 8 FTE – Baseline: 5 FTE = Indicative result expected by the beneficiary: 3 FTE</p> <p>For employment maintained, the working paper proposal of FAME SU yields a slightly different calculation:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Target value for the result indicator provided: 5 FTE – Baseline: 0 FTE = Indicative result expected by the beneficiary: 5 FTE</p> <p>Here the baseline is always zero, because a job cannot be maintained before the operation.</p> <p>For “Change in the volume of production”, your interpretation is correct. For example:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Target value for the result indicator provided: 1500 tonnes – Baseline: 500 tonnes = Indicative result expected by the beneficiary: 1000 tonnes</p> <p>Please note that the values are always at operation level.</p>

3.6.2 FTE calculation

Question
Do figures for full-time employment (FTE) have to be whole numbers?
Answer
<p>No, FTE can be expressed in decimals.</p> <p>For example: a beneficiary has created 4 new jobs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A works 1000 hours per year • B and C work 1200 hours per year each • D works 900 hours per year. <p>Assume the national reference number for 1 FTE (the “FTE coefficient”) is 1800 hours/year.</p> <p>Based on the formula in the working paper on “Definition of Common Indicators”), the total FTE for our example is:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Employment created (FTE) = Sum (Ai × Bi / C) =</p> <p style="text-align: center;">$(1 \times 1000/1800) + (2 \times 1200/1800) + (1 \times 900/1800) = 2.39$</p>

3.6.3 Definition of compensated employment

Question
What is the definition of compensated employment?
Answer
Compensated employment implies some kind of quantifiable monetary reward, including salary, profit, or family financial gain. Purely voluntary engagements are not considered employment in the context of the EMFF result indicators.

3.6.4 Point in time for creating new jobs

Question
Are we correct in thinking that a beneficiary must create a new job just after the beginning of the operation, just after receiving a grant decision? Or, for long-term investments, could jobs be created, say, a year after the last day of implementation?
Answer
<p>“After the beginning of the operation” refers to the fact that the first day of implementation is the earliest time a job can be created and attributed to the EMFF operation. Jobs created before this are not considered a result of the EMFF intervention.</p> <p>Jobs may be created after completion of the operation only, e.g. when a fish processing plant is set up and workers are employed only once it is operational. However, for practical reasons a certain cut-off date is needed and jobs created only years later cannot be considered.</p> <p>Recurring seasonal jobs should certainly be counted even when they may not formally exist on the day of validation.</p>

3.6.5 Employment maintained

Question
<p>“Employment maintained” is defined as the number of people in some form of already existing compensated employment in the aquaculture sector, employed or self-employed for pay, profit or family gain, whose jobs were at risk and were likely to be lost without EMFF intervention. Can you please explain how we can decide on this?</p>
Answer
<p>The working paper on the “Definition of Common Indicators” states that the beneficiary has to report the “number of persons in some form of already existing compensated employment, whose job maintenance is plausibly attributable to the EMFF support.” Although we could develop complicated algorithms to estimate job maintenance, we suggest trusting the beneficiary on this assessment.</p>

3.6.6 Employment maintained: reference period

Question
<p>Why is one year considered long enough as the reference period for employment maintained, when these jobs are supposed to be permanent?</p>
Answer
<p>The one-year indication refers to the point of validation, not the duration of the employment.</p>

3.7 Measuring result indicator targets per UP

3.7.1 UP 1: Common result Indicator RI 1.4.b

Question
<p>Do the result indicator targets relate only to the direct effect of the operation on the applicant, or to the achievement of a target for the whole sector?</p> <p>For example, take the case of Result Indicator Target 1.4.b (Change in unwanted catches), where the UK is targeting a 12% reduction. We could assess an operation against its ability to deliver a 12% reduction:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - for the vessel funded by the application, i.e. a 12% cut in its own unwanted catches; or - for the whole fishing fleet; in this case, the operation we assess may need to achieve a reduction greater than 12% to compensate for the fact that some vessels may not apply for funding, or may not achieve their own 12% reduction. <p>Which interpretation is correct?</p>
Answer
<p>The result indicator values and targets of the EMFF OP relate only to the operations supported by that OP.</p> <p>In the case of Result Indicator RI UP1.4 “Change in unwanted catches”, the effect to be measured and the target refer only to the OP intervention, i.e. the use of selective gear.</p> <p>To calculate a target and estimate a target value per beneficiary, the FAME SU Working Paper</p>

“Definitions of Common Indicators” proposes the following approach:

- Individual beneficiaries can easily provide the total volume of catches, before and after the operation, of species subject to the landing obligation.
- Individual beneficiaries cannot provide reliable numbers for the total volume of unwanted catches *before* the operation (and for that matter before the entry into force of the Landing Obligation). Numbers for the volume of unwanted catches *after* the operation seem more achievable, yet may also be unreliable;
- Research institutes or similar institutions in the Member States should be able to deliver indices that allow the MA to generate acceptable estimates of the beneficiary’s total volume of unwanted catches before the operation. These would be based on the beneficiary’s total catches, before the operation, of species subject to the LO.
- Research institutes or similar institutions in the Member States should also be able to deliver coefficients allowing the MA to quantify the expected reduction in the volume of unwanted catches through the use of selective gear types certified by research institutes and accepted and financed through the OP operations. These would be based on the type of gear and the beneficiary’s total catches, after the operation, of species subject to the LO.

Hence the target value for sub-indicator (a) “Change in unwanted catches (tonnes)” can be calculated as:

$$\text{Number of operations} \times ((B \times C \times (I - D)) - (A \times C))$$

where:

- A = Total catches of species subject to the LO *before* the operation
- B = Total catches of species subject to the LO *after* the operation
- C = Index giving the average volume of unwanted catches for the specific fleet segment, taken from a scientific publication
- D = Mean fractional reduction in the volume of unwanted catches through the use of a specific type of selective gear, taken from a scientific publication. This may be an ordinary arithmetic mean or a weighted arithmetic mean.

The target value for sub-indicator (b) “Change in unwanted catches (%)” is simply D above.

Other result indicators with percentage targets are:

- RI UP1.6 “Change in the % of unbalanced fleets”, which is a specific case where other considerations apply (see FAME SU Working Paper Definitions of Common Indicators);
- RI UP1.9 “Change in the work-related injuries and accidents”, where the approach is somewhat different since the figure is given by sub-indicator (a) “Change in the number of work-related injuries and accidents” divided by the total number of fishers in the sector;
- and three indicators that refer to the effect on the entire “sector” and not to the effect at the beneficiary level:
 - RI UP3.A2 “Landings that have been the subject to physical control (%)”;
 - RI UP3.B1 “Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls (%)”;
 - RI UP6.1 “Increase in the Common Information Sharing Environment (CISE) for the surveillance of the EU maritime domain (%)”.

These last three indicators will be addressed in the next version of the Working Paper.

3.7.2 UP1: MPAs

Question
Is the target in the OP supposed to measure only the effect of the operations being funded, or does it also measure the effect of any other initiatives, for instance those to create MPAs?
Answer
The target in the OP measures only the effect of the operations funded. This applies also to MPAs under UP1.

3.7.3 UP2: common result indicator RI 2.5

Question
For RI 2.5 “Change in the volume of the production of recirculation systems” the reference period for a single operation is: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the time before the operation, and after completion, for which the most current annual values exist; • the time before the operation (most current annual value) and up to three years after completion (most current annual value). Can you explain “up to three years” here? Does the beneficiary have to achieve the expected result in three years? When exactly do we validate after the three years? And why are we now referring to completion rather than implementation?
Answer
The period of three years is for comparability with the reporting cycles of Reg. 762/2008. The caption should read “operation implementation”, not completion.

3.7.4 UP3 common result indicator RI 3.A1: which database for infringements?

Question
We need clarification on indicator RI_UP 3 A1. Specifically, the Control Regulation refers to two databases: one in the definition itself (Art. 78) and the other in the calculation (Art. 93). We can infer from the context that RI_UP 3 A1 refers only to the number of infringements detected (Art. 78), regardless of whether or not they are successfully prosecuted (Art. 93). Is this interpretation correct?
Answer
RI_UP 3 A1 is described in Regulation 1014/2014 as the “Number of serious infringements in the MS (total number in the last 7 years)”. During the 2nd workshop on indicators in September 2016, the MS present suggested that the database anticipated by Regulation (CE) 1224/2009 Art. 93 would be their preferred source for this indicator. We also recommend using this database, since it is the record of actual infringements – meaning they have been detected, successfully prosecuted and duly classified as serious infringements (or not). The (CE) 1224/2009 Art. 78 database covers inspections, not infringements specifically. It includes inspections that did not detect any alleged infringements, and where infringements were alleged, there are no indications of whether these were subsequently upheld. (CE) 1224/2009 Art. 78 data therefore requires more analysis to identify the correct data on infringements.

It is your decision as to where you get the data from, but it should be consistent throughout reporting. The source should be indicated in the EMFF evaluation.

3.7.5 UP3 common result indicator RI 3.A2

Question											
<p>Our MA has identified a possible error in the definition of result indicator RI 3.A2 “Landings that have been the subject to physical control” in the document “Definitions of common indicators, final version, October 2016”.</p> <p>The definition of the corresponding context indicator is the proportion of landings controlled, based on the number of controlled landings. The same goes for the targets and milestones in the OP.</p> <p>However, in the final version of the definitions document, the proportion of controlled landings is based on the total volume of landings (see below).</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">3.3.2 Landings that are subject to physical control</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Indicator Code</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">RI_UP3.A2</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Indicator Title</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Landings that have been the subject to physical control (%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Sub-indicators</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">None</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Measurement Unit</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">%</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 2px;">Definition</td> <td style="padding: 2px;">Annual volume of landings controlled by the fisheries inspectors divided by the total volume of landings per year (measured in tonnes live weight).</td> </tr> </table> <p>This is problematic for two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • result indicator values cannot be related to the corresponding context indicator; • OP targets are based on the number of controlled landings and so do not correspond to the defined result indicator. <p>Changing both context indicator and OP targets would demand changes in the OP.</p> <p>Instead, we suggest that the definition of the result indicator RI_UP3.A2 “Landings that have been subject to physical control” should be adjusted to relate to approved OP targets and context values.</p>		Indicator Code	RI_UP3.A2	Indicator Title	Landings that have been the subject to physical control (%)	Sub-indicators	None	Measurement Unit	%	Definition	Annual volume of landings controlled by the fisheries inspectors divided by the total volume of landings per year (measured in tonnes live weight).
Indicator Code	RI_UP3.A2										
Indicator Title	Landings that have been the subject to physical control (%)										
Sub-indicators	None										
Measurement Unit	%										
Definition	Annual volume of landings controlled by the fisheries inspectors divided by the total volume of landings per year (measured in tonnes live weight).										
Answer											
<p>Context indicator CI 3.A2 remains the same as previously and uses the number of landings as its basis. This value does not need to be changed at any later stage.</p> <p>In joint consultation with the MS and COM during the FAME workshops on indicators, result indicator RI 3.A2 was defined as being based on the volume of landings, since this was thought to be closer to the effect created by the EMFF OP and suited most MSs.</p> <p>The OP context will define whether a target revision is necessary. In many MSs the percentage values for number and volume are quite close. If this is the case in Sweden, then you probably do not need to revise the target value.</p>											

3.7.6 UP3 common result indicator RI 3.B.1: reporting delays

Question
To calculate the annual change in RI 3.B.1 “Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls” Art. 77 we have to wait two years after the operation to receive the data. Is this acceptable?
Answer
<p>Yes, this is expected.</p> <p>The source for indicator value RI 3.B.1 “Increase in the percentage of fulfilment of data calls” is the Annual STECF Report on “Evaluation of DCF AR and transmission issues/ Annex 2 - Data Transmission Results”. The report is published annually, but with a two-year delay for the data transmission results. The 2016 report, for instance, was not published until 2017 and included the data transmission results for 2015.</p> <p>Consequently the Art.97.1 report for 2023 (to be submitted by 31.03.2024) will calculate RI 3.B.1 based on the STECF evaluation report for 2022 (to be published in 2023), i.e. the data transmission results for 2022.</p>

3.7.7 UP3 common result indicator RI 3.B.1: formula error

Question
Is there an error in the formula for assumptions for target setting of RI 3.B1 at OP level in the Definitions Of Common Indicators V4.0 Final Guide?
Answer
<p>You are correct: the formula in the definition paper has an error, so please do not use it.</p> <p>The value of RI 3.B1 is the improvement in fulfilling data calls over the years. In other words, you should take the figure for the year in question and calculate the change over the entire programme period.</p>

3.7.8 UP5 common result indicator 5.1: weight basis

Question
The definitions of indicators 5.1c “Changes in value of first sales in non-POs” and 5.1.d “Change in volume of first sales in non-POs” are analogous to those of indicators 5.1a and 5.1b. But why is live weight used in the second case, and product net weight in the first case?
Answer
We assume that the beneficiaries of the measures whose effect is to be captured through indicators 5.1a and 5.1b record live weight, whereas their counterparts under 5.1c and 5.1d (processors) record product weight.

4 Question related to specific articles

4.1 Infosys Operation Implementation Data and Result Indicators

4.1.1 Art. 33: number of fishermen affected

Question
<p>How should we capture the number of fishermen affected by a temporary cessation of fishing by vessel owners? Do we record all the fishermen affected, whether or not they receive EMFF assistance?</p> <p>And how should we count the number of fishers affected in the case of a temporary cessation of aid to vessel owners?</p>
Answer
<p>The “number of fishermen concerned” indicates the magnitude of the measure; i.e. whether it affects a very limited number of fishermen (e.g. on board the vessel) or a larger number of fishermen in a region.</p> <p>In the case of temporary or permanent cessation, one EMFF operation generally relates to one vessel. The “number of fishermen concerned” is then the number of fishermen on board the vessel. The exact number might not be retrievable, in which case it has to be estimated.</p> <p>According to Article 33 of the EMFF, support may be granted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) to owners of EU fishing vessels; and b) to fishermen. <p>If support is granted only to owners, double counting will not be an issue. We assume that fishermen work only for one vessel owner at a time.</p> <p>In the case where owners and fishermen receive EMFF support separately in different operations, double counting is possible because the operation implementation data refers to a single operation. In that case evaluators should consider measures to eliminate double counting during the evaluation process.</p>

4.1.2 Art. 37, Infosys fields 20 and 21: affected area

Question
<p>In the case of eel restocking for conservation (measure I.14), is it appropriate to use the indicator “affected by the project area in km²? If so, is this the entire river catchment area or just the area in which the eels are stocked?</p>
Answer
<p>For measure I.14, Commission Implementation Regulation (EU) No. 1242/2014 lists three different sets of implementation data, including under code 3 “Total area concerned by project (in km²) (if relevant)”. We think this could be relevant in the case of eel restocking, and in this case the size of the entire catchment area should be considered. However, the emphasis is on “if relevant”.</p>

4.1.3 Art. 37: double counting of project areas

Question
For repeated eel restocking in the same catchment area, should the “total area concerned by the project” be reported each time, or only in the first application? There seems to be a risk of double counting.
Answer
<p>Operation implementation data should be entered for each operation in “standalone” form. This means that the catchment area should be entered each time.</p> <p>However, it is clearly important to avoid double counting when data from individual operations is aggregated. This should be possible by comparing other non-key attributes of the beneficiary (e.g. fields 5–8).</p>

4.1.4 Art. 38 and 44.1: relevance of result indicators

Question
In the FAME document “Definition of Common Indicators”, the result indicator “Change in unwanted catches” relates to Art. 38 (and Art. 44.1) of the Measures in SFC. Does that mean that measure 43.2 on fishing ports and landing obligation is not relevant to this result indicator?
Answer
<p>Each measure is thematically allocated to a Specific Objective. Art. 43.2 is allocated to SO 1 of UP1: “Reduction of the impact of fisheries on the marine environment, including the avoidance and reduction, as far as possible, of unwanted catches”.</p> <p>Result indicators are linked to SOs. Hence the following two cases can apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A measure is thematically covered by one or several Common Result Indicators. This is the normal situation. • The MA considers that a measure is not properly covered by any of the common result indicators under this SO. The OP can then include programme-specific result indicators; these could be taken from the list of common indicators, or devised specifically for the purpose. These will have to be identified in the OP template included in SFC. <p>In the case of the common result indicator “Change in unwanted catches” the FAME working paper on “Definition of Common Indicators” is interpreting the indicator in relation to the effect of selective gear financed by the Art. 38 of the OP.</p> <p>In the case of Art. 43.2 the activities financed relate not to selective gear but rather to the use of unwanted catches. Thus, while this measure contributes to the Specific Objective in question it has no effect on the value of the common result indicator “Change in unwanted catches”.</p> <p>The MA can define a programme-specific result indicator if it wishes. In all cases Infosys, fields 23 and 24 will remain blank for operations under Art.43.2.</p>

4.1.5 Art. 50, Infosys field 21: spouse of a beneficiary

Question
For Art. 50, how do we detect whether a spouse benefits from the operation?
Answer
The entry is based on the information provided by the beneficiary.

4.1.6 Art. 52 and Art. 53, Infosys fields 20 and 21: project area

Question
Which area in km ² do we use for action codes II.8 and II.9 (new entrants and conversion to organic, respectively) when recording investments in aquaculture?
Answer
The entire water surface (sea cages, shore-based ponds and tanks) should be counted. For recirculation aquaculture and even some trout farms this indicator value may be low.

4.1.7 Art. 54: operations on aquaculture providing environmental services

Question
Which operations should be considered for aquaculture providing environmental services?
Answer
Only operations listed under Art. 54 should be considered. This is a strict requirement.

4.1.8 Art. 54: number of operations

Question
<p>The FAME document Definition of Common Indicators version 4.0 Final mentions that the proposed value of indicator RI_UP2.7 is 1 for one operation. Is it correct that RI_UP2.7 can take a value other than 1? For instance, if in a single operation one beneficiary included two farms, located in different LAUs, with two different aquaculture licenses, would the result indicator be 2?</p> <p>What about an operation where one beneficiary has two licences on a single farm: one for the hatchery and one for the rearing farm? Would RI_UP2.7 then be 1 (the number of farms) or 2 (the number of licences)?</p>
Answer
<p>Based on the FAME working paper on “Definition of Common Indicators” we only <i>assume</i> that the value is 1. However, it is possible that some operations can encompass more than one. We therefore confirm the interpretation in your first paragraph.</p> <p>RI_UP 2.7 specifies the number of farms. For a single farm with two aquaculture licences the reported value should therefore be 1.</p>

4.1.9 Art. 48 and Art. 69, operation implementation datum “number of employees”

Question		
Do we have to provide all the data in the table below (Reg. 1242/2014, Annex 5)? Monitoring of employee numbers is not obligatory for the operations supported under Art. 48 and 69 that we have included in our OP – there is no common indicator for that purpose.		
Code of the measure	Measures in EMFF	Project implementation data
II.2	Art. 48(1)(a) to (d) and (f) to (h) Productive investments in aquaculture	— Type of investment: productive; diversification; modernisation; animal health; quality of products; restoration; complementary activities
		Number of employees benefiting from the operation
IV.4	Art. 69 Processing of fishery and aquaculture products	— Type of investment: energy saving or reducing impact on the environment; improve safety, hygiene, health, working conditions; processing catches not for human consumption; processing by-products; processing of organic aquaculture products; new or improved products, processes or management system
		Number of firms supported
		Number of employees benefiting from the operation
Answer		
<p>In the CMES there is no common result indicator for the number of employees. This is an implementation datum required by CIR 1242/2014, however, so it is obligatory to report.</p> <p>This datum should not be confused with the common result indicator “Employment maintained (FTE)” under UP2. Please also note that under UP2/SO 2 it is now possible to link Art. 48 “Productive investments in aquaculture” with the common result indicators “Employment created (FTE)” and “Employment maintained (FTE)”.</p>		

4.1.10 Art. 76, 77 and 80.1.(a), common result indicators in Infosys

Question
If data for Regulation 508/2014 Art. 76, 77 and 80.1.(a) is only available when the operations are finalised, we may have to wait until 2023 before submitting it. How do we deal with that?
Answer
<p>In the OP you have two operations for each of Articles 76 and 77. One operation will be completed or fully implemented in 2018, as you described in the performance framework of the OP.</p> <p>The values for Result Indicators 3.A1, 3.A2, 3.B1 and 6.1 should be reported annually whenever related operations are under implementation.</p> <p>The annual value for result indicators 3.A1 and 3.A2 should be provided by the Control Agency. See also the FAME SU working paper “Definitions of EMFF Common Indicators”.</p>

4.2 Infosys reporting for CLLD

4.2.1 CLLD, Infosys fields and FLAG information V

Question
<p>We need guidance on reporting on measure III.2: we have no commitments there, but according to Regulation (EU) No 1242/2014 there are implementation data to be reported on the different selected FLAGs. Can this be done in a separate spreadsheet?</p>
Answer
<p>Operations under Art. 63, Code III.2 (Implementation of local development strategies – selection of FLAGs) are to be reported like any other operation. Each FLAG selected should represent an operation selected for funding, and should be presented in exactly one row in the “Annex I” table.</p> <p>Data for Art. 97(1)(a) should be submitted in four tables, as provided by Annexes I to IV of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1242/2014. No additional table is necessary.</p> <p>Operation implementation data must be reported in the Annex III table, in six rows: one per implementation datum.</p> <p>Since these operations do not have expenditure, fields 14–16 should remain blank.</p> <p>The common result indicators associated with UP4 (employment created, employment maintained, business created) are probably irrelevant. Fields 23 and 24 should therefore be left blank unless the FLAG in question has indicated its own target, in which case this can be included in field 23.</p>

4.2.2 Art. 63: Infosys fields and FLAG information

Question
<p>Article 63 covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) approved FLAG strategies; and (2) approved operations. <p>If data are entered in Annex I fields 10, 11, 12, 14, 15 and 16 for both scenarios, the costs and expenditure will be counted twice. This will also be the case for Result Indicators 4.1 and 4.3 under Annex IV.</p> <p>To avoid double counting, can you advise how data should be recorded in this situation?</p>
Answer
<p>Operations under Code III.2 should contain a 0 in fields 10–12 and 14–16, because there are no eligible costs (fields 10–12) and that situation is not expected to change at any time during the programming period (fields 14–16). All entries related to Code III.2 are “one-offs”, unless there is a modification at the level of the FLAG.</p> <p>Note that fields with the value 0 (zero) and void fields are not the same. Void fields should be avoided.</p> <p>However, each FLAG is allocated a certain amount of funds to cover running costs and local projects. These should be recorded under Code III.3, as with any other operation.</p>

4.2.3 CLLD: result indicator reporting

Question
<p>Within the frame of Measure III.2 we selected 16 strategies. The value of the contracts drawn up covers their running and animation costs. Through the projects implemented within these strategies the FLAGs proposed to create and maintain certain numbers of jobs, and these numbers will be the result indicators of the FLAGs.</p> <p>In practice, the unique identifier of the operation (ID) included in Annex I of R(EU)1242/2014 is the same for both the selected strategy and the operation and starting point.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In Annex I of R(EC)1242/2014, should we include these projects under Measure III.2 or III.3? 2. In Annex R(EC)1242/2014, which implementation data should be filled in: those relating to Measure III.2 (Total population covered by the FLAG/in units, Number of public partners in the FLAG, Number of private partners in the FLAG, Number of civil society partners in the FLAG, Number of full-time employees in the FLAG for administration, Number of full-time employees in the FLAG for animation), or those relating to Measure III.3 (type of operation, running and animation costs)? 3. If in Annex III we include an operation under both measures, should it also be repeated in Annexes I and IV? 4. In Annex IV, should we insert the result indicators relating to the selected strategy or those relating to the projects submitted within the frame of the strategies? If we do both, we introduce double counting.
Answer
<p>The answer to your question can be summarized as followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data entry under measure code III.2 should be done only once for each FLAG, • Each operation under one FLAG should be entered only once under measure code III.3; • please do not include any costs under measure code III.2, • please avoid any duplication of data in Infosys, • please report result indicator values only under measure code III.3. <p>In detail:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ad 1: Any operations related to projects supported by FLAGs should be entered under measure code III.3 with a unique identifier of the operation (ID) (field2). 2. Ad 2: Infosys data to be entered under measure code III.2 is related to the FLAGs <i>characteristics</i> and contains operation implementation data as defined in CIR (EC) 1242/2014 (Total population covered by the FLAG/in units, Number of public partner in the FLAG, Number of private partners in the FLAG, Number of civil society partners in the FLAG, Number of full-time employees in the FLAG for administration, Number of full-time employees in the FLAG for animation). It does not require any budget or costs. Data under measure code III.2 will be entered only one time for each FLAG and not for each operation under one FLAG. <p>For each project (= operation) data should be entered under measure code III.3. Each project should have a separate unique identifier of the operation (ID) (field 2). However we recommend that operations IDs should be clearly linked to the ID of the FLAG.</p>

3. Ad 3: Since operations will be entered under measure code III.3 there is not duplication. The operation is inserted only once in Annex I. Entries in Annexes III and IV refer to this unique operation through the unique identifier of the operation (ID) (field 2).

When you enter information for the FLAG itself under measure III.2 inputs (if not done already), Annex I and Annex III (operation implementation data as described above) have to be filled out according to CIR (EC) 1242/2014. No budget or costs are required with means that Annex I fields 10–12, 14–16 remain blank.

Annex IV will contain the result indicators related to measure code III.2 (field 22) under UP4 but the fields “indicative result expected by the beneficiary” (fields 23) and “value of result indicator when validated after implementation” (field 24) remain blank.

For operations under measure III.3, “values of the implementation data” (field 21) and field 23 and 24 are to be reported.

4. Ad 4: Only operations under measure III.3 report values on result indicators.

4.2.4 CLLD: “soft projects”

Question
<p>With regard to CLLD, we have ensured that “soft projects” created as a result of EMFF intervention (for example organising local markets and running seminars on best practices) can maintain or create new jobs during project implementation.</p> <p>Now the FAME document says that jobs are expected to be permanent, or recurring in the case of seasonal jobs. We do not understand why jobs on “soft projects” cannot also be counted?</p>
Answer
<p>As you point out, jobs are expected to be permanent or – in the case of seasonal jobs – recurring. The FAME SU working paper on “Definitions of Common Indicators” notes that: “Persons employed temporarily to work on the project realisation e.g. on infrastructures or on office operation, must not be recorded as job creation”.</p> <p>There is no differentiation between “soft” and “hard” projects in the context of RI 4.1 and 4.2 under operations for Art. 63.</p> <p>For “Employment created (FTE)”, jobs created during the implementation do not meet the requirements of the reference period as defined in the FAME SU working paper if they cease to exist once the operation is complete. The working paper states that jobs should exist “after completion, for which the most current annual values exist”.</p> <p>Similarly, “Employment maintained (FTE)” that ceases to exist after the operation is complete is by definition not maintained.</p> <p>However, if a job created in the course of an operation’s implementation (for example organising local markets and running seminars on best practices) is expected to recur regularly after completion, then it can be counted. This is true regardless of the fact that a job of this kind might take up only a few days per year, say 0.05 FTE.</p>

4.2.5 CLLD, civil society partners

Question
What is meant by “Number of civil society partners in the FLAG” (measure code III.2) requested in Regulation (EU) 1242/2014?
Answer
<p>In the context of the CPR (see its Art. 5), a civil society partner or civil society organisation is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organisation. This is the same interpretation used by other international organisations such as the UN and the World Bank.</p> <p>A civil society partner is therefore distinct from a government body. It also differs from a commercial company in that it serves a collective goal and profit is not its main objective.</p>

4.3 Infosys reporting on Technical Assistance

4.3.1 Infosys field 19: output indicator value

Question
For Annex I field 19, the previous error report stated that this field is mandatory on first listing. Under this Annex we have included “Technical Assistance” operations which do not have any Output Indicators in the OP. Will this result in an error, or can field 19 be left blank?
Answer
The Output Indicator Code for TA is 7.1 (Number of operations on technical assistance). Please use this indicator and provide the relevant value. Please also see the list of output indicator codes proposed in the national database structure according to Article 2 of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 1243/2014 (Annex 4 of the Working paper “EMFF Article 97(1)(a)-reporting data requirements”).