



ENFSI ACTION PLAN			
PERIOD: 2023-2024	REF: BRD-FWK-010	ISSUE NO: 5	DATE: 25 May 2023

1. PREAMBLE

The ENFSI Action Plan is regulated by the guidance document – FRAMEWORK FOR PLANNING & REPORTING – last amended 22-05-2015. Based on this framework, the ENFSI action plan shall:

- present actions of the Board together with the Association Organs covering the forthcoming year of the PLANNING & REPORTING cycle;
- be based on the current Strategic Plan (2020-2023) as well as the upcoming Strategic Plan (2023-2026), taking into account topical developments and formulated as concrete targets;
- be sent to the Membership no later than six weeks after the Annual Meeting 2023.

Note; updated versions of the Action Plan shall be presented in written form before the Annual meeting.

2. ACTIONS RELATED TO ENFSI STRATEGY

The abovementioned ENFSI Strategic Plans are composed of three main themes and the Action Plan aims to implement the Strategic Plans through a number of actions. In the following the actions have been described under each of the three main themes of the Strategic Plans. Actions from EFSA 2.0 have been included into the Action Plan as well.

I – Develop and maintain a process of horizon scanning to identify medium and long term trends in forensic science and ensure that effective knowledge sharing is promoted across the ENFSI community.

The recognition of trends in the next 5 to 15 years is central to and the basis for determining the direction of action. The sources and instruments must be identified and accessible.

White papers serve as starting point for appropriate steering.

ACTION – 1.1		
Monitoring and compiling Trends in Forensic Sciences		
Description: A defined process capturing the emerging medium and long term trends in forensic science should be developed and maintained. The process should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be managed by the RDSC. • Ensure effective horizon scanning for innovation in all disciplines of forensic science and related sectors including academia, industry and forensic science organizations around the world. • Include a pipeline of developments and opportunities that is readily available to the ENFSI community. • Identify conferences where research, technical developments and process improvements are showcased and ensure that proceedings are made available to the ENFSI community • Promote the effective sharing of new ideas and concepts within the ENFSI community, customers and stakeholders 		Reference:
Owner RDSC Other persons/bodies involved: Board	Deliverable: Maintained and updated list of emerging trends in forensic science Up-date on initiated and ongoing projects	End date: May 2024 Ongoing

ACTION – 1.2		
Implementation of EFSA 2.0 Action Plan in next 7 years		
Description: European Council adopted EFSA 2.0 Action Plan based on ENFSI Vision 2030 including three main pillars: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • meeting the future • strengthening the impact of forensic results • demonstrating reliability in forensic results ENFSI shall start planning the implementation of the Action plan through projects funded by ISF-P Direct Award and regular EWG, SC activities.		Reference: Council Conclusions on the vision of the European Forensic Science Area 2.0 (EFSA 2.0) of 13 October 2022 and European Forensic Science Area (EFSA) 2.0 Action Plan of 9 March 2023 published by the Council of the European Union
Owner ENFSI Board, Other persons/bodies involved: EWG's, Standing Committees Membership	Deliverable: Projects and actions presented yearly by ENFSI Board and RDSC at Annual Meeting and Joint Meeting.	End date: On-going

II - Consolidate the interaction with the stakeholders and partners

The recognition of the *Trends in Forensic Sciences* as well as the needs and opportunities for *Education and Training* is information of great interest to ENFSI's partners and stakeholders. It supports collaboration so that:

- Direct grants can be agreed and negotiated more specifically with the EU
- The training programmes for CEPOL and EJTN are steered
- LEWP can be informed specifically
- ENFSI members will be encouraged to become more involved
- ENFSI can play an active role in the International Forensic Strategic Alliance IFSA

ACTION – 2.1		
Identify the potential for Education and Training for ENFSI, its customers and stakeholders		
Description: To reinforce the cooperation between ENFSI and relevant organisations E&T Subcommittee re-established. E-learning tools shall be promoted, using existing platforms, and benefiting of experience from previous successful projects, e.g. e-learning tool used for training of textile and hair experts. To recognize and prioritise E&T within ENFSI like seminars that last one day and cover one issue (OOS) and to negotiate with our stakeholders/partners on their or mutual needs of E&T.		Reference:
Owner Board, E&T Subcommittee Other persons/bodies involved: CEPOL, EJTN, EU-Academy	Deliverable: Development and promotion of e-learning tools OOS on e-learning	End date: On going

ACTION – 2.2		
Promote the dissemination of ENFSI products		
Description: ENFSI products such as Best Practice Manuals (BPM), guidelines, software tools are popular, well received, and used. Acceptance and recognition have been facilitated by the introduction of the public reviewing process. ENFSI will define which products should be distributed. ENFSI will explore most appropriate communication channel including social media (also see Action 3.4)		Reference:
Owner Board Other persons/bodies involved: QCC, RDSC, EWG's, Direct Grant Managers / WP Leaders	Deliverable: Evaluation of ENFSI products that should be distributed to a larger community.	End date: Ongoing January 2024

ACTION – 2.3		
Enhancement of ENFSI’s interaction with IFSA and further dissemination of IFSA’s products within the Network		
Description: <p>IFSA is a partnership between Regional Networks of Operational Forensic Laboratories aiming to create opportunities for strategic collaboration across the global forensic community. ENFSI has been one of the seven IFSA’s Member-Organizations since 2008.</p> <p>IFSA’s projects such as the connecting of the persons responsible for Research & Innovation within the Alliance’s Members, as well as the production of Minimum Required Documents (MRDs) in several forensic fields, warrant ENFSI’s active involvement, as they promote the collaboration among the participating Networks to successfully address the emerging forensic challenges at an international level.</p>		Reference:
Owner Board Other persons/bodies involved: Secretariat, EWG, RDSC, E&T	Deliverable: Review of MRDs Participation in IFSA’s “R&I Connection Project”	End date: Ongoing

III- Strengthening the network through professionalization

The demand within the network, as well as that of our customers and stakeholders, regarding timeliness, reliability and delivering high product quality increases and challenges the association accepting the limitations of the network. Beside the fully employed Secretariat and the Direct Grant Manager, all tasks in ENFSI are managed on a voluntary basis. Therefore, the question of allocation of tasks on a self-sufficiency (as it has been up to now) basis or identification of new roles is pending.

It is supported by a majority of the members that empowering the networks activities and duties - as part of professionalism - is a return to the principles from the early days of the network, which has been characterized by self-initiative, voluntary effort, solidarity and to a certain extent, self-funding. The strengths of the members in the network are made available on one side, and member’s limitations are supported in solidarity on the other side.

A number of members wish to favour a professionalization and increase in capacity and resilience by an increase in permanent employees, be it in the Secretariat (support process) or in the management (executive process). Outsourcing specific tasks would be another option.

ACTION – 3.1		
Development of a professional corporate identity for ENFSI and ensuring the visibility of ENFSI deliverables		
Description: ENFSI’s internal operation as well as Board’s, SCs’ and EWGs’ involvement in various projects usually results in different products or in the delivery of a presentation. This shall include webpage design and all other types of products, which should be visible to public. The uniformity of the templates along with the inclusion of graphical elements in the above-mentioned entities are aspects that should be taken into account, since they reflect Network’s professionalism and contribute to improved legibility and availability of products, in some cases, help the final result to be easier read or even distributed.		Reference:
Owner Secretariat Other persons/bodies involved: Board, SCs, E&T, EWGs, Direct Grant Managers / WP Leaders	Deliverable: Development of ENFSI graphical portfolio	End date: AM2024

ACTION – 3.2		
Raise the Profile of ENFSI		
Description: In support of Action 3.3 and aiming to strengthen and consolidate ENFSI’s professionalization, the profile of ENFSI needs to be clarified and raised. This is to meet the expectations of criminal justice partners and the public globally resulting from new communication channels, which are available. ENFSI should define ways to raise the profile of ENFSI. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review and update approach of communication. - Explore and establish a social media account - ENFSI shall implement the use of ISBN, new graphic design and the service of proofreading 		Reference: Framework for Communication BRD-FWK-010 (Issued 2012) (to be voted on at the AM)
Owner Board, Secretariat Other persons/bodies involved: Members, EWGs, SCs	Deliverable: Updated ENFSI Framework for Communication Social media account established and updated Information about ISBN, new graphical profile and the service of proofreading disseminated	End date: AM 2024 Joint meeting 2023

ACTION – 3.3		
Empower ENFSI with its own IT infrastructure		
<p>Description:</p> <p>ENFSI currently provides different products like e-learning, databases and similar on different platforms, which are not in line with the future ENFSI corporate identity. The common infrastructure should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - E-learning (currently on moodle) - Webinars (different sites) - Business administration <p>The possibilities to improve reliability and robustness of Forensic Science through databases and Data Sharing will be evaluated.</p>		
<p>Owner Board, Secretariat</p> <p>Other persons/bodies involved: Members, EWGs, SCs</p>	<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>Plan to build the ENFSI infrastructure that would include e-learning, databases, webinars, administrative business. The contents of the functionalities will be evaluated and reviewed periodically.</p>	<p>End date:</p> <p>AM 2024</p>

ACTION – 3.4		
To review the structure of the ENFSI Board and its operating model		
<p>Description:</p> <p>The ENFSI Board and the Constitution governing its operating principles has been established since 1995. Beyond recent reactive adjustments to the Constitution to deal with short term resourcing issues, there is a need to review the roles, responsibilities and any gaps in structure, policy or procedures which can be adapted to effectively discharge the full responsibilities of the Board.</p> <p>The review should include, however not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Roles, - Numbers, - Responsibilities, - Any other considerations to improve the functionality of the Board. <p>The review process should identify any areas which might need improvement or corrective action with the aim of professionalizing further the activities of the Board and its key functions.</p>		<p>Reference:</p> <p>ENFSI Constitution</p>
<p>Owner Board, Secretariat</p> <p>Other persons/bodies involved: Members, EWGs, SCs</p>	<p>Deliverable:</p> <p>Review Report</p>	<p>End date:</p> <p>AM 2024</p>
