

Programme pour la mise en oeuvre d'une stratégie de pêche pour la région
Afrique orientale-australe et Océan Indien

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Programme for the implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy for the
Eastern and Southern Africa and Indian Ocean Region



REPORT OF THE INCEPTION/FOCAL POINTS MEETING OF THE SmartFish PROGRAMME

FLIC EN FLAC, MAURITIUS
JUNE 15th & 16th, 2011



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Implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy For
The Eastern-Southern Africa
And Indian Ocean Region

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**REPORT OF THE FIRST
INCEPTION/FOCAL POINTS MEETING
OF THE SmartFish PROGRAMME**

Flic en Flac, Mauritius
June 15th & 16th, 2011

REPORT OF THE INCEPTION/FOCAL POINTS MEETING OF THE SmartFish PROGRAMME

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.	MAIN REPORT	9
2.	APPENDIX A: Conclusion and Recommendations of the Inception Meeting	19
3.	APPENDIX B: List of Participants	24
4.	APPENDIX C: Provisional Agenda	31
5.	APPENDIX D: General description of the Smartfish Programme	33
6.	APPENDIX E: Summary by Presentations by Results: Issues and Outputs	40
7.	APPENDIX F: Focal Persons Roles and Responsibilities	53

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SMARTFISH PROGRAMME**

FLIC EN FLAC, MAURITIUS,
JUNE 15TH & 16TH, 2011

SUMMARY

The Inception Meeting of the SmartFish Programme took place in Flic en Flac, Mauritius, on 15th and 16th June, 2011 at the invitation of the Indian Ocean Commission. The meeting was attended by representatives from partner regional economic commissions (COMESA, EAC, IGAD, IOC); partner regional fisheries organizations and projects; European Union Delegations; as well as by representatives from beneficiary and participating countries from the Programme area. The objective of the meeting was to present the SmartFish Programme and discuss its objectives, outputs and implementation strategy. The role of focal persons nominated to assist in implementation was also discussed. The report of the meeting is presented below, together with conclusions and recommendations as well as annexes that provide an overview of the Programme itself and the implementation framework relevant to each of the main five results to be achieved. A French version of this document is published as separately.

INTRODUCTION

1. The Inception Meeting (IM) of the Programme for the Implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy in the Eastern-Southern and Indian Ocean Region (SmartFish Programme) was held at the Pearle Beach Hotel, Flic en Flac, Mauritius on June 15th and 16th 2011 at the kind invitation of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC).
2. The Meeting was attended by representatives from: IOC, COMESA, IGAD, IRCC, FAO, the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA), the South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP), ACP FISH II project, ASCLME Project, the PRSP-IOC Project, and the EU Delegation from Kenya as well the EU Delegation from Mauritius. Additionally members of the Agrotec SpA consortium (as contractors to the IOC) were in attendance.
3. Delegates from the beneficiary countries of the Programme were in attendance, these included: Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, DR Congo, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Delegates from Mozambique and Réunion Island (France) also attended as partners in the Programme.
4. The full list of participants is given in Annex A.

Opening of the Meeting

5. Mr. Léon Martial Harijhone Rasaka, the IOC Project Manager welcomed participants and introduced the special guests for the opening of the meeting.
6. Mr. Callixte D'Offay, Secretary General of IOC, welcomed all participants and briefly reviewed the efforts deployed by IOC over the years to promote responsible fisheries and the trust of this new Programme aimed at the implementation of a regional fisheries strategy in the ESA-IO region. Mr. D'Offay provided details about the overall intention of the Programme, and stressed its particular importance to a critical sector in the region as well as the role of IOC and other partners in its implementation.
7. Mrs. Cécile Tassin Pelzer, First Secretary of the EUD in Mauritius, welcomed participants on behalf of the EU. She emphasized the importance of the Programme for the region in relation to the social and economic dimension of the sector and the need to ensuring sustainable outcomes in fisheries. Mrs Tassin Pelzer also recalled the past and present efforts deployed by the EU in ensuring the sustainable development and management of fisheries in the region.
8. Mr. D Mauree, Director of Fisheries welcomed participants on behalf of the Minister of Fisheries and Rodrigues. He stressed the importance of the Programme for the region as a whole and for each participating country in view of the challenges faced. He also pointed to the relevance of the issues to be addressed by the Programme. Mr. Mauree wished the meeting to be fruitful for all and officially declared the meeting open.
9. The Chair of the meeting Mr. Raj Mohabeer, Officer in charge at the IOC Secretariat, presented the meeting agenda. The agenda was adopted as presented in Annex B.
10. The Chair recalled the history of the SmartFish Programme and stressed the role of the IOC, COMESA, IGAD, and EAC in ensuring appropriate implementation and benefits to the fishing industry, fisherfolks and consumers from the region. He emphasized that IOC is the lead for the implementation of the Programme through its Secretariat in Mauritius and that a Technical Assistance Team (TAT) had been contracted from AGROTEC SpA (consortium) in Italy for the purpose of assisting with implementation. He also supported the idea of focal points being invited to this first important meeting, pointing out that they are the key to the success of the Programme especially given the short time available for implementation and the nature of the results to be achieved through the Programme.
11. COMESA requested clarification on the roles of the other Regional Economic Communities (RECs) pointing out that COMESA, for instance also had a fisheries strategy in place. The Chair commented that RECs will have an important role to play as Programme steering committee members (e.g. in terms of harmonization) and that sub-delegation of powers through Programme estimates, may also be envisaged when appropriate.

12. Mauritius noted the complicated coordination required for such a Programme, as it will cover 19 beneficiary countries and involve a number of partner organizations and enquired about ways to balance Programme interventions between the various countries within such a tight schedule. The chair recalled the overall purpose of the project as a regional sectoral integration Programme and stressed the need for effective cooperation from all beneficiaries and regional organizations to ensure that results are achieved as planned.
13. Mr. Léon Martial Harijhone Rasaka, IOC Project Manager of the SmartFish Programme, provided details about the Programme in terms of its structure, implementation schedule and process. A summary is presented in Annex C.
14. He recalled the overall objective of the Programme, which is to contribute to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development and deeper regional integration in the ESA-IO region through the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources. He also recalled that the ultimate beneficiaries of the Programme will be the fishermen, coastal communities and wider populations of the ACP States of the ESA-IO region covered by the 10th EDF Regional Indicative Programme.
15. Mr. Rasaka explained that diverse stakeholder groups will draw specific direct and indirect benefits from the IRFS programme in relation to expected results and outcome. These will fall into the following five categories: fisheries management; fisheries governance; monitoring, control and surveillance; regional fish trade and food security - each of which to be presented and discussed as per the Agenda. It was explained that the results 1 & 5 will be undertaken by FAO under a Delegated Cooperation agreement with the EU and the other results will be the responsibility of the IOC Programme Management Unit (PMU), duly supported by the Technical Assistance Team.

Programme budget

16. Mr. Gréboval, Team Leader of the TAT, presented the budget of the Programme and outlined the amount of funding that was available to each of the result areas.
17. In terms of Programme Estimate (funds allocated to specific results as per the Financial Agreement agreed upon between the EU and the IOC), the allocation by result is indicatively as follows:

A.	Result 1	€3.5 Million
B.	Result 5	€2.5 Million
C.	Result 2	€1.0 Million
D.	Result 3	€5.0 Million
E.	Result 4	€0.4 Million
18. It was noted that the above budget does not include the cost of the technical assistance (Key Experts and Short Term Experts) to be provided throughout the duration of the project through the Agrotec SpA consortium in support of Results 2, 3 and 4. The above figures also exclude budgetary allocations that do not pertain to any specific result (e.g. administration, information and visibility, contingencies).

RESULT 1: Fisheries Management

19. Ms. Clotilde Bodiguel (FAO) presented the approach and expected outputs for Result 1. A resume of this presentation is provided in Annex D. She underlined that the logical framework format for Result 1 and 5 (implemented by FAO) had been harmonized with the one developed for Results 2 to 4 by the TAT. This was done in order to reach more coherence and visibility for the Programme as a whole. She recalled the relevance of a regional action plan for fisheries and aquaculture management for the ESA-IO region.
20. Main issues and challenges were also discussed in relation to setting up priorities. The approach for Result 1 was described in relation to shared water body without RFBs, shared water body with RFBs, marine fisheries and river basins. She reminded the meeting that commitment of the Focal Points would be essential for addressing issues of regional interest, especially in areas not covered by regional fisheries management organizations.
21. Following the presentation, SWIOFP and ASCLME discussed training programmes and stressed the need for collaboration between projects to achieve higher efficiency in the provision of training services. A common regional interest for micro-credit systems was underlined.
22. Mauritius indicated interest in addressing the question of value-addition for bycatch, while reiterating interest in micro-credit for small scale operators.
23. Malawi and LTA indicated interest in aquaculture development and the need for the programme to give appropriate attention to this component. They also pointed to the need for harmonization of policy at the lake level for the major shared lakes of the ESA region
24. The need for capacity building in relation to specific management tools was underlined by a number of the delegates (such as for addressing by catch or introducing quotas). FAO indicated that capacity building would be undertaken in relation to the fisheries which the Programme will focus on and relevant tools. Even if, at this stage these fisheries have not been defined, FAO pointed out that these will be selected in agreement with countries concerned as soon as the FAO component becomes operational.
25. Burundi noted the need for biological data and stock assessment research for Lake Tanganyika. DR Congo outlined capacity constraints in the management of Lake Tanganyika fisheries as well as for other fisheries and a need better understand management issues before specific interventions are proposed.
26. Tanzania suggested that the Programme could benefit from seeking the nomination of a focal point from Zanzibar. It was agreed that the Programme will follow up on this matter.

RESULT 2: Governance

27. Dr. Dominique Gréboval, Team Leader and technical expert for Result 2, presented this result area: “a governance framework for sustainable marine fisheries management and development is initiated”. A resume of the presentation is provided in Annex D. He emphasized that governance is about laws & regulations, policies and institutions, and about the way these are used by stakeholders to produce outcomes in relation to objectives - while improvements in governance are generally promoted in relation to key principles of good governance, such as transparency; participation; accountability; efficiency; coherence; adaptability and reactivity as well as proportionality and subsidiarity.
28. Dr. Gréboval further explained that the Programme will promote these principles of good governance for the management of marine fisheries through a range of activities to be undertaken at national and regional level, after ample consultations with beneficiary countries, and the RECs and RFBs concerned. It was also noted that the Financial Convention for the programme specifically indicates that this Result areas should be restricted to marine fisheries.
29. Various countries and organizations requested clarifications including need for the Programme to collaborate closely with the countries concerned as well as with related RFMO's and regional projects and the need to emphasize national governance issues of regional significance.
30. The delegate from Uganda requested that the possibility of extending Result 2 to inland fisheries be explored. Other countries with significant inland fisheries supported this recommendation.
31. ASCLME indicated that information on governance was available from some projects and that this information could be useful for the purpose of conducting regional assessments. The ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) was mentioned as an approach and a tool that also deserves attention in relation to improving fisheries governance.
32. Mauritius highlighted the fact that the governance has a national perspective and it would be important for the Programme to define indicators of success. Similarly SWIOFP noted the difficulty of implementing “governance” outside of a reference framework for good governance

RESULT 3: MCS

33. Mr. Marcel Kroese, Key Expert MCS from the TAT presented an overview of result 3. A resume of the presentation is given in Annex D. He provided an overview of the MCs issues and challenges in the region on a national and regional level. He emphasized the importance of MCS, its background, as well as some of the types of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing taking place in the region. Some estimates of the cost of IUU to the region were provided. Mr. Kroese presented the outline of the program, which will be implemented through 5 modules:

module 1 - National Capacity Building, module 2- Regional Coordination, module 3 - Strengthening Regional MCS Tools to combat IUU fishing, module 4 - Joint Patrols Activities, and module 5 - Awareness Building

34. Mr. Kroese expanded on these modules and illustrated the outputs of Result 3 to achieve the desired “end state” of the Programme, which is an integrated and harmonised regional MCS system.
35. It was noted by participants that a regional strategy on MCS was required and that it would be useful to understand better the cost effectiveness of MCS as a management tool. It is often perceived as an expensive approach and the returns are not fully understood in the context and in relation to the investment involved.
36. It was also recommended that MCS interventions, where poverty and food security drive IUU fishing should be investigated and that the importance of trade monitoring of IUU fishing in the region be considered.
37. In addition, general coordination with other regional initiatives should be considered; consistency with the Regional MCS Coordination Centre concept should be assured.

RESULT 4: Regional Trade Strategy

38. Mr. Chris Short Key Expert from the TAT for trade matters presented an overview of result 4: “A regional trade strategy is produced to ensure access to domestic, regional and export markets”. A resume of the presentation is given in Annex D. A general overview was provided to give context to the result area with respect to global trade vs. regional trade. Mr. Short emphasized that export beyond the region was a difficult goal to achieve for many countries but still something to keep on the strategic horizon. Regional trade development – as an integrated approach - made strategic sense and offered potential and viable markets to the region.
39. He then explained some requirements for successful regional trade integration, and how these related to the overall approach taken in terms of modules and outputs so as to achieve this result. Three modules will be undertaken in the following areas: module 1 - Development of trade strategies at national and regional levels; module 2: Implement strategic improvements in production & supply of fish; module 3: Implement improvements pertaining to Quality & Hygiene aspects of trade
40. Some of the questions and comments received pertained to work to be undertaken with regards to value chain analysis and to improving value-addition. Others concerned informal trade and what could be done to address related issues and help stop illegal aspects of such trade.
41. COMESA suggested that the Programme should be aware of its “simplified trade regime” and of “green pass” activities, which open up trade to smaller traders and which constitute an approach to the informal trade issue.

42. Mauritius emphasized the relevance of eco-labelling and related tools and recommended that present efforts to promote such tools be assessed and encouraged by the programme.
43. Other comments received related to the need to avoid overlap or duplication with existing regional programmes and initiatives.

RESULT 5: Food Security

44. Result 5 was presented by Ms Bodiguel, from FAO. A resume of the presentation is provided in Annex D. To ensure a common understanding of the issue, she first underlined some key definitions and concepts related to food and nutrition security. The four dimensions to be taken into account to strengthen food and nutrition security were recalled, namely food availability, food access, utilization and stability.
45. The role and nature of national and regional plans for food and nutrition security were shortly described and she noted that it was not that often that fisheries and aquaculture were sufficiently or adequately taken into account in those plans.
46. It was indicated that the objective of the Result was not to prepare new strategies/plans for food and nutrition security relative to fishery but rather to improve existing strategies/plans through a better recognition of the potential contribution of fisheries and aquaculture. It was also underlined that inadequate management and governance at the national, regional and international level contribute to the overexploitation of fish stocks. Consequently, substantial progress in the management of fisheries remains a necessary condition for an enhanced contribution of fish to global food security and nutrition. This points to the relevance of the integrated nature of the Programme and to the need to links this result area to these previously presented.
47. Ms. Bodiguel further detailed the modules and outputs of Result 5 and explained how these will support a better integration of fisheries and aquaculture in national and regional food security strategies. The three modules under Result 5 and related outputs were described. Module 1 is focusing on better integrating fishery and aquaculture in national and regional food and nutrition security; Module 2 on improved regional supply of fish through post harvest losses reduction; and Module 3 on diversification and improved resilience of communities (aquaculture, eco-tourisms, etc.).
48. Discussion allowed for a number of clarifications on the status of development of food and nutrition plans in several countries. It will appear that many countries (including Seychelles and Mauritius) have already developed such plans.
49. Many comments or questions related to the reduction of post harvest losses, underlying the need for sharing experiences across the region on best and successful practices, as well as the need to focus on concrete actions involving capacity building and sensitization of main stake holders (fishers, processors, etc.). The issue of financing required equipment was raised by Uganda. Ms. Bodiguel explained that the Programme will only be in a position to finance limited equipment but that it could assist with the identification of alternative sources of funding when required.

50. The link between food security and trade issues was strongly underlined, including the need for better monitoring of food chain. In this regards, synergies between result 4 and result 5 will need to be strengthened.

Focal Point Responsibilities

51. The Chair introduced this agenda item and opened the discussion by presenting the roles and responsibilities envisaged of the Focal persons in each of the beneficiary countries and regional organizations (see Annex E). He made specific reference to the need for ensuring the smooth implementation of the SmartFish Programme to ensure a full participatory approach and successful implementation. He also pointed to the need for a single point of contact in place between the Programme and the beneficiaries.
52. Various points and recommendations were made in the discussion that followed. It was suggested that FPs must received all pertinent documents if they are to fully understand their role within the Programme. It was also suggested that national or sub regional workshops be arranged to sensitize the FPs to their role.
53. It was recommended from other project experience that each country should nominate an alternate FP, as a way to ensure permanent contact. Similarly projects noted that there should be coordination and synergies developed between FP of related projects. Other experience from previous project suggests that FP should have a technical profile, rather than having high level responsibilities and thus being eventually less available.
54. The EU noted that EUD with regional responsibilities should be kept informed of activities that are occurring in the region covered.
55. Countries agreed that visibility tools and materials should be made available at the country level.

Conclusion and recommendations

56. The conclusions and recommendations of the meeting are presented in Appendix I as adopted by participants.

Closure of meeting

57. The Chairman concluded the meeting by reminding the participants of the overall objectives of the meeting and reviewing the main conclusions and recommendations which were adopted by the participants.
58. The Chairman closed the meeting with special thanks to all the participants.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Conclusion and Recommendations of the Inception Meeting

1. Structure and purpose of the meeting

The Inception Meeting (IM) appreciated the opportunity to learn more about the SmartFish programme and its key components and to exchange views on the result areas as well as on the intended roles and responsibilities of the focal points from the countries and regional bodies.

2. SmartFish objectives and results

The IM noted the overall objective of the programme, which is to contribute to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development and deeper regional integration in the ESA-IO region through the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources. It also noted that the expected results and outcome of the programme falls into the following five categories: fisheries management; fisheries governance; monitoring, control and surveillance; regional fish trade and food security.

The IM agreed with the following key points made under this agenda item to provide context and background to the meeting:

- The Programme emerged from the EPA negotiations and the IOC Fisheries Strategy as a first step towards implementation;
- The aim of the Programme is to contribute to regional integration;
- Key aspects of fisheries development and management have been brought together in this Programme; these are governance, strategic planning, sustainability, food security, R&D, economic fisheries development, market access, with the ultimate aim of contributing to the welfare of the population and reduce poverty.
- The owner of the Programme is all the ESA-IO RECs, but IOC has the responsibility for implementation;
- The Programme needs to ensure the participation of all Member States and partners.

The IM expressed its appreciation of the presentation made for each result area.

RESULT 1 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT

The IM recalled the presentation made by Clotilde Bodiguel regarding the approach and expected outputs for Result 1. She underlined that the logical framework format for Result 1 and 5 (to be implemented by FAO) has been harmonized with the one used for Results 2 to 4 developed by the Technical Assistance Team (TAT) in order to reach more coherence across results and more visibility through to the Programme as a whole. She recalled why a regional action plan for fisheries and aquaculture management is relevant and needed in the ESA-IO region. It was highlighted that fisheries are a key economic sector that contributes significantly to economies in the ESA-IO region and that the potential contribution of fisheries in the ESA-IO region could actually be much higher under proper

management. Achieving increased contribution of fisheries to economic growth and MDG objectives also requires regional approach and collaboration between countries and regional organizations because many issues and challenges are shared or very similar, and because many fishing stocks or water bodies are shared between two or more countries. Furthermore, most countries do not individually have the capacity to develop and implement certain instruments, tools or programmes required for proper management of fisheries and aquaculture.

The IM agreed with the approach described and with the idea of geographic/thematic concentration for each of four focused areas of regional interest, namely: shared inland water bodies without RFBs, shared inland water bodies with RFBs, marine fisheries and river basins. The overall result approach, modules and outputs were found appropriate.

The IM recommended to make the most of synergies and to share experiences on issues of regional relevance to ensure that the region moves towards regional integration as well as on lessons learnt and recommendations that follow from activities related to management and development tools of regional relevance. It also highlighted that there are opportunities to share experiences from different shared and recommended that this be taken into account when implementing programme activities.

The IM expressed a common regional interest for micro-credit systems and aquaculture development planning. It also noted the need for capacity building in relation to specific fisheries management tools and for a better integration of aquaculture within the overall Programme.

RESULT 2: GOVERNANCE

The IM recalled the presentation made by Dominique Gréboval regarding the approach and expected outputs for Result 2. He emphasized that Governance is about laws, regulations, policies and institutions, and about the way these are used by stakeholders to produce outcomes in relation to objectives. He also noted that improvements in governance are generally promoted in relation to key principles of good governance, such as transparency; participation; accountability; efficiency; coherence; adaptability and reactivity as well as proportionality and subsidiarity.

The IM noted that these principles of good governance for the management of marine fisheries will be implemented through a range of activities to be undertaken at national and regional level, after ample consultations with beneficiary countries, and the RECs and RFBs concerned. It agreed with the proposed framework which include supporting improvements in specific areas, such as : compliance with regional and international instruments and agreements; approaches to action-oriented fisheries management planning; approaches to cost effectiveness in fisheries management; the effectiveness of stakeholder participation; fisheries information and reporting at regional level; governance performance monitoring systems; regional coordination and public awareness.

The IM stressed the fact that governance was essentially to be improved at national level, with focus on issues of regional relevance and recommended that the Programme to collaborate closely with the countries concerned as well as with related RFMO's and regional projects, in the elaboration of activities to be undertaken under this result.

The IM suggested that the possibility of extending result 2 to inland fisheries be explored. The ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) was also mentioned as an approach and a tool that also deserves attention in relation to improving fisheries governance.

RESULT 3: MONITORING, CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE

The IM recalled the presentation made by Marcel Kroese regarding the approach and expected outputs for Result 3. He provided an overview of the MCS issues and challenges in the region on a national and regional level, as well as the background to the importance of MCS and some of the types of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing. He further indicated that this result will be implemented through 5 modules: national capacity building, regional coordination, strengthening regional MCS tools to combat IUU fishing, joint patrols activities, and awareness building.

The IM agreed with the framework presented and with the emphasis to be given to addressing IUU fishing in a comprehensive manner by: (i) implementing a harmonized system of fisheries data collection and dissemination on a national and regional level for transboundary stocks, especially where it concerns the collection of fisheries data to be submitted to RFMOs; (ii) developing a system of data sharing on a regional level of relevant MCS data that can be used by a members, (iii) enhancing human resources in the region to a dedicated fully trained, professional fisheries inspectorate, including investigating cooperative management strategies; and (iv) developing a national and regional response to IUU fishing - inter alia, through joint patrols operations at sea and cooperation through existing regional programs.

The IM suggested that a regional strategy on MCS was required accounting for the need for general coordination with other regional initiatives to be effective and for consistency with the Regional MCS Coordination Centre concept to be assured.

The IM noted that methods to determine cost effectiveness of MCS would be an important component to assist managers.

The IM recommended that MCS interventions be investigated in reference to situation where poverty and food security drive IUU fishing and that the importance of trade monitoring of IUU products fishing in the region be considered.

RESULT 4: TRADE STRATEGY

The IM recalled the presentation made by Chris Short regarding the approach and expected outputs for Result4. He presented the overall strategy and approach to result 4, providing context information to why regional fish trade was pertinent at this time. He noted that, whilst export beyond the region was a difficult goal to achieve for many countries, it was still something to keep on the strategic horizon. He emphasized that regional trade development – as an integrated approach - made strategic sense and offered potential and viable markets and outlined requirements for successful regional trade integration. He further expanded on the three modules that will be undertaken: development of trade strategies at national and regional levels; implementation of strategic improvements in production & supply of fish; and implementation of improvements pertaining to Quality & Hygiene aspects of trade. The IM agreed with the approach to the result area in terms of modules and outputs together with anticipated activities for each output.

The IM emphasized the importance of looking into value-addition opportunities and value-chain analysis. It noted the recommendation made by COMESA that cohesion be sought with the “simplified trade regime” and “ the green pass” that they are implemented in the COMESA area.

The IM also noted the recommendation made by Mauritius that eco-labeling was an important issue that should be addressed within the Result 2 framework as it is seriously affecting sustainable markets (e.g. for tuna). It also suggested that work be undertaken with regards to the issue of informal trade.

The IM suggested that overlaps with other projects are potentially many and this should be taken into account during the planning and implementation of activities.

RESULT 5: FOOD SECURITY

The IM recalled the presentation made by Clotilde Bodiguel regarding the approach and expected outputs for Result 5. She underlined the four dimensions to be taken into account to strengthen food and nutrition security, namely food availability, food access, utilization and stability. She recalled that the objective of the Result 5 was not to prepare new plans for food security but to contribute to the inclusion of fisheries and aquaculture concerns in those plans. It was also underline that substantial progress in the management of fisheries and aquaculture remains a necessary condition for an enhanced contribution of fish to global food security and nutrition, recalling linkages with other Results areas. The three modules under Result 5 and their relative outputs were described: better integration of fishery and aquaculture in national and regional food and nutrition security; improved regional supply of fish through post harvest losses reduction; diversification and improved resilience of communities (aquaculture, eco-tourisms, etc.). The IM agreed with the approach to the result area in terms of modules and outputs.

The IM suggested that experience be shared across the region on best and successful practices that have already been undertaken in the region. It stressed a need to focus on concrete actions in the area of post harvest loss reduction where assessments have already be conducted.

The IM noted that post harvest losses reduction (including discards and by-catch) in the food chain should be conducted in relation to market analysis. It also recommended that emphasis be given to capacity building and sensitization of fishers and processors with regards to post harvest losses throughout the value chain.

3. Focal Point Responsibilities

The IM took note of the draft Terms of Reference presented by the Chair who otherwise made specific reference to the need to ensure a full participatory approach for the successful implementation of the Programme and to have single point of contact in place between the Programme and the beneficiaries.

The IM recommended that the TORs be finalized based on the following considerations and recommendations; further accounting for the responsibilities of the Focal Points and related responsibilities of the programme:

- FC should play a major role in the Programme;
- FP's should be from all countries and partners;
- FPs should receive all suitable documents to support their work and these should be provided by the programme;

- Workshops suggested to sensitize FPs to the role;
- All FP's should have an alternate;
- Synergies between existing FP's in other programmes in the same country should be accounted for;
- The programme and FPs should keep the regional EUD's informed of activities as they occur;
- Visibility tools for FP should be made available;
- The IM suggested that focal points be a technical person related to the objective of the programme;
- The IM suggested that the FPs organize national support groups for the programme, in relation to its main result areas;
- National FPs from RFBs should coordinate;
- IM also stressed the need for national FPs to be appropriately supported by the programme in the undertaking of their responsibilities.

APPENDIX B: List of Participants

IRFS PROGRAMME (SmartFish) INCEPTION / FOCAL POINTS MEETING

Hotel Pearl Beach, Flic en Flac, Mauritius
June 17th, 2011

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APPENDIX C: SmartFish Programme Inception Meeting, 15th and 16th June 2011

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Wednesday 15th June

8.00 – 9.00:	Registration
9.00 – 10.00:	Opening Ceremony Welcoming address by the General Secretary of IOC Address by the Delegation of the European Union Address and opening by Representative of Host Country
10.00 – 10.30:	Tea/Coffee break
10.30 – 11.00:	Structure and purpose of the meeting - Presentation by Mr. H. Rasaka (IOC) - Questions and answers
11.00 – 12.00:	General introduction to the IRFS programme - Presentation by Mr. H. Rasaka (IOC) et Dr. D. Greboval (IOC) - Questions and answers – Discussion
12.00 – 12.15:	Organisational and administrative matters
12.30 – 14.00:	Lunch
14.00 - 15.15:	Presentation of Result 1: Development and Management - Presentation by Ms. C. Bodiguel (FAO) - Questions and answers – Discussion
15.15 – 16.30:	Presentation of Result 2: Governance - Presentation by Dr. D. Greboval (IOC) - Questions and answers – Discussion

Thursday 16th June

9:00 - 10.15:	Presentation of Result 3: Monitoring-Control-Surveillance <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation by Mr. M. Kroese (IOC)- Questions and answers - Discussion
10.15 - 10.45:	Tea/Coffee Break
10.45 - 12.00:	Presentation of Result 4: Trade <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation by Mr. C. Short (IOC)- Questions and answers - Discussion
12.00 - 13.30:	Lunch
13.30 - 14.45:	Presentation of Result 5: Food Security <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Presentation by Ms C. Bodiguel (FAO)- Questions and answers - Discussion
14.45 - 15.45:	Wrap-up session – opened discussion
15.45 – 16.15	Role and responsibilities of focal persons
16.15 – 16.45	Summary and concluding remarks

APPENDIX D: General Description of the Smartfish Programme

The SmartFish Programme is now ready to start, with the aim of contributing to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development and deeper regional integration in the ESA-IO region through improved capacities for the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources. The programme is financed by the European Union under the 10th European Development Fund, with a total financial contribution of Euro 21 million for the first of two implementation phases. The programme is implemented by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) in collaboration with the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East Africa Community (EAC) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). Other regional institutions involved include the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and regional fisheries management organizations, such as the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), and the Lake Tanganyika Fisheries Organization (LTFO). The first phase of the Programme will be implemented over a period of 31 months (March 2011-September 2013)

BACKGROUND

Fisheries are one of the most significant renewable resources that ESA-IO countries have for food security, livelihoods and economic growth based on sustainable resources management plans and there is significant potential for value-added production. As populations in these countries continue to grow, the future benefits that these resources can provide will require balancing the increasing demands on fisheries, with the capacity of oceanic, coastal and freshwater fish stocks to sustain those harvests.

During the European Partnership Agreement negotiation in 2007-2008, the EU agreed to support the ESA-IO region in improving regional capacities for fisheries development and management. In 2009 the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission endorsed a Fisheries Strategy to ensure the long term sustainable development of the fishing sector. At the same time the Ministerial Councils of SADC, EAC and the ESA-IO region endorsed specific fisheries chapters in their Interim Economic Partnership Agreements.

The Programme for the Implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy for the ESA-IO region (IRFS-SmartFish) aims to harmonize the region's strategies and is in agreement with the SADC/COMESA/EAC Tripartite Summit decision to strengthen regional integration, and in line with the 2009 resolution of the Fisheries Ministers of the ACP countries.

Main components of the Programme

The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development and deeper regional integration in the ESA-IO region through the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources.

The ultimate beneficiaries of the Programme will be the fishermen, coastal communities and wider populations of the ACP States of the ESA-IO region covered by the 10th EDF Regional Indicative Program. It is furthermore expected that diverse stakeholder groups will draw specific direct and indirect benefits from the SmartFish programme.

The Programme aims at achieving five main results as described below. These relates to fisheries development and management; fisheries governance; monitoring, control and surveillance; fish trade and food security.

Fisheries Development and Management

RESULT 1: AN ACTION PLAN IS PREPARED FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ESA-IO REGION

The potential contribution of fisheries in the ESA-IO region is much higher than is currently realized. This is in large part due to the trans-boundary characteristics of marine, coastal and inland capture fisheries and aquaculture. These require regional approaches to be effectively addressed. The regional institutions (regional economic, fisheries, and water management organizations) and national government agencies often lack the capacity to effectively implement responsible fisheries and aquaculture practices. These practices include co-management, ecosystem approaches and integrated water resources management. Integrated water resources management, in particular, further requires strong regional coordination and networking between the regional bodies and linkages with Pan African initiatives.

This component of the Programme will address, inter alia, the following issues:

The weakness of fisheries policies and inadequacies in legal and regulatory frameworks of the sector: These have led to the suboptimal utilization of natural resource and often resulted in stagnating or declining catches. Specific capacities need to be improved to ensure the sustainability of the resources on which fisheries and aquaculture production is based. Increased benefits from the sector can indeed be expected if based on proper resource management.

The poor quality of information: Information systems have proved insufficient to guide policy development and resources management at the national and regional level. This is further aggravated by the fact that information is mainly collected for the large scale commercial sector because this is easier and provides net revenues. The small scale sector, however, produces the bulk of the locally consumed catch and is often not given due attention because of the technical difficulties involved.

The general lack of human and institutional capacity: this is especially the case when dealing with the multifaceted aspect of fisheries and aquaculture policy development and resource management. Improvement of this capacity through appropriate training, institutional support and the establishment of networks and partnerships will be essential for the sustainable development of the sector. These issues will be addressed in general terms as well as through specific applications, e.g. for specific fisheries and inland water bodies.

Fisheries governance

RESULT 2: A GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE REGIONAL MARINE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IS INITIATED

Most of the countries ESA-IO region and their leadership have already subscribed to one or more strategic agreements, protocols, commissions or conventions that endorse improving laws, regulations and institutions for fisheries development and management. This component of the programme will aim at building on these inherently positive instruments to promote an improved marine fisheries governance framework for the ESA-IO region.

Such a framework needs to be based on key principles of good governance. It is widely agreed that these include at least the following principles:

- Transparency. This principle relates to the quality of information, its availability, and the clarity and controllability of processes followed.
- Participation. Stakeholders can be involved in many ways in the management of the sector and participation is increasingly institutionalized in the region. However, representativeness, willingness and capabilities to engage in partnership remain important issues to be addressed.
- Accountability. This principle relates to clearly defining the sharing of responsibilities amongst institutions involved in the management of the fisheries sector as well as the accountability of the various parties involved (public and private).
- Efficiency. In terms of the adequacy of decisions taken to achieve objectives and desired outcome and in terms of cost-efficiency.
- Coherence. Between national and sectoral objectives and policies as well as between sectoral policies and the strategies and measures applied to different components of the sector or to specific fisheries.
- Adaptability and reactivity. The ability to respond to economic, social or natural perturbations – especially when ecosystems are more vulnerable due to more intensive exploitation.
- Proportionality and subsidiarity. In terms of choosing a level of action (local, national, regional) and measures that are appropriate to reaching a particular objective (e.g. for the management of various fisheries).

The programme will promote these principles of good governance for the management of marine fisheries through a range of activities to be undertaken at national and regional level. These will include supporting improvements in areas, such as:

- Compliance with regional and international instruments and agreements;
- Approaches to action-oriented fisheries management planning
- Approaches to cost effectiveness in fisheries management
- The effectiveness of stakeholder participation
- Fisheries information and reporting at regional level
- Governance performance monitoring systems
- Regional coordination
- Public Awareness
- Capacities of main stakeholder groups to contribute to fisheries objectives through improved governance.

An assessment of the present governance system and consultation with stakeholders will provide guidance to the Programme in terms of concrete actions to be supported.

Monitoring, control and surveillance

RESULT 3: AN EFFECTIVE MCS FOR TRANSBOUNDARY FISHERIES RESOURCES IN THE ESA-IO REGION IS DEVELOPED

The programme will investigate and assess individual countries' capacity to implement MCS and to establish individual country needs and expectations. These will be harmonised in the light of realistic regional requirements and of the experience of past and ongoing MCS projects undertaken in the ESA-IO region, such as the IOC Regional Surveillance Plan. An important aspect will be to sustain MCS activities and ensure its reliable institutionalisation. In addition, smaller regional initiatives established by some countries can be evaluated and expanded, such as the SADC Heads of MCS Operation meetings, hosted by the Mozambican ministry of fisheries over the last 3 years. There has also been considerable intergovernmental liaison, particularly between some SADC Members, and many concepts have been test driven such as regional multilateral patrols, in South Africa, Mozambique, Namibia and Tanzania. These joint patrols have highlighted the multilateral requirement for harmonised action and forged contact on an operational and political level between countries.

It is also noted that traditionally MCS in the ESA-IO region has focussed mainly on industrial fisheries, but as artisanal fisheries may well reach similar total landings as larger fleets, these small scale fisheries will also be included on the overall MCS approach. Close collaboration with SWIOFP, SWIOFC and SADC will be forged.

Fisheries data lies at the heart of any successful development and management strategy. Without reliable data it is simply not possible to plan and derive optimal benefits. Although many fisheries data collection systems are in place in the region, there is little coordination, except through FAO, IOTC and to a lesser extent SWIOFC. It is clear that great reliance is placed by many on the FAO data that is compiled annually on the basis of data provided by governments. Notwithstanding the value of these data, there is considerable evidence that a deeper and more detailed analysis of records submitted to FAO is needed. This has been demonstrated in several key publications and relates in particular to the methodology used by individual countries in their collation and reporting to FAO. It will be a task of this Programme team to ensure that relevant data are fully compatible and harmonised.

Similarly, the use of VMS systems relates to both MCS and IUU fishing. While a number of countries have established their own VMS facilities, only SADC countries have signed a protocol on data exchange, however it has not been implemented due to technical difficulties and the low number of countries with fully functioning VMS systems. In the broader regional context, no such data sharing initiative exists at present. This too presents a great opportunity for deepening regional cooperation and sharing of resources in collective fisheries management. The Programme will also address flag State and port State measures in relation to MCS and its objectives.

Regional fisheries trade

RESULT 4: A REGIONAL TRADE STRATEGY IS PRODUCED TO ENSURE ACCESS OF FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCT TO DOMESTIC, REGIONAL AND EXPORT MARKETS

The development of a regional trade strategy is the thrust of the programme and will direct many activities undertaken over the coming months. This will be implemented through national and regional level trade and marketing approaches and regional consensus to support strategy development. The traditional focus on large international trading blocks has reduced efforts from developing a regional trade approach. Regional trade holds great potential for development and will be examined within this programme and integrated with strategic marketing plans at the regional and national level. Many national and regionally driven and oriented activities will develop objective requirements for achieving this goal. Marketing strategies will be prepared at the national level and a comprehensive understanding of existing and potential trade, especially intra-regionally, will be required. This data will ensure regional trade strategies meet the requirements of the beneficiary countries and that trade potential is fully understood.

Some of the most pressing issues facing regional fisheries trade relate to the reduction of competitive access to international markets whilst still enduring barriers to developing regional and even domestic markets. Average import tariffs between regional countries themselves are generally much higher than in developed countries and have limited intra-regional trade significantly. Positively there are an increasing number of regional free trade initiatives and an increasing consumer spending power in some countries to drive regional trade development and attract investment. The success of regional trade is not focused on tariff barriers alone as many non-tariff barriers need to be included in the discussion, this include (logistical and infrastructure challenges throughout the value-chain, competitive distribution systems, supporting policy, and changing quality requirements that all have a contribution within this program. The focus on quality and hygiene as a critical component of improving marketing opportunities regionally, as well as improving access to healthy fish in the domestic markets is envisaged with a move towards a more harmonized quality structure between expectations for export and expectations for domestic consumption.

A particular issue affecting some fisheries in the region at this time that is expected to expand its influence on market competitiveness is consumer pressure towards the use of eco-labelling. This programme will contribute to supporting the understanding and strategic preparation for this new competitive environment.

Overall the programme implementation will provide support at the national and regional level to allow for more choices and a better competitive environment for the producers and marketers of fish and fisheries products.

Food Security

RESULT 5: AN ACTION PLAN FOR FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS, FOOD SECURITY, AND NUTRITION IS DEVELOPED AND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE ARE INTEGRATED WITHIN OVERALL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES

Food security is an overriding concern in the region, from the household level through to the national and regional levels. Incorporating fisheries into national/regional food security strategies is a priority. This requires an integrated approach where all the linkages between the fisheries/aquaculture and food security are addressed. Issues impacting on food security include: consideration of information needs, vulnerability, trade, poverty, food prices, competition for water resources and climate change. Relevant to this programme is the FAO Special Programme for Food Security which aims at improving food security within poor households through National Programs for Food Security (NPFS) and Regional Programs for Food Security (RPFS). Implementation of the Programme will also account for and strengthen efforts deployed by NEPAD and other regional organizations.

The programme will aim at establishing a planned process for achieving food security. The following four dimensions of food security will be addressed:

Food availability: The availability of sufficient quantities of food of appropriate quality, supplied through domestic production or imports.

Food access: Access by individuals to adequate resources (entitlements) for acquiring appropriate foods for a nutritious diet.

Utilization: Utilization of food through adequate diet, clean water, sanitation and health care to reach a state of nutritional well-being where all physiological needs are met.

Stability: To be food secure, a population, household or individual must have access to adequate food at all times, with reduce risk of losing access to food due to sudden shocks.

The Programme will assist with integrating fisheries and aquaculture into national and regional food security action plans. It will also assist with the implementation of selected actions identified as especially relevant and which, inter alia, relate to:

- Improved knowledge and preparedness to climate change impacts on fisheries;
- Capacity building in post harvest assessments;
- Reduction of post harvest losses in the food chain;
- The promotion of aquaculture;
- Diversification initiatives in favor of coastal fisheries communities.

Capacity Building and Training

The need for training is paramount, recognising the variable and low levels of capacity in several of the countries. Hence, training activities will be a fundamental and extremely important component of this Program. At the same time, it is understood that capacity building is not just about providing formal training and the programme shall ensure that the capacity building activities that are delivered by the programme are specifically targeted to be effective, efficient and duly coordinated within a strategy that is implementation oriented. An overall training framework that accounts for existing needs will provide the basis for action, together with follow-up and refreshers courses as required. Special attention will also be paid to the selection of beneficiaries to ensure effectiveness for these activities.

Cooperation with related initiatives

The need for close collaboration with the various regional institutions (RECs, RFMOs and others) involved in fisheries development and management is recognized and will be promoted. The Programme will also seek close cooperation with related projects or initiatives that are presently being implemented in support of fisheries development and management in the region. This concerns regional projects (such as : PROFISH-World Bank; RECOMAP-IOC; ASCLME; RPFS-IOC; PAF-DFID; FAO-NEPAD; ACP-FISH II; SWIOFP) as well as national projects.

Project Management

The Secretary General of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) as Regional Authorizing Officer (RAO) of the European Development Fund (EDF) is the Contracting Authority. The programme is implemented in close collaboration with COMESA, EAC and IGAD.

AGROTEC is providing technical assistance for the implementation of the Programme with focus on matters related to the governance, trade and the monitoring, control and surveillance components. FAO will provide inputs to the Programme under a Cooperation Agreement on matters related to Result 1 on fisheries development and management and Result 4 on food security.

The program's intended beneficiary countries include Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Though they may not benefit from 10th EDF ESA-IO funds, Mozambique and South Africa are involved as members of SADC and through the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) framework. Réunion Island (France) will also participate in the Programme as a member of the IOC; although not as a financial beneficiary.

A Programme Management Unit (PMU) has been established to assist with the implementation of the project. The PMU is based in IOC Headquarters in Mauritius.

APPENDIX E: SUMMARY BY PRESENTATIONS BY RESULTS - ISSUES AND OUTPUTS

RESULT 1: AN ACTION PLAN IS PREPARED FOR FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR THE ESA-IO REGION

INTRODUCTION

Why develop an action plan for fisheries and aquaculture management in the ESA-IO region?

- Fishery is a key economic sector that contributes significantly to economies in the ESA-IO region. The potential contribution of fisheries in the ESA-IO region is, however, much higher than is currently realized;
- Fisheries and aquaculture can significantly and on a long term basis contribute to national wealth, economic growth and food security but only under rational economic conditions of exploitation;
- Fishing resources are renewable but only when exploited under sustainable conditions taking into account interactions within the ecosystem; moreover while lot of them are considered as public good belonging to the Nation, they often have trans-boundary characteristics that require regional approaches to be effectively addressed.
- Integrated water basin management, in particular, further requires strong regional coordination and networking between the regional bodies.
- Participative development of proper fisheries and aquaculture management approach and fishery management plans with private and public sectors are critical steps to expect fisheries and aquaculture to contribute to national wealth, economic growth and food security at national and regional levels;
- The development of management plans are long term efforts that requires political will, all stakeholders participation, long term planning and commitment at country, RFBs and RECs levels (depend on the fishery).

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Weaknesses in Policy and Institutional Frameworks

- Partially developed fisheries strategies and policies and inconsistencies between national and regional levels are hindering coherent efforts in the use of the available limited human and financial resources and in the implementation of existing management framework;
- Weak policy support has hampered the development of aquaculture as an aqua-business;
- Fisheries are not well taken into account in integrated water basin management while water management has a considerable impact on inland fisheries;
- Share of responsibilities within (co-)management systems are often not so clear hindering accountability of partners and lowering the level of implement and expected results

Inappropriate set of management tools to achieve policy and strategy objectives, in particular lack of fishery management plans in the region

- Management tools often not adapted to objectives and not adapted to human, institutional and financial capacities of countries and as a result not implementable;
- Fishery management plan developed and implemented by public and private sector are lacking in the region.

Inadequate, incomplete legal and regulatory frameworks, in particular in shared waters

- Laws and regulation are in a number of cases not adapted to strategic objectives and to management framework; laws and decrees not fully adopted.

Lack or/and inadequate information and knowledge in support of the management process

- Poor quality of information creates a general sense of distrust on fishery information among intended users which results in non- or very limited use of this information and often in non decision situation in fisheries;
- There are a number of information systems in the region but their compatibility and their access need to be strengthened to ensure proper use of existing information by private and public users;
- Lack of knowledge and information on small scale sector. They often not receive due attention in terms in collection of information because of the technical difficulties involved.

Lack of human and institutional capacities to develop and implement fishery management plans

- General lack of human and institutional capacity to deal with the multifaceted aspect of fisheries and aquaculture policy development and resource management
- Lack of institutional learning process for private sector to participate to management

PROJECT APPROACH and RESULTS

Three main modules have been prepared to provide structure to our approach to Result I , which are:

- Module IM1: Enhance regional and national fisheries and aquaculture strategies and policies in the region
- Module IM2: Foster use and implementation of fisheries management approaches and tools in line with the Code of Conduct for responsible fisheries
- Module IM3: Improve knowledge and information in support of fisheries management processes
- Module IM4: Strengthen institutional legal and regulatory framework in support of management processes

Module 1M1: Enhance regional and national fisheries and aquaculture strategies and policies in the region

OUTPUTS

- Programme Action Plan support the enhancement of regional and national strategies
- Building the foundation for a Transboundary Strategic Action Programme on an eco-system approach to fisheries management in the Nile Basin
- Sustainable Regional Aquaculture Strategies Fostered

Examples of type of activities / actions

- Ex. 1 Support to the formulation of a regional policy and strategy for sustainable aquaculture

Module 1M2: Foster use and implementation of fisheries management tools and approaches in line with the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries

OUTPUTS

- Management processes supported and plans initiated in marine fisheries (C1)
- Lake Tanganyika Framework Fisheries Management Plan (C2) supported by involving fishing communities into the proper use of the lake's living and non-living resources
- Joint-management process of Lake Kariba (C3) reinforced

Examples of type of activities / actions

- Ex. 1 Feasibility assessment of credit scheme for sustainable practices in the Lake Tanganyika including a pilot test

Module 1M3: Improve knowledge and information in support to fisheries management processes

OUTPUTS

- Long term human capacity building and applied research strengthened in the region in support of fisheries and aquaculture management
- Enhance use of and access to available information in support of management process in the SWIOCF region
- Sensitisation tools and knowledge improved targeting Lake communities as well as regional and national authorities for enhanced Lake Tanganyika Framework Fisheries Management Plan and implementation
- Information improved to support the management process in the Lake Kariba

Examples of type of activities / actions

- Ex. 1 Support universities/educational institutions to develop new and strengthen existing courses and programme on fisheries (including in EAF) in support of fisheries management and aquaculture development;
- Ex. 2 Support to information systems' integration in order to lay the foundations of a comprehensive regional information system (FIRMS, WIOFish, Statbase and Fishcode-STF)

Module 1M4: Strengthen institutional, legal and regulatory framework in support to management processes

OUTPUTS

- Human and institutional capacity enhanced to support the development of selected marine fisheries management plans
- Harmonization of fisheries policies and regulations of the Lake Tanganyika riparian countries of Burundi, democratic republic of Congo, Tanzania and Zambia supported
- Strengthening institutional and policy framework for transboundary sustainable management processes in the Lake Kariba

Examples of type of activities / actions

- Ex. 1 Capacity development in tools for fisheries managements in relation to the selected fisheries (ex. bycatch reduction, use of fishing rights, fiscality, etc.);
- Ex. 2 Support the follow up -of LTA initiatives on the harmonization of policies and regulation of the Lake Tanganyika

RESULT 2: A GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK FOR SUSTAINABLE MARINE FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT IS INITIATED

INTRODUCTION

Why a governance framework for fisheries?

- At the international level there has been a growing concern over the last 10 years about the state of fisheries worldwide. The majority of large stocks and coastal stocks remain overexploited and the state of their natural environment is a matter of concern.
- At the international and regional levels, countries have adopted a range of declarations, strategies and international instruments to improve management and environmental protection.
- Implementation at national level is however slow and generally lacks in efficiency, in spite of declared intentions and adopted strategies.
- Implementation at national level required capabilities and means. It also required improved governance framework to guarantee results.

ISSUES & CHALLENGES

Governance is about laws, regulations and institutions, and about the way these are used by stakeholders to produce outcomes in relation to objectives.

Improvements in governance are generally promoted in relation to key principles of good governance. It is widely agreed that these include at least the following principles:

- Transparency. This principle relates to the quality of information, its availability, and the clarity and controllability of processes followed.
- Participation. Stakeholders can be involved in many ways in the management of the sector and participation is increasingly institutionalized in the region. However, representativeness, willingness and capabilities to engage in partnership remain important issues to be addressed.
- Accountability. This principle relates to clearly defining the sharing of responsibilities amongst institutions involved in the management of the fisheries sector as well as the accountability of the various parties involved (public and private).
- Efficiency. In terms of the adequacy of decisions taken to achieve objectives and desired outcome and in terms of cost-efficiency.
- Coherence. Between national and sectoral objectives and policies as well as between sectoral policies and the strategies and measures applied to different components of the sector or to specific fisheries.
- Adaptability and reactivity. The ability to respond to economic, social or natural perturbations – especially when ecosystems are more vulnerable due to more intensive exploitation.
- Proportionality and subsidiarity. In terms of choosing a level of action (local, national, regional) and measures that are appropriate to reaching a particular objective (e.g. for the management of various fisheries).

The programme will promote these principles of good governance for the management of marine fisheries through a range of activities to be undertaken at national and regional level. These will include supporting improvements in areas, such as:

- Compliance with regional and international instruments and agreements;
- Approaches to action-oriented fisheries management planning
- Approaches to cost effectiveness in fisheries management
- The effectiveness of stakeholder participation
- Fisheries information and reporting at regional level
- Governance performance monitoring systems
- Regional coordination
- Public Awareness

PROJECT APPROACH and RESULTS

Three main modules have been prepared to provide structure to our approach to Result 2, these are:

- Module 1: Governance Framework Assessments and Planning
- Module 2: Implementation of Programme Action Plan on good governance for fisheries management (organized around 6 main topics; inclusive of related training)
- Module 3: Supporting activities

OUTPUTS

Module 1: Governance Framework Assessments and Planning

- Assessment completed of national and regional governance and compliance services, especially in relation to participate effectively in regional fisheries management initiatives and to comply with binding agreements
- Review of fisheries laws and regulations completed, with a view to reduce compliance costs and improving effectiveness

Module 2: Implementation of Programme Action Plan on good governance for fisheries management

- Compliance with regional and international instruments/agreements enhanced
- Accountability of governments and stakeholders and cost-effectiveness promoted for management
- Stakeholders participation in decision making for management promoted
- Environmental and fisheries management concerns addressed jointly
- Fishing statistics and fisheries reporting improved
- Framework for fisheries management planning enhanced

Module 3: Supporting activities

- Regional governance performance review system promoted
- A sustainable coordination mechanism set-up at the IOC for fisheries

RESULT 3: AN EFFECTIVE MCS FOR TRANSBOUNDARY FISHERIES RESOURCES IN THE ESA-IO REGION IS DEVELOPED

INTRODUCTION

Why Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)?

- To combat and mitigate the impact of Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.
- IUU fishing undermines management measures, food security and potential market share of states
- MCS provides a controlled framework wherein the exploitation of marine and freshwater living resources can take place.
- Fishing is an important employer in the ESA-IO region, with several million people directly or indirectly employed
- Fish is important in food security, often providing the only animal protein got many communities
- Reducing and eliminating the use of illegal gears and harmful fishing practices to ensure a healthy environment for fish
- Protection of high risk species to ensure biological diversity remains intact
- Trade and market security by detecting and preventing illegally and potentially unhealthy fish from reaching consumers

ISSUES & CHALLENGES

Barriers to developing National MCS:

- Lack of MCS policy capacity, in that the importance of MCS is not recognised
- The number of, and impact of IUU fishing is unknown, and or un-quantified in many states
- Cost associated with MCS is seen as daunting, particularly when full suite MCS (Patrol vessels, VMS, etc) is debated
- Risk management based MCS is not practised
- Low level Information Technology integration exists in many states
- The use of “force multipliers” (horizontal agency integration) is limited

Barriers to developing MCS Regionally:

- Lack or institutional policy capacity to recognise the importance of integrated regional MCS operations
- The number of, and impact of IUU fishing is poorly understood and/or un-quantified in region

- Perceived conflict of interest between national and regional cooperation, particularly in exchange of data that can be used to improve regional MCS
- Lack of integration of national MCS tools on a regional level, such as surveillance and intelligence instruments
- Lack of compatible vessel licensing systems in the region for both national and foreign vessels fishing under license.
- High cost or joint regional fisheries patrols at sea
- Limited or no cost recovery mechanism for user groups for MCS activities

PROJECT APPROACH and RESULTS

Five main modules have been prepared to provide structure to our approach to Result 3, these are:

Module 1: National Capacity Building

Module 2: Regional Coordination

Module 3: Strengthening Regional MCS Tools to combat IUU fishing

Module 4: Joint Patrols Activities

Module 5: Awareness Building

OUTPUTS

Module 1: National Capacity Building

- Participating countries develop and update their legal and regulatory framework to be effective in undertaking MCS activities
- Participating countries improve their work force skills to implement effective MCS of their transboundary resources, centrally planned MCS operations and their RFMO obligations

Module 2: Regional Coordination

- Coordination with other related MCS programs and activities in the IOC and IOTC region is established
- Coordination with the other related regional MCS programs inter alia the SADC Secretariat, Mozambique and South Africa is established.

Module 3: Strengthening Regional MCS Tools to combat IUU fishing

- The regional component of the MCS activities of the ESA-IO region is strengthened
- Systems for the collections and management of MCS related fisheries data, including timely reporting of data to RFMOs are strengthened
- Capabilities in pooling and sharing operational MCS information on a bilateral basis (all potentially relevant data types including VMS) is strengthened

Module 4: Joint Patrols Activities

- Grant are awarded to the eligible government bodies undertaking MCS
- ESA-IO Countries conduct joint patrols and provide evaluation of their outcomes

Module 5: Awareness Building

- Awareness of the importance of MCS in the ESA -IO region is increased.

RESULT 4: A REGIONAL TRADE STRATEGY IS PRODUCED TO ENSURE ACCESS OF FISH AND FISHERIES PRODUCT TO DOMESTIC, REGIONAL AND EXPORT MARKETS

INTRODUCTION

Why regional fisheries trade?

- Traditional focus on large global trading blocks, the EU, etc. has reduced the development of support for regional trade. Regional trade is undeveloped as a result and provides opportunity for ESA-IO
- Trend of reducing competitive advantage for “international” export from Africa, with “preference erosion” a reality
- Access to international markets becoming more difficult and fickle, with continued focus on high standards that are beyond the reach of the majority of traders
- A growing demand for fish generally in terms of mouths to feed, but with a growing affluence regionally
- Development of regional trade should not be at the expense of “international” trade for those that are able, but it can compliment national export strategy and grow sector involvement for a broader range of traders.
- Socio-economic benefits resulting from increased / sustainable fish trade

ISSUES & CHALLENGES

Barriers to developing regional fish trade are many

General trade barriers affecting the region affect fish trade enormously:

- Infrastructure is (roads / rail, cold chain, poor and inadequate for modern trade)
- Trade Facilitation, customs procedures, borders practices, delays, etc. creates environment that is uncompetitive, has high entry costs and discourages investment
- Market Information for fair pricing - especially at the beach level
- Quality Standards / fish handling– lack of harmonization domestically / regionally; lack of harmonized capacity regionally
- Tariff disparity between neighbouring countries

Other strategic issues affecting fish trade

- Reduction of stocks – (great lakes, coastal and pelagic fisheries, need for diversification from capture fisheries (aquaculture, other alternatives...))
- Need for strategic infrastructure investment to improve efficiency and standards and open up opportunities
- infrastructure such as improved landing sites, logistical centres, cold chain development, transparent auction systems, support for aquaculture development (aqua-parks for instance)
- Lack of national / foreign investment in fisheries - need to encourage investment through supporting legislation, as well as investment appraisal procedures
- Market forces – changing attitudes to fisheries, eco-certification, regional image / brand development, sustainable fisheries...
- General capacity and structures to support / encourage trade – need for Regional Fish Trade Offices for instance

PROJECT APPROACH and RESULTS

Three main modules have been prepared to provide structure to our approach to Result 4, these are:

- Module 1: Development of trade strategies at national and regional levels
- Module 2: Implement strategic improvements in production & supply of fish
- Module 3: Implement improvements pertaining to Quality & Hygiene aspects of trade

OUTPUTS

Module 1: Development of trade strategies at national and regional levels

- ESA-IO trade readiness requirements are outlined, developed and implemented for inclusion in national strategies
- Fisheries trade strategies prepared to maintain and improve access to export markets for fisheries

Module 2: Implement strategic improvements in production & supply of fish

- Identify and assess strategic marketing infrastructure in the sector: concrete actions to enhance performance are supported
- Production and supply of fish and fisheries products improved,
- Eco-labelling & certification process according to international standards is supported
- Implement & promote market diversification opportunities

Module 3: Implement improvements pertaining to Quality & Hygiene aspects of trade

- National capacities to ensure quality and hygiene conditions for export of fish and fisheries products strengthened

RESULT 5: AN ACTION PLAN FOR FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS, FOOD SECURITY, AND NUTRITION IS DEVELOPED AND FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE ARE INTEGRATED WITHIN OVERALL FOOD SECURITY STRATEGIES

INTRODUCTION

Why strengthen the contribution of fish and fish products to food security and nutrition?

- Fish and fish products are an important contributor to food security. They contribute to food security in three main ways: through consumption, generation of employment and income, and trade.
- Fisheries provide livelihood and economic benefits for those engaged in the activities related to the harvesting, processing and trading of fish. It is estimated that between 15 and 20 per cent of all animal proteins come from aquatic animals. Fish is highly nutritious and serves as a valuable supplement in diets lacking essential vitamins and minerals.
- Food security is an overriding concern in the region, from the household level through to the national and regional levels. Incorporating fisheries into national/regional food security strategies is a priority. This requires an integrated approach where all the linkages between the fisheries/aquaculture and food security are addressed.

ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Role of fish and fish products in achieving food security and nutrition is not adequately recognized.

- Only few National Plan for Food Security (NPFs) consider the current contribution of fisheries and aquaculture to the economy and national food security.
- Lack of strong relationships between consideration given to fisheries and aquaculture in NPFs and the size or importance of the fisheries and aquaculture sector (in terms of consumption, export, import, employment and income).
- Many NPFs do not assess the state of fisheries and aquaculture resources, or do not outline action plans for their management.

Sustainable resource management underpins the sustainable contribution of fish and fish products to food security and nutrition

- A precondition for the sustainable contribution of fish and fish products to food security and nutrition is the use sustainable of resources. Inadequate management and governance at the national, regional and international level contribute to the overexploitation of fish stocks. Substantial progress in the management of sustainable fisheries remains a necessary condition for an enhanced contribution of fish to global food security and nutrition (Link with Result 1,2 and 3).

Losses at the post-harvest level undermine the contribution of fish and fish products to food security and nutrition

- Global fish losses caused by spoilage are estimated at 10 to 12 million tons per year, accounting for around 10 percent of the total production from capture fisheries and aquaculture globally. Recent FAO work in Africa showed a complex pattern of losses from mono to multi-species fisheries and considering one or more supply chains per species. This led to a wide range of losses (from 2 to more than 35%) with the root causes including purely technological issues, lack of or poor market information, problem in policies and socio-cultural issues.

Resilience and diversification of fishing and fish farming communities

- Increased fishing and fish farming communities (as producers, as consumers) capacity to cope with internal and external sources of stresses and disturbance is an important asset to strengthen food security. Markets, price volatility, natural disasters, resource overexploitation etc. are sources of strong disturbance of communities in the region and to fishery sector branches. Diversification activities and additional sets of tools can be developed to strengthen resilience of communities.

PROJECT APPROACH AND RESULTS

Three main modules have been prepared to provide structure to our approach to Result 5, these are:

- Module 1M1: Enhance action plan for fish and fish products food and nutrition security
- Module 1M2: Improving regional supply of fish and fish products through post-harvest loss reduction
- Module 1M3: Increase resilience and livelihoods diversification in fishing and fish farming communities

Module 1M1: Enhance action plan for fish and fish products food security and nutrition

OUTPUTS

- Integration of fisheries and aquaculture in food security and nutrition strategies and plans assessed and promoted at regional level
- Integration of fisheries and aquaculture in food security and nutrition strategies and plans assessed and promoted at national level

Examples of type of activities / actions

Ex. 1 Share lessons learnt from post harvest loss, diversification activities, climate change and other relevant activities of the programme (management/governance/trade) and implication for food security on the ESA-IO region
Ex. 2 Support NPFS to better integrate fishery and aquaculture in their planning.

Module 1M2: Improving regional supply of fish and fish products through post-harvest loss reduction

OUTPUTS

- Capacity development in post harvest losses assessment methodologies expanded in the region
- Post-harvest loss profiles in a number of countries established
- Post harvest losses reduced in the food chain based on assessment results

Examples of type of activities / actions

Ex. 1 Establish a sustainable network of experts in post-harvest fish loss assessment at the regional level. Ex. 2 Implement interventions to reduce losses in those areas deemed feasible and sustainable

Module 1M3: Increase resilience and livelihoods diversification in fishing and fish farming communities

OUTPUTS

- Sustainable aquaculture development promoted
- Support livelihoods diversification and resilience in fishing coastal communities

Examples of type of activities / actions

Ex. 1 Enabling investment environment for aquaculture development (selected countries/project)
Ex. 2 Projects supported on diversification initiatives and improved resilience in coastal fishing communities.

APPENDIX F: FOCAL PERSONS ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES (DRAFT)

SmartFish Programme Implementation of a Regional Fisheries Strategy for ESA-IO

To ensure the smooth implementation of the IRFS programme and successful implementation of national and regional interventions there must be a single point of contact in place between the programme and the beneficiaries (19 countries, REC, RFBs). This is particularly relevant given that the overall timeframe for the programme is fairly short and delays might have significant implications for overall programme.

To this end, it is most important that an individual is nominated as a focal point in each of the countries and regional organizations that will be involved with the work.

The focal point persons will provide assistance to improve efficiency of delivery, especially for various coordination / logistical aspects of projects as they are developed. Communication with the PMU / Technical Assistance Team (TAT) in Mauritius and with experts, when they are in country, will be paramount to the success of the work.

In general, the following provides some guidance to the sort of responsibilities that would be appropriate:

Summary responsibilities of focal point persons

- The focal point will be the first point of contact for the TAT and other experts when dealing with a country or regional body;
- Assist the TAT with the identification / planning of projects, as well as ensuring alignment with existing activities that maybe occurring
- Assist with linking the TAT with relevant specialists in to support the performance of the programme activities;
- Provide assistance to their ministries / departments to identify participants in training programmes;
- Assist with information dissemination to stakeholders and encourage participation in the programme;
- Receive reports and updates from the TAT regarding national and regional interventions;
- General internal communication / reporting within their own departments / functional areas; and
- Attendance and support of various briefings / meetings and programme activities with the IRFS team.

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS – LISTE DES PUBLICATIONS

SmartFish Programme

1. *Report of the Inception / Focal Point Meeting of the SmartFish Programme – Flic en Flac, Mauritius., 15th-16th June 2011.* REPORT/RAPPORT: SF/2011/01. August/Août 2011. SmartFish Programme. Indian Ocean Commission (55 pages).

La bonne gouvernance et de la gestion des pêches et de l'aquaculture permettent d'améliorer la contribution du secteur à la sécurité alimentaire, au développement social, à la croissance économique et au commerce régional ; ceci en assurant par ailleurs une protection renforcée des ressources halieutiques et de leurs écosystèmes.

La Commission de l'Océan Indien (COI) ainsi que la COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa), l'EAC (East African Community) et l'IGAD (Inter-Governmental Authority on Development) ont développé des stratégies à cette fin et se sont engagés à promouvoir la pêche et l'aquaculture responsable.

SmartFish supporte la mise en œuvre de ces stratégies régionales en mettant l'accent sur le renforcement des capacités et des interventions connexes visant à :

- mettre en place des mécanismes pour la gestion et le développement durable des pêches ;
- développer un cadre de gouvernance des pêches au niveau régional ;
- renforcer le suivi-contrôle-surveillance pour les pêcheries partagées ;
- développer des stratégies et supporter des initiatives propres à accroître le commerce régional du poisson ;
- contribuer à la sécurité alimentaire en particulier par la réduction des pertes après captures et la diversification de la production.

SmartFish est financé par l'Union Européenne dans le cadre du 10^{ème} Fond Européen de Développement.

SmartFish est mis en œuvre par la COI en partenariat avec la COMESA, l'EAC et l'IGAD et en collaboration avec la SADC. Une collaboration étroite a également été développée avec les organisations régionales de pêche de la région. L'assistance technique est fournie par la FAO et le consortium Agrotec SpA.

By improving the governance and management of our fisheries and aquaculture development, we can also improve food security, social benefits, regional trade and increase economic growth, while also ensuring that we protect our fisheries resources and their ecosystems.

The Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East African Community (EAC) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) have developed strategies to that effect and committed to regional approaches to the promotion of responsible fisheries and aquaculture.

SmartFish is supporting the implementation of these regional fisheries strategies, through capacity building and related interventions aimed specifically at:

- implementing sustainable regional fisheries management and development;
- initiating a governance framework for sustainable regional fisheries;
- developing effective monitoring, control and surveillance for transboundary fisheries resources;
- developing regional trade strategies and implementing regional trade initiatives;
- contributing to food security through the reduction of post harvest losses and diversification.

SmartFish is financed by the European Union under the 10th European Development Fund.

SmartFish is implemented by the IOC in partnership with the COMESA, EAC, and IGAD and in collaboration with SADC. An effective collaboration with all relevant regional fisheries organisations has also been established. Technical support is provided by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the Agrotec SpA consortium.

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