

e-DFAD

Pilot Phase Inception Workshop

01 December 2025



e-DFAD: main scope

- Allow Buoy Owners to register DFADs and obtain an IOTC Unique DFAD Identifier (UDI)
- Allow Buoy Owners to declare activation and deactivation of their Instrumented Buoys ("operations").

e-DFAD: structure and features

Registration of DFADs

- Allows a Buoy Owner to obtain a UDI at any point in time before deployment
- Can be done interactively or in bulk
- DFAD numbering scheme adopted is **IOTC-[3 letters]-[3 digits]**
- Example: **IOTC-ABC-123**

e-DFAD: structure and features

Declaration of Operations

- The following operations/activities can be reported by Buoy Owners:
 - Activation
 - Deactivation (retrieval, loss, abandonment)
 - Transfer*
 - Replacement*
- Reporting can be done interactively or in bulk

**not explicitly mentioned in 24/02*

e-DFAD: state of play

Current state of the e-DFAD register

- **"Pilot" covers:**
 - User and reference data management
 - Interactive and Bulk DFAD Registration and Buoy Activation/Deactivation
 - Notification of Deactivation in a Coastal State's EEZ
 - Notification of Activation over quota for a given vessel

e-DFAD: state of play

To do

- Multiple user accounts per Buoy Owner
- Vessel Ownership change and association between a Buoy Owner and specific vessels
- Flag CPC correction/validation process
- Data export

e-DFAD: pilot schedule

- The Pilot phase starts today, 1 December 2025
- It will end when the Register officially launches (1 February 2026)
- CPCs should provide (iotc-dfad@fao.org) the following information on their participants who want an account:
 - CPC Affiliation
 - Name
 - Position/role (e.g. Fisheries officer, Vessel Agent, Vessel Master...)
 - Email which will serve as login
 - Preferred language (English or French)

e-DFAD: assistance and feedback

- Participants can ask for assistance or report feedback from the application's Help menu, or by email at iotc-dfad@fao.org (please copy your Flag State CPC)
- If you report an issue, please give as much context as possible, including, what you were doing in the app, what was the issue encountered, a link to the relevant record, screenshots etc.

e-DFAD: data retention

- All data submitted during the Pilot Phase will be considered as test data.
- It will be deleted once the Pilot Phase is over.
- So feel free to experiment with submissions.
- Note that the application may be regularly updated during the pilot phase to fix potential issues or add improvements.

e-DFAD: Buoy Owner Workflow

1. Register DFADs and obtain their UDI.
2. Report Deployment (Buoy Activation) of Logs or Registered DFADs.
3. Report other Operations:
 1. Simple Buoy Deactivation: retrieval, loss...
 2. Replacement: replacing your buoy on an FOB with a newer buoy
 3. Transfer: replacing the buoy on an FOB tracked by another vessel with your own buoy

e-DFAD: CPC Workflow

1. Flag CPCs can consult the entirety of the activities of their vessels.
2. All CPCs can consult redacted information about the activities of other CPCs' vessels (cf para 5 of 24/02).
3. Coastal State CPCs are notified of buoy deactivation in their EEZ.

e-DFAD: bulk templates

- The Excel templates for Bulk Registration and Operations Reporting can be downloaded on the IOTC website:

<https://iotc.org/dfad-register>

e-DFAD: access the application

<https://dfad.iotc.org>

feedback: iotc-dfad@fao.org

thank you