

The African Fisheries Partnership Digest

A publication of the Strategic Partnership for Fisheries Investment Fund (SPFIF)

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A fisherman casts his fishing net on the coast at sunset Gabon.

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Strategic Partnership
for
Fisheries Investment Fund
Creating Wealth Through Sustainable Fisheries

Editorial note

The Strategic partners initiative to establish a sustainable fisheries investment fund for the large marine ecosystems (LME) of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) was conceived by Global Environment Facility (GEF) as a means of dealing with issues that impede sound fisheries management and the contribution of fisheries resources towards poverty reduction in SSA.

Although there are regional and international governance agenda providing direction and targets for sustainable fisheries, the SSA region falls short of achieving these objectives due numerous challenges. Key is access to sufficient financial resources and limited awareness of potential for fisheries' contribution to the countries' economies. The fisheries resources thus continue to be overexploited—with little or no regulation to control access especially by foreign vessels. This is a situation that is exacerbated by the absence or weak monitoring control and surveillance systems. The sad state of fisheries has been noted by the African Union's Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture as a priority for the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Program (CAADP) agenda developed by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD).

A step has been taken to assist governments of coastal countries in SSA to manage their fisheries resources more sustainably and to protect the critical habitats that support them through a co-financing mechanism. The process started with GEF requesting the World Bank to explore options for creating a partnership funding mechanism to assist individual coastal countries meet their sustainable fisheries and poverty reduction targets as set by the World Summit for Sustainable Development (WSSD). The World Bank prepared a concept for establishing a Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the LMEs of Sub-Saharan Africa based on a similar initiative in the Danube/Black Sea Basin. This concept was approved by the GEF in mid-2003, and the World Bank requested

the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and WWF—the world's leading conservation organization—to serve as partners in the preparation of this initiative. The initiative was later transformed into a project which became operational in 2005 after two high-level consultative meetings.

The African Union joined the partnership as the chair of the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) that advises and guides the project. The Union also hosts the RAC Secretariat at African Union—InterAfrican Bureau for Animal resources (AU-IBAR), Nairobi, Kenya which was established in 2009. The project is managed under the Animal Production Unit at AU-IBAR but falls directly under the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture at the African Union Commission.

This newsletter, serves to provide an update on various activities and challenges facing the implementation of the project that has two components: The Partnership Investment Fund for co-financing country-level projects; and the Strategic Partnership that would build capacities to achieve the project objectives and disseminate lessons learned from various fisheries investments that utilize the Partnership Fund.

WWF has been instrumental in packaging information for dissemination and has assisted with the development of project logo and various communication materials. The FAO as strategic partner has helped three countries and two regions develop PCNs. One regional and three country-level PCNs were approved by RAC, two of which have been developed into full proposals and funded with the assistance of the World Bank. The AU has ably assisted the project with the financial management and administrative matters.

Since the commencement of this project we have gained many collaborators and established valuable partnerships with a single aim of ensuring the rich fisheries resources of Africa are managed properly to benefit the countries that own them.

We are proud that African Union has seriously focused on the fisheries sector in Africa to the extent that it is organizing a first conference of African ministers of fisheries and aquaculture. This will be a big step forward towards sensitizing decision-makers to support fisheries activities in Africa.

We plan to produce yearly newsletters both in print and electronic formats. We hope you will find this first edition informative. Enjoy reading and comments are welcome.

Nancy Gitonga,



Africa's Fisheries; Global and African Perspective

The Annual fisheries production (FAO, 2008¹) is 144 million tonnes, made up of 82 million tonnes (57%) marine fisheries, 10 million tonnes (7%) inland or freshwater capture fisheries and 52 million tonnes (36%) of aquaculture. The estimated first-sale value of global capture fisheries production is US \$91.2 billion. This production is threatened by global mismanagement of marine capture fisheries resources. Currently, about 28% of global marine fishery resources, stocks are either overexploited 19% depleted, 8% recovering from depletion and 52% fully exploited. Only 20% are moderately or underexploited. This situation has not remained stable for the past 10-15 years.

For Africa, total annual fisheries production currently stands at 7.68 million tonnes or 5% of global production. The marine sub-sector produces 4.56 million tonnes (5%) of global total, followed by inland production of 2.3 million tonnes (24%) and 0.76 million tonnes aquaculture (<1%). Total fisheries production in Africa has increased by 22% over the past decade; mainly due to inland fisheries and aquaculture. Marine capture fisheries production has however remained relatively static at about 5 million tonnes per year over this period. The number of fishing vessels powered by engines is about 2.1 million and concentrated in Asia (70%). Africa is second to Asia with over 200,000 vessels but fleet sizes have remained stable over the past decade.

Globally, there were 43.5 million people engaged directly, full- or part-time, in fisheries production of both capture and aquaculture and a further 4 million people engaged on an occasional basis. If multiplier effects, is taken into account including processing and trading, the total employment for the whole fishing industry is about

1. FAO. (2009) *The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) 2008*; FAO, Rome

170 million worldwide. After Asia, Africa has the highest number of fishers (3.6 million) representing on average 0.8% of the economically active workforce in African countries. Exports from developing countries are economically important and reached US \$24.6 billion (2006). Aquaculture products have also grown significantly. Africa has been a net exporter of fish since 1985. Total annual exports are currently valued at US \$4.4 billion (or 5% of global trade). On average, for countries in Africa, fish exports represent 19.4% of total agricultural exports.

In the sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), fish supply has remained static for some time at 8.3 kg/capita. Fish is particularly important in this regard for countries such as Ghana (65% daily protein intake per capita is fish), Sierra Leone (63%) and Gambia (57%). It also remains relatively important for countries with large economies and populations (e.g. Nigeria, and South Africa). Fisheries policy development and fisheries management implementation are major challenges facing many countries. Limited institutional capacity for better fisheries management, dealing with IUU fishing, mainstreaming ecosystem approaches to fisheries and managing by-catch are some of the a major constraints.

Most of African States also lack capacity to conduct fishing operations in their own countries by their local companies and therefore allow foreign countries to access their fisheries resources and in most cases offer access to foreign nations through poorly negotiated fisheries access agreements. The foreign vessels thus conduct fishing with very little supervision by the resource owners due to lack of knowledge of their resource and also poor or non-existence monitoring control and surveillance capability. This scenario exacerbated by illegal



fishing has witnessed steady decline in fish stocks and degradation of ecosystems in the continent's fisheries waters with minimal benefits to the countries in terms of economic returns, employment or livelihoods improvement.

Proper management and sound utilization of fisheries marine resources can realize significant contribute towards economic growth of the African countries and this would ultimately assist to enhance the livelihoods of their citizenry thereby alleviating poverty. Due to weak or non-existent policies, and poor governance, neither the endowment of rich fisheries resources nor the donor funds have made much impact on strengthening the fisheries sector performance in African countries. The Strategic Partnership for a Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund in the Large Marine Ecosystems for Sub-Saharan Africa initiative, driven by GEF/WB, FAO, WWF and AU was developed through a consultative process, with the aim of availing an investment Fund to be used by countries and regions to address issues that impede sustainable fisheries management.

The Sustainable Fisheries Initiative for Sub Saharan Africa

The Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund is an initiative for the Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) of Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) aims to promote sustainable management of fisheries resources in the LMEs towards achieving, sustainable fisheries and poverty reduction targets set by the WSSD. The four strategic partners of this initiative include the African Union (AU) as Chair; The World Bank as the financing agency and WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) and the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as the project technical backstopping agencies.

The Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund (SPFIF) is advised by the Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), a partnership of stakeholders that includes; the strategic partners; the Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) within SSA; the coordinators of the large marine ecosystem (LME) programmes; and observers. The RAC chaired by AU, guides and advises the project and its major roles include; ensuring that country-level projects are in support of agreed regional goals and there is coherence between the country-level projects supported by the Strategic Partnership; coordination with regional fisheries management bodies and the GEF-sponsored LME



programs to identify synergies and disseminate common lessons that could be shared between different projects; advising each proposed project; formulation of strategies to replicate similar projects in the region; raising awareness on the importance of sustainable fisheries in development of policies and strategies; and assisting countries in the mobilization of the co-funding.

Many governments in Sub-Saharan Africa do not have the financial resources or capacity to prevent overexploitation of their resources or to protect the critical habitats that support them. The initiative therefore has made available US\$ 60 million in GEF grants over the next 10 years to co-finance country level projects aimed to achieve sustainable marine fisheries in Africa.

Vision

A region that sustainably manages its marine resources for socio-economic benefit

Mission

To promote and facilitate sustainable fisheries management in the Large Marine Ecosystems of the coastal states of Sub Saharan Africa to stimulate economic growth and improve livelihoods through sound utilization of fisheries resources.

The SPFIF Project

The SPFIF project developed out of this initiative has two components namely;

1. The Partnership Investment Fund (PIF) component to assist countries better manage their fisheries through a co-financing mechanism.
2. The Strategic Partnership (SP) component that assists to disseminate lessons learned from the investments facilitated by the Fund.

The Regional activities of the SPFIF project are the coordination, communications and capacity building to promote dissemination of lessons learned from the individual projects throughout the region, in order to encourage replication and the prioritization of sustainable fisheries and national policies resulting in the following outcomes:

- Greater knowledge of and support for best practices in sustainable management of fisheries at both country and LME level as indicated by evidence that relevant stakeholders in SSA countries have become aware of lessons of successes and failures of country and LME investments.
- Increased financial commitment to reforms of fisheries management and governance as indicated by changes in budget and staffing policy, institutional and legal initiatives contributing



Sustainable fishing, Mafia Island Marine Park. Tanzania.

to more effective management compared with baseline levels.

- Increased capacity for participation in LME projects and Regional Fisheries Bodies for effective management of trans-boundary fishery resources as indicated by new institutions and staff devoted to such issues at the national level.
- Increased awareness of the status of global fisheries to improve dialogue on sharing benefits between developing and developed countries with fishing interests.
- Implementation of policies, programs and laws aimed at the conservation and sustainable management of fishery resources.
- Increased intra-regional cooperation and lesson learning on fisheries governance and management.

Project Concept Notes and Project Proposals

Although the SPFIF initiative process started in 2005, the project activities commenced in 2006, with the convening of the first RAC session during which the Senegal Project Concept Note (PCN) was approved. The RAC Secretariat was not established as at the time the first and second RAC Sessions were held in 2006 and 2007

respectively and therefore all activities of the project were managed under the Division of Rural Economy and Agriculture at the AUC Headquarter in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The Secretariat was established at the AU-IBAR, Nairobi, Kenya in January 2009. The Partnership Investment Fund (PIF) component of the project that is used to assist countries better manage their fisheries through a co-financing mechanism, commenced before the Strategic Partnership component that assists to disseminate lessons learned from the investments facilitated by the Fund.

Since the project inception, the PCNs for Senegal and the Sub-Region Fisheries Commission in West Africa consisting of seven countries were approved by RAC, after which the World Bank assisted the countries with the development of project proposals for funding through the PIF mechanism. The project implementation for Senegal commenced in 2009. Although the SRFC PCN was approved as a regional initiative, the actual project proposals were developed specific for individual countries in the region to address region-based issues identified by the PCN. In this regard four SRFC countries had their projects approved before the other three and therefore the SRFC project will be implemented in two phases. Kenya's PCN was approved by RAC at the second Session and a project proposal is at the final stages

of development. The three PCNs so far developed have committed the total of the first tranche of 30 million dollars of the GEF PIF. The second tranche of another 30 million dollars will be availed to countries that qualify if GEF is satisfied with the impacts of the first tranche of the Fund on the fisheries management and poverty reduction. The World Bank has started the process of the release of the second tranche. In the meantime, the Fisheries Commission of West and Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) has already submitted the PCN for review by RAC at the 4th Session in anticipation of benefitting from second tranche of the PIF. Other countries being assisted by FAO to develop PCN include Namibia and Mozambique.

The RAC secretariat since its establishment has been busy with the Regional activities of the SPFIF project, which are coordination, communications and capacity building to promote dissemination of lessons learned from the individual projects throughout the region. These activities are undertaken with the assistance of WWF to encourage replication of best practices and the prioritization of sustainable fisheries in the sub-Saharan African region. Communication materials have been produced and a training course for capacity building in data and information management and dissemination in ASCLME and BCLME conducted among other activities.

THE STRATEGIC PARTNERS

The African Union:

The African Union through its arm AU-InterAfrican Bureau of Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is mandated to support and coordinate the improvement of animals as a resource for human wellbeing in the Member States of the African Union and to contribute to economic development particularly in rural areas. AU-IBAR reports to the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the AU Commission. The role of AU within SPFIF:

- Hosts the SPFIF project.
- Chairs the RAC.
- Coordinates RAC activities and mobilizes co-funding for countries.

The World Bank

The World Bank is a vital source of financial and technical assistance to developing countries around the world. Its mission is to fight poverty with passion and professionalism for lasting results and to assist people help themselves and their environment

by providing resources, sharing knowledge, building capacity and forging partnerships in the public and private sectors. The World Bank role within SPFIF:

- It is the implementing agency for disbursement of GEF funds, the the Partnership Fisheries Investment Fund and the partners' grants.
- Facilitates the country level investment through the Bank's financing instruments.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

FAO acts as a neutral forum where all nations meet as equals to negotiate agreements and debate policy. FAO is also a source of knowledge and information. FAO help developing countries and countries in transition modernize and improve agriculture, forestry and fisheries practices and ensure good nutrition for all. The role of FAO within the SPFIF:

- Provides technical assistance

to the RAC Secretariat and to the SSA countries interested in accessing the Partnership Fisheries Investment Fund to prepare Project Concept Note.

- Provides advice on policies and replication strategies, and supports the RAC in meeting its monitoring and evaluation responsibilities.

WWF – (World Wide Fund for Nature).

The goal of WWF is to ensure that

the conservation of biodiversity is in harmony with the needs and aspirations of local communities and through partnership with players from different sectors of society. The role of WWF in the SPFIF:

- Provides support to RAC on communication functions.
- Identification of synergies and dissemination of common lessons learned.
- Raising awareness of sustainable fisheries best practices.

The Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) sessions.

The Inaugural RAC session was held in Nairobi, Kenya in May 15 -16 2006, and was opened by the then Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Hon. Munyao. The highlights of the this 1st RAC session included the approval of the Senegal Project Concept Note (PCN) that was presented by Mme N. Diop the Director for Marine Fisheries in Senegal. In addition, the session endorsed the RAC functions, the role of the strategic partners was formulated and the functions of the RAC secretariat were stated.

The 2nd RAC session was held in Accra, Ghana on April 23-25 2008. The session was opened by Mr. Alhaji A. Yakubu a representative of the Ministry of Fisheries in Ghana who reiterated Ghana's commitment to the regional fisheries body FCWC. In this session Ghana, through Doris Yeboa, Deputy Director of Fisheries, Ministry of Ghana, presented Ghana's

PCN that sought to strengthen and improve fisheries governance. Other highlights from the 2nd RAC session were; the task given to a working group of FCWC, CECAF, SWIOFC and SRFC to develop the criteria and procedure for the selection of two civil society organizations and the extension of the facility offered by the Strategic Partnership to other Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMO) in the SSA to consider for use in addressing their fisheries management challenges. .

The 3rd RAC session was held in Mombasa, Kenya on 11-13 May 2009. The session was officially opened by Hon A. Mohammed Abu Chiaba, the Assistant Minister for Fisheries Development, who applauded the initiative to assist countries with marine fisheries resources to endeavor to achieve the targets for sustainable fisheries and contribute to poverty reduction through the use of the Partnership Fisheries Investment Fund.

H.E Madame Rhoda Tumusiime Peace, the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture, African Union Commission, in her opening remarks noted that it was evident the fisheries sector is faced with a crisis fuelled by the growing demand for fish products resulting from increasing populations, increased purchasing power and changing consumer preferences. During the this Session, two project concept notes were presented namely; Senegal and Kenya. The Senegal project was approved by the World Bank Board and the implementation would commence soon after the fulfillment of the effectiveness conditions by the Government of Senegal. This is the first project to be implemented under the Strategic Partnership Fisheries Investment Fund Initiative. The Kenya PCN presented by Dr Jacqueline Uku, would focus on identifying stakeholders needs and desires, engage stakeholders within the development process and provide capacity building needed by all stakeholders (government, non-government, civil society and the private sector).

The RAC session's main agenda is to approve developed Project Concept Notes (PCNs) and advise the project

Forging Partnerships for Fisheries development in Africa

Although there are many players in SSA in the Large Marine Ecosystems (LMEs) and there is very little impact on sound fisheries resources management and this valuable resource continues to be depleted and ecosystems destroyed. There is therefore need for a common vision by players to develop fisheries in Africa with increased cohesiveness and

LINKAGE AND COHESION

coordination. In this regard, the RAC secretariat has established linkages and partnerships with various LME projects and donors in SSA. However, there is need for a structured way of developing a sustainable partnerships strategy for fisheries development. It

is quite evident that many countries are not aware of the potential of fisheries resources contribution to their national economic growth and as a result the fisheries sector is not given much attention. There is need sensitize the policy makers to solicit their support in realizing this potential.

The RAC secretariat and NEPAD's PAF Partnership for Africa's Fisheries project seek to engage and involve African ministers responsible for fisheries to become aware of the potential of fisheries resources in order to influence enhance financial resource allocation for the sector and also facilitate prioritization of fisheries activities in the national short and long term plans. The first conference of African ministers of fisheries and aquaculture (CAMFA) which will be held later this year in Gambia will be an opportune forum to reach out for policy and political influence. It is expected that once the governments have embraced the idea of the fisheries

potential, the good governance and enhanced financial resource allocation for the sector will be realized.

The idea of establishing a sustainable partnership for Africa's fisheries development is gaining acceptance from many donors and development partners. There is therefore a proposal to hold a consultative forum to discuss establishment of an expanded and sustainable Strategic Partnership for synergized and cohesive fisheries development in Africa. A Strategic Partnership meeting has been arranged to take place immediately after the 4th RAC session to discuss and agree on a strategy for a structured partnership under the African Union/NEPA.



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A fisherman casts his fishing net on the coast at sunset Gabon

CAPACITY BUILDING

Training Course on the use of Fisheries Information and Statistical System Software (FINSS)

The sub-Saharan African region is data deficient with respect to the Large Marine Ecosystems' (LME) capture fisheries and therefore sound fisheries management cannot be achieved unless adequate data and information

is available and can be easily accessed, used and shared. The Strategic Partnership of the Fisheries Investment Fund project has recognized this and the need to build capacity for harmonized data and information documentation, management and dissemination at both the national regional levels. Although there are a number of other data softwares e.g. FIN Tuna that were developed by FAO

to capture purse seine information they are all limited and only provide incomplete solutions, while others are too difficult to use and do not have necessary flexibility to handle complex data solutions. The Fisheries Information statistical statistical systems (FINSS) software was therefore developed by FAO and IOTC to capture long line and pelagic fisheries and any other data that a country would require because it is adaptable and easily updatable. Since many



Anne Mwangi / WWF ESARPO

A group photo of participants who attended the Fisheries Information and Statistical System (FINSS) training programme in Cape Town South Africa.

countries of SSA are not adequately endowed with the resources or budget to produce fisheries data tools, FINSS is available free of charge to interested countries to bridge this information gap. Any modification of the FINSS software however would require signing of MOU between the country that wishes to modify and IOTC.

FINSS is a comprehensive fisheries and compliance management system allowing both governments and private individuals to track fishing activity from vessel deployment, harvesting, landing and processing. FINSS has the ability to provide real time access to analyzed and up to date data to users and key decision makers. The programme is user friendly and has the flexibility necessary to handle complex data handling solutions. It is also an integrated and homogenous system that facilitates all stages of database development. FINSS system provides improved quality of data facilitates higher reporting rates, less workload, faster response time and encourages development of potential new data sources. The FINSS programme is in English but can easily be translated into any other language which the user would prefer.

The RAC secretariat facilitated the first training programme on the use of FINSS data software, which took place in Cape Town, South Africa from 28th September to 2nd October 2009. The Participants were drawn from the Fisheries Institutions of the Agulhas and Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem (ASCLME) and Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem (BCLME). Officials of fisheries institutions from Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Seychelles, South Africa, Tanzania, Angola and Namibia attended this course. The objective of the training was to introduce FINSS software and conduct training on its application to key stakeholders in fisheries institutions that deal with data and information in the representative countries. The training also provided the participants with the opportunity to learn from the experience of the countries that are already using the system such as Seychelles. Mozambique, which is about to roll out the system also shared her experience with participants. During the opening session Dr. Patrice Talla, the World Bank official who is the focal point of the SPFIF project, informed the participants that one of the objectives of the project was to

build capacity in various fisheries areas to help enhance sustainable fisheries management through lessons learning and replication. The FINSS training would be rolled out to the rest of the SSA countries after implementation, monitoring and evaluation of impact in these initial two LMEs. He also informed participants of the project's intention to develop a database for fisheries experts in Africa. This core group would be used to provide information with respect to the African Fisheries to influence fisheries policy and governance in Africa.

The participants appreciated the flexibility of the software and its administrative and management capabilities that would enable development of a single database for all fisheries information in their countries. The SPFIF project will conduct FINSS program training in the other two LMEs of SSA; i.e. the Gulf of Guinea and Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem. It will also monitor its use to ensure all countries have harmonized fisheries database for efficient, easy exchange and sharing of fisheries data and information in Africa, to facilitate sustainable fisheries management.



Anne Mwangi / WWF ESARPO

Marco Garcia, the IOTC software engineer who helped create FINSS, taking the participants through the program.

IUU Fishing and its impact on SSA LME Fisheries

Sometimes illegal, unregulated and unreported (IUU) fishing is viewed as implying to only the Illegal fishing especially in Africa. The unreported and unregulated fishing also contribute to overexploitation and stocks depletion. By definition Illegal fishing refers to fishing conducted by both foreign and national vessels in waters under jurisdiction of a State without authority of that State, or in contravention of its laws, or in violation of national, regional and international laws. Unreported fishing refers to unreported or misreported activities to the relevant national or regional authorities. Unregulated fishing refers to activities conducted by vessels without nationality or flying a flag of convenience either in area of application of a RFMO or where there are no applicable conservation or management measures, in a manner that contravenes the conservation and management of living resources under international law.

Illegal, unregulated and unreported fishing has led to stocks depletion and is now a global concern. While Illegal and unreported

CHALLENGES

fishing can be estimated to some extent, the unregulated fishing is almost impossible to estimate. IUU fishing thrives where there is poor governance and weak fisheries policies as is the case in most African countries. As Dr. Abraham Iyambo, the former Minister for Fisheries and Marine Resources, in Namibia, put it during his key note address during the 5th IUU fishing forum in London in October 2009, "the IUU fishing is the 'scandal of our times as more than 1 billion dollars worth of fish in Africa is lost to IUU fishing". Trans-shipment at sea, poor surveillance, licensing of illegal fishing vessels, ready market for illegal fish and lack of political will to take action are as some of the major causes of continued IUU fishing. With proper governance and political will, these losses could have benefited the States with the resources. To reverse this trend, the IUU fishing crisis should not be viewed as just a fish issue but rather as an economic and political issue to help stimulate reforms. There is need, therefore for cooperation by coastal states and fishing nations to combat IUU fishing through

improved policies, governance and management. Developing countries require support to develop and implement necessary systems to effectively manage fishing activities in their waters and also beyond.

The 5th IUU fishing International forum.

This Conference was held at Chatham House (also known as the Royal Institute of International Affairs) in London, UK from 14th to 16th October 2009. The Chatham House mission is to provide independent analysis, informed debate and influential ideas on how to build a prosperous and secure world for all. The Chatham House Rule that is used around the world aims at providing anonymity to speakers to encourage openness and sharing of information. It produces independent and rigorous analysis of critical global, regional and country-specific challenges and offers new ideas to decision-makers and -shapers on how these could best be tackled from the short to the long term. Membership includes individuals, corporate and academic institutions. Chatham

Courtesy of WWF-AU Consultative report by Edward Kimakwa



Fighting IUU Fishing: On the 8th of March 2009, Tanzania arrested a flagless Foreign fishing boat with nearly 300 Mt of Tuna on board

House remains a market-place for ideas where members, supporters and speakers represent a cross-section of the most influential internationally oriented individuals in business and public life.

To launch the conference, the Chatham House and WWF hosted the screening of 'The End of the Line', the first major feature documentary film revealing the impact of overfishing in the world's oceans. The documentary reviewed many of the key issues that were followed by the investigative reporter Charles Clover, as he confronted politicians and celebrity restaurateurs, who exhibit little regard for the damage they contribute to the oceans. The screening was followed by a lively panel discussion. The panel members included: Charles Clover, the Author of 'The End of the Line'; Nigel Edwards of the Seachill Icelandic Group, Nancy Gitonga of African Union Commission and Sally Bailey of WWF.

The key note speeches were delivered by Ministers of Fisheries of the United Kingdom and Namibia; and the Deputy Chief Executive Officer, NEPAD. All three speeches raised issues of poor policy and governance, and lack of political will to achieve effective fisheries management and utilization. This, they all observed is causing concern on sustainability of global marine fisheries resources. During the discussions, the participants generally agreed that there was an urgent need to address fisheries resource dissipation and action and political will is required to reverse this worrying. The question of who will influence action and global political will to combat illegal fishing and to ensure sustainable fishing was raised and it was agreed that every participant should play a part in sensitizing policy makers. According to the UK Minister responsible for Fisheries, Illegal fishing is the biggest fishing power in the world and about 20% of fish harvested globally is from IUU fishing. He suggested that one of the

ways of combating IUU fishing is to impose market base measures. 60% of fish in the EU come from outside of EU waters and therefore the EU regulation is expected to stimulate legal fisheries. He however, said that it would be important for transition time from when the regulation comes into force to allow countries, especially developing countries to adjust and comply.

Concern was raised on the impact of EU Regulations on IUU fishing and the implementation of the Regulation that may be far reaching especially for the ACP countries as they will not be adequately prepared. The ACP countries therefore require transition period after the regulation comes into force in January 2010. The private sector expressed concern on the many catch certificates that are expected to be originated by fishing vessels to accompany any consignment. The forum was informed that another regulation to cater for EU vessels, was being developed and would also become effective in January, 2010. Despite the concerns raised, the forum agreed that the EU Regulations on IUU fishing were a good and bold step towards the fight against global IUU fishing. It was felt that a global approach towards combating IUU was necessary. The EU Regulation also applies to EU member states that would wish to export their fish to other countries outside the EU.

Fishing Access Agreements; An African view point to contribute to CFP reform process

It is now widely accepted that global fisheries are in crisis. The European Union, the Food and Agricultural, Organization (FAO) of the United Nations, the World Bank, Civil Society, small-scale and artisanal fishers organizations and researchers from all over the world have are all in agreement and predict enormous economic losses, depletion of fish and ecosystem degradation. A consequence of this would be increase levels of food insecurity and poverty in

the Africa's small-scale fishing communities. To overcome this crisis it is imperative for decision-making bodies, particularly national and international governing institutions, to address the underlying problems that cause this crisis. Some of area that require quick interventions include Fisheries Access (Partnership) Agreements, Corruption in fisheries and Development of accurate accounting for depreciation of social and natural capital through dissipation of fisheries resources. There is no doubt that there need for a fundamental change of the framework for EU fisheries relations with developing countries, which would give priority to good governance, environmental sustainability whilst providing an enabling environment for developing countries' fishing sectors, particularly the small scale fishing communities. There is therefore need for a careful assessment of the past experience to instruct the transition towards a new, more sustainable model.

Some of the view points and proposals below were arrived at during a workshop and conference organized by a Danish NGO, in Copenhagen in September 2009 where the South met the North with converging views on fisheries management and development in the ACP countries.

The Fisheries Access (Partnership) Agreements (FPA) between ACP countries and the world's biggest fishing nations, including the EU, China, Japan and the USA, have a significant negative impact in the world's fish stocks. The decline in fish stocks in ACP countries, primarily as a result of overfishing by foreign vessels, is therefore having a negative impact on the potential for small-scale fisheries to thrive and develop. In this regard, it is imperative to reconsider and renegotiate the fisheries partnership agreements, with a view to change the objectives of these agreements from extracting the resources to achieving sustainable fisheries. There is need for a paradigm shift in

the negotiations and therefore the FPAs renegotiation must be more inclusive, and should guarantee the participation of small-scale fishing communities and civil society organizations. It is crucial that only excess fish stocks are allowed to be harvested by foreign interests, in accordance with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and that the precautionary principle is applied in situations where there is inadequate scientific information such as Africa, in accordance with the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The financial compensation received by ACP countries ought to accurately reflect the value of the resources harvested, and should be used to assist small-scale fisheries to develop, while ensuring biological sustainability in fisheries. Evaluations of FPAs, costs and benefits of FPAs is information that still remains unavailable to the public. There will be need therefore for capacity building on negotiation skills; monitoring Control and surveillance capability; effective legal framework and enforcement mechanism; and knowledge and information on the resource. There is also need for advocacy to ensure the decision and policy makers understand the importance of the fishery and are involved in ensuring fare FPAs.

There are currently 15 Fisheries Partnership Agreements in force between the EU and developing countries. With notable exceptions, such as Mauritania – the biggest FPA – , they are tuna agreements, and their duration is generally between four and six years¹. Some recent development indicate that due to the extremely inequitable levels of financial compensation paid for access rights, the inflexibility of the European Union in adapting their terms and conditions and the realization amongst African

governments that their marine living resources must be sustainably managed for the benefit of future generations, a number of African states have elected to not renew their fisheries agreements. In 2003, South Africa decided to terminate its bilateral tuna fisheries access agreements with the Japanese. In 2004, Angola refused to renew its EU fisheries agreement. In 2006, Senegal elected to not renew its EU fisheries agreement. This was significant as Senegal was the first African state in 1979 to conclude a foreign fisheries access agreement.

Corruption in fisheries has received relatively little attention compared to other extractive industries, despite the fact that various types of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, are taking place in the marine waters of many developing countries, leading to overfishing and marine ecosystem destruction². Marine living resources are a national interest and asset held by the state in trust for the benefit of the citizenry as a whole. The lack of accountability, exacerbated by the weak oversight mechanisms to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of access agreements, has led to the Publish-What-You-Pay Coalition to push for the application of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) to the fisheries sector as well. EITI is premised on the principle of establishing multi-stakeholder processes that ensure information flows on the revenues earned from extractive industries such as oil, mining and fisheries.

In order to combat corruption and its negative effects, it is imperative to improve access to information. This will strengthen the capacity of civil society, encourage public accountability, and combat corruption in fisheries, particularly in ACP countries. Domestic Legal Provisions for Agreements are absent in most countries that have

signed the agreements. South Africa is the only known country on the Continent that has legislation that provides for access to information held by both the state and private actors. This type of legislation allows any person access to government and private actor documents and contracts with certain limitations aimed to protect confidential commercial and classified data. In addition, South African law obligates state actors to consult widely with interested and affected parties before state officials can promulgate policies or alienate resources. African Union/NEPAD should take the initiative to push for a mechanism that will encourage transparency in fisheries exploitation in Africa, and also influence the EU Common Fisheries External Policy reforms to ensure fair deals so that compensation from fisheries access agreements are not used as tradeoffs by government for other sectors. Although good governance has not been a priority of fisheries management, there are signs of change in international policy debates. For example, the European Union is now mainstreaming good governance in its reform of fisheries partnership agreements. This will include inserting clauses on transparency and anti-corruption in all agreements signed with African countries after 2012. The AU therefore has a duty to carry out some studies and analysis of the African situation. Such studies would provide: comparative case study research on how improvements to governance can increase revenue from natural resources and promote sustainable exploitation; analysis of relevant African and international legislation and agreements that may be used to improve transparency and freedom of information in fisheries management; recommendations on how the AU can promote good governance and improved transparency in marine fisheries, drawing on the experience of international initiatives from other resource sectors such as EITI.

1. Béatrice Gorez, *Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements (CFFA), Coordinator (2009): The future of Fisheries Partnership Agreements in the context of the Common Fisheries Policy reform; A presentation to the European Parliament Development Committee*

2. For a discussion on corruption in African fisheries see Andre Standing (2008) 'Corruption and Industrial fishing in Africa', U4 Issue paper 2088/7, Christian Michelson Institute, Bergen, Norway.

Develop accurate accounting for depreciation of social and natural capital. A report by the World Bank (Sunken Billions: The Economic Justification for Fisheries Reform) states that half of the global fishing capacity could be scrapped with no effects on total catches. The report also states concern that some fishing nations "artificially inflate" GDP by depreciating natural capital. In order to change this economic

paradigm there must be an accurate accounting of depreciation of natural, and social, capital in all fisheries sectors, so that fleet reductions target those sectors that most inhibit the recovery and appreciation of fish stocks and ecosystems. Where values are uncertain and risk is high, such risks must be priced into production costs.

Domestic and external fisheries policies, as well as development cooperation policies, must have a special focus on currently disadvantaged populations, in particular small-scale fishing communities and women of these communities.

The consultative process of the SPFIF initiative

In order to assist coastal countries to make concrete progress towards achieving sustainable fisheries and poverty reduction, the two of the targets set by the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in 2002, a Consultative Workshop was convened by FAO, the World Bank and WWF in Dakar, Senegal, 18-20 January 2005. The meeting attained broad agreement on the goals and objectives of the Strategic Partnership and its operating principals, as well as on eligibility criteria for country level projects to be supported by the Partnership Investment Fund. More specifically, there was agreement among the participants on the premise that inadequate governance of the fisheries resources is the root cause of the current levels of overexploitation in the LMEs. The Strategic Partnership would therefore be a suitable mechanism to generate funds which could assist coastal countries in SSA.

A Second Consultative Workshop was convened by FAO, the World Bank and WWF in Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania, from 22nd to 24th June 2005. This workshop was opened by the Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture at the African Union, and the meeting subsequently attained broad agreement on a project cycle that would ensure stakeholder input into a portfolio of roughly 10 to 12 national level projects aimed at assisting coastal SSA countries to implement the WSSD fisheries and poverty reduction targets. More specifically, the meeting agreed that this portfolio and project cycle would be advised by a group of stakeholders led by the AU, forming a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC), and would be complementary to the ongoing LME Programs. The meeting further agreed on the governance framework for such a stakeholder-driven regional funding mechanism.

ADVOCACY

Tuna Fisheries Dialogue: Minister Opens 'Promoting Sustainable Tuna Fisheries' Workshop.

This consultative meeting, dubbed as "Tuna Dialogue" was convened by WWF and the Africa Union on 17th and 18th December 2009, to help SWIO coastal states develop a cohesive strategy for the sustainable management of tuna and other highly migratory resources, to optimize the social and economic benefits to the people of the region. This initiative is in recognition that tuna and other tuna like species are highly migratory shared resources, and therefore the need for a cohesive regional approach towards their sustainable management. Tuna is a valuable resource with immense potential to spur economic growth and development among the developing SWIO coastal states.

The South West Indian Ocean (SWIO) region is significantly important as it accounts for the 20% of the total global tuna catch and about 80% of the total Indian Ocean catch. Of the total production about 105 million metric tons are used directly for human consumption. The major role of the tuna resource-rich developing countries in globalization has been to permit access to their marine fisheries resources by Distant Water Fishing Nations (DWFN). This however has been without much benefit to the developing countries' national economies. It is estimated that there are about 3,000 active tuna fishing vessels in the Indian Ocean (IOTC, 2009).

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the sea (UNCLOS) gave coastal states legal rights and obligations to utilize and manage resources within their declared boundaries of 200-mile EEZ. However, the developing countries have limited skills, experience and financial resources to develop, use and protect their rich resources. In this regard the coastal states, under the provisions of Article 62 of UNCLOS are expected to determine their capacity to harvest the living resources of the exclusive economic zone but where they do not have the capacity to harvest the entire allowable catch, they can, through agreements or other arrangements give other States access to the surplus of the allowable catch. The environmental and economic factors,

Anne Mwangi / WWF ESARPO



Participants of the Regional workshop, (front row, right to left), Mr. G. Monor, Director of Fisheries, Ms Rubina Haroon, Regional Representative WWF-ESARPO, Hon Dr. Otuoma, Minister for Fisheries Development and Mrs. Nancy Gitonga, SPFIF Coordinator among others.

including the economic needs of coastal fishing communities and the special requirements of developing States ought to however be taken into account in the management of these resources. These provisions are usually not observed by the States that own the resource or the other States permitted to exploit. Other issues of great concern include IUU fishing, by-catch, weak policy and institutional frameworks and limited capacities to police the EEZ, among others. The challenge for the Western Indian Ocean Coastal states, therefore, is how to take advantage of the opportunities of the globalized world fisheries and trade to bring about significant flow of benefits to their national economies and improve the living standards of the local communities who depend on the coastal and marine fisheries resources for their livelihood.

The workshop which was held in Nairobi, Kenya brought together key practitioners and decision makers in the SWIO region provided a forum to inform, discuss, inspire and

propose reforms in the tuna fishery management that would facilitate realization of maximum benefits for the SWIO Coastal states.

Hon. Dr. Otuoma, the Minister for Fisheries Development Kenya, opened the meeting and in his keynote address noted that Kenya lies within the rich Tuna belt of the South West Indian Ocean water and reiterated the need to safeguard this valuable resource and build strong Regional Fisheries bodies. The Minister informed the meeting of the Kenya Government's efforts towards sustainable management of marine fisheries resources, including tuna. Similarly, Prof Ahmed Elsawalhy of the AU-IBAR in his speech, noted the importance of the Fisheries Resources in Africa in boosting economic growth and improving livelihoods. According to the AU strategic plan, a fully fledged fisheries department will be established at AU-IBAR. Ms. Rubina Haroon the representative of WWF-ESARPO in her key remarks noted that WWF is now directing more effort towards bringing about

transformation in the tuna industry in the SWIO with a view to helping developing coastal states derive maximum benefits from their tuna resources

The major recommendations from the workshop included the Strengthening of regional cooperation between states in the SWIO to improve monitoring, control and surveillance; strengthen port state measures; address IUU fishing; and develop a common voice on all issues of Tuna as a region. Similarly the development of synergies and improved partnerships among regional programmes including the sharing and dissemination of data and information is desirable. On Fisheries Access Agreements, participants concurred that there is need to forge a common and collective approach to fisheries access agreements, build capacity for negotiating for fair and equitable access agreements and move towards joint ventures in processing and developing national fleets. On regional fisheries accord



Patrol Boat in Kenyan Marine Waters: Developing Countries in the AWOI region have limited capacity to monitor and police their expansive EEZ. There is need for capacity building to strengthen MCS

there is need to pursue a regional agreement to improve tuna fisheries management e.g. a Tuna Fisheries Accord anchored on the AU Framework. It was also noted that on policy and governance, there is need for strengthening legal, policy and institutional frameworks for tuna research and management. Lobbying and advocacy to influence

national, regional and global processes should form major activities of the partners and collaborators.

In the efforts towards creating a unified voice, members will take advantage of the 1st SWIO Tuna conference that was held in Seychelles and developed a SWIO common voice for the IOTC 14th session that

was held in South Korea in March 2010. WWF and AU are consulting on establishing a forum for the Directors of Fisheries and also a wide audience including national and regional fisheries management and research organizations for the Expert Consultation on Tuna fisheries in SWIO region will be sought.

LESSON LEARNING

Creating Wealth through sustainable fisheries management.

NAMIBIA'S STORY

Namibia's fisheries sector is a model of success, achieved through a rigorous and efficient management of her rich fishing grounds, which are recovering from severe over-fishing back in the 1970s and 1980s. The fisheries sector is manned by highly skilled Namibians led by the former Minister for fisheries, Dr. Abraham Iyambo, for 12 years, the only Minister for fisheries to hold the same position for so long in Africa, where economy is highly politicized. Dr. Abraham Iyambo has been moved to

serve in another ministry and has been replaced by Hon. Bernhard Esau.

Namibia inherited systematically plundered fisheries resources through over-fishing by foreign vessels. Apart from canning factories that were established, relatively little other benefits accrued to Namibians. Fish harvested in Namibian waters was either processed on board fishing vessels or landed elsewhere. After independence, the Namibian government placed high priority on fisheries and developed a fisheries policy that was published in 1992. The policy detailed strategies based on three main objectives; rebuilding

of Namibia's fish stocks, protection of fisheries resources in Namibia and nationalization of Namibian fisheries.

Today the fisheries industry in Namibia is vibrant, dynamic and highly competitive. It is a major employer of about 14,000 people, and a revenue generator contributing about 20% of Namibia exports annual with an annual value in excess of NAD 4.6million (USD 632, 952)

Namibian fisheries are acclaimed as some of the best managed in the world and the country is ranked one of the ten top fishing nations of the world. In order to counter environmental effects on fisheries, Namibia has responded by reducing total allowable catches or declares moratorium when need arises. Although such actions affect workers,

companies' profitability, state revenue and market stability, decisions must be taken to ensure resource sustainability for posterity. Namibia realized the many challenges but has set clear objectives in this fisheries developmental voyage. Re-building the fish stocks is the key objective. The fishing industry since independence has invested in excess of

NAD 8 billion in building factories and acquiring fishing vessels. 25 factories have been built since independence and the government facilitates regional and international trade.

Since 1990, the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources has constantly enforced fisheries legislation and regulations within the Namibian

EEZ. The Fisheries Observer Agency (FOA) of Namibia is supplementing the Ministry's monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) activities at sea. The FOA places fisheries observers on board the Namibian flagged vessel to record and report any non-compliance to the Ministry.



An African Minister receives international awards.

Dr. Iyambo world renowned for his contribution to the rapid growth of the Namibian Fisheries Sector has been accorded various awards. He was awarded The Swedish Seafood Award in the Sustainable Fishing 2009 category, for his work in developing a sustainable administration of Namibia's fishing sector. Moreover Dr. Iyambo is the first single individual recipient of the prestigious 'Margarita Lizarraga' (2008-2009) medal. The Margarita Lizarraga Medal is awarded biennially by the FAO Conference upon the proposal of the Council to a person or organization that has served with distinction in the application of the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries. The Medal pays tribute to the late Dr. Margarita Saucedo Lizarraga, for her strong commitment towards fostering the promotion of the fisheries sector, especially in developing countries.



The Margarita Lizarraga Medal

Mark your Calendar:

1st June-3rd June, 2010 – Walvis Bay – Namibia

The 4th Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) session that brings together the strategic partners, SSA Regional Fisheries Boards, The GEF funded fisheries LME's programmes, civil society organizations and development partners for key deliberations and strategy for the project.

4th June, 2010 – Walvis Bay – Namibia

The 5th Strategic Partnership meeting

4-6 th August 2010 – Naivasha, Kenya

AUC/ RECS/ RFBs/ Regional Fisheries Projects meeting.

13-15th September 2010 – Zanzibar

SWIOFP Steering Committee meeting

18-19th September 2010 – Zanzibar

SWIOFC 5th Session

20-21st September 2010 – Zanzibar

ASCLME Steering Committee meeting.

September 20th-23rd, 2010 – Banjul, Gambia

Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA).

October 2010

Follow-up meeting on the Tuna dialogue with Fisheries Managers of Fisheries Departments of SWIO region convened jointly by WWF and AU.



Courtesy of WWF-AU Consultative report by Edward Kimakwa

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