

Changing the Face of Fisheries Management

EAF-Nansen Country Projects in Africa using an
Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries

The EAF-Nansen project is a partnership between the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) and Institute of Marine Research (IMR) of Bergen, Norway, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). The project works closely with and supports the fisheries management components of all Global Environment Facility (GEF)-assisted Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) projects and other regional projects in Africa.

For more information:

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Promoting an ecosystem approach
to fisheries (EAF) in African countries





THE EAF-NANSEN PROJECT

FAO started the implementation of the project “Strengthening the Knowledge Base for and Implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Marine Fisheries in Developing Countries (EAF-Nansen GCP/INT/003/NOR)” in December 2006 with funding from the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad). The EAF-Nansen project is a follow-up to earlier projects/programmes in a partnership involving FAO, Norad and the Institute of Marine Research (IMR), Bergen, Norway on assessment and management of marine fishery resources in developing countries. The project works in partnership with governments and also Global Environment Facility (GEF)-supported Large Marine Ecosystem (LME) projects and other projects that have the potential to contribute to some components of the EAF-Nansen project.

The EAF-Nansen project offers an opportunity to coastal countries in sub-Saharan Africa, working in partnership with the project, to receive technical support from FAO for the development of national and regional frameworks for the implementation of Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries management and to acquire additional knowledge on their marine ecosystems for their use in planning and monitoring. The project contributes to building the capacity of national fisheries management administrations in ecological risk assessment methods to identify critical management issues and in the preparation, operationalization and tracking the progress of implementation of fisheries management plans consistent with the ecosystem approach to fisheries.

The ecosystem surveys carried out by the research vessel “*Dr. Fridtjof Nansen*” contribute to the necessary data and information for the preparation of the fisheries management plans.

Each country is expected to share its experience with other countries in the sub-region through the relevant Regional Fisheries Body.

In addition to the above, the following three projects were launched in the Benguela Current Commission (BCC) area (Angola, Namibia and South Africa) in partnership with the Secretariat and the Ecosystem Advisory Committee of the Commission:



- Guidance on institutional arrangements which support EAF;
- Integrating the Human Dimension of EAF into fisheries management in the BCC region; and
- Implementing a process which allows the review and tracking of EAF in management.

The EAF-Nansen project is working with the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem (CCLME) project and the Sub Regional Fisheries Commission on the “management of small pelagic species in Northwest Africa in line with the EAF”.

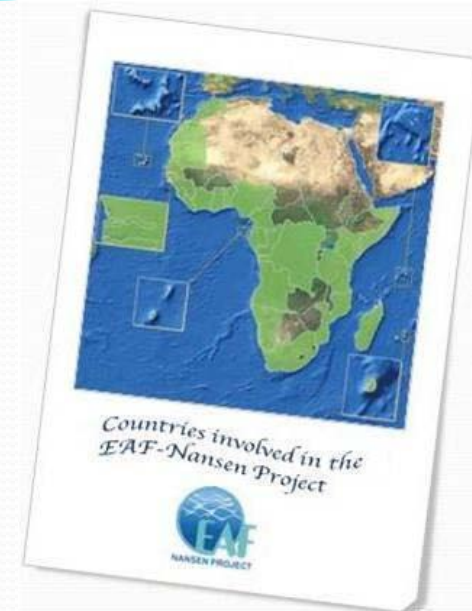
Through these projects the countries are going through the full cycle of fisheries management planning, implementation and monitoring in a manner that is fully consistent with EAF.

The EAF-Nansen project is working with fisheries agencies in 32 coastal countries in Africa to adopt an ecosystem approach in the management of their fisheries.

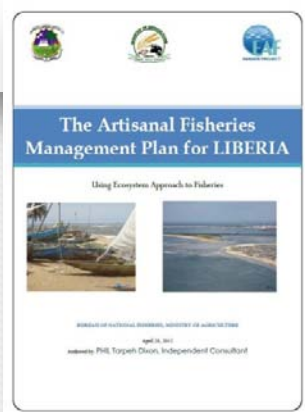
Countries are encouraged to set up a National Task Group (NTG) composed of representatives of the fisheries administration, research institutions, other stakeholders and non-governmental organizations.



The NTG is responsible for the coordination of the in-country EAF project under the directorship of the national fisheries management agency and with technical and financial support from the EAF-Nansen Project.



Etude socio-économique de la senne de plage sur le littoral maritime de la Côte d'Ivoire



REPUBLIQUE DU BENIN
DEPARTEMENT DE L'ATLANTIQUE
COMMUNE DE QUIDAH
ARRONDISSEMENT DE AVLEKÉTÉ



The countries with the projects have been put in thematic and/or geographical clusters for effective implementation and lesson-learning.

- Sierra Leone and Liberia are developing a management plan for their respective artisanal fisheries;
- Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana and Togo are collaborating to come up with a management and monitoring plan for the beach seine fishery in their respective countries and in the sub-region;
- Seychelles and Tanzania are developing a plan to manage their artisanal fisheries (demersal line in Seychelles, pelagic in Tanzania)
- Cameroon, Gabon, and Nigeria are working on a management plan for industrial shrimp fishery in coastal Middle (Central) Africa.
- Mozambique is being assisted to finalize the management plan for the Sofala Bank shallow-water shrimp fisheries and the Linefish fishery.

Through a partnership with the World Bank-assisted South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Project (SWIOFP) the following projects are also being implemented:

- Mauritius is developing a management plan for the shallow water demersal fish species of the Saya de Malha and Nazareth Banks of Mauritius;
- Comoros and Madagascar are collaborating on a management plan for their demersal fish species; and
- Kenya is working on a management plan for the small and medium pelagic species exploited by artisanal fishers.



The in-country project activities include:

- preparing a baseline report on the selected fishery which is validated by the NTG;
- identifying and prioritizing issues related to the fishery;
- examining management options;
- formulating appropriate management actions;
- undertaking cost-benefit analyses of management options; and
- making suggestions for the review of fisheries-related laws and regulations to ensure they include EAF considerations.

