



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

## FISH4ACP

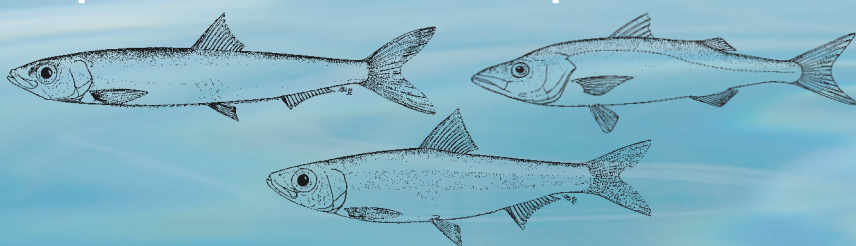
Unlocking the potential  
of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture  
in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific

# United Republic of Tanzania

**FISH4ACP** is supporting Tanzania to strengthen its position as a main producer of Lake Tanganyika sardine, sprat and perch. It promotes sustainably managed value chains, bolstering income and employment opportunities for women and men and contributing to the conservation of Lake Tanganyika's natural resources.

### VALUE CHAIN AT A GLANCE

Lake Tanganyika sardine (*Limnothrissa miodon*),  
sprat (*Stolothrissa tanganicae*) and perch (*Lates stappersii*)



#### PRODUCTION METHOD

**Artisanal.** Night fishing with lights, lamps and lift-nets (sprat and sardine). Vertical handlines, jigged lines, gill-nets and lift-nets (perch)



#### VOLUMES

**Sardine & sprat:**  
48 000 tonnes  
**Perch:** 28 800  
tonnes



#### VALUE

**USD 136**  
million

### WHAT WE **focus** on

- ➔ **Value chain analysis and upgrading strategy** to make Lake Tanganyika sardine, sprat and perch sector more productive and sustainable.
- ➔ **Improving processing and cold chain techniques** to enhance the quality of fish and increase added value for processors and fishers, in particular women.
- ➔ **Improving business models to supply high-value markets** in the main urban centers of Tanzania with high-quality fish.
- ➔ **Increasing female participation** to ensure that women obtain a fair share of the benefits generated in the value chain.
- ➔ **Increasing compliance with fisheries legislation** to foster responsible use of fisheries resources to maintain sustainable stock levels and environmental sustainability.

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## Facts & figures

The United Republic of Tanzania is Lake Tanganyika's principal producer of sardine and sprat (48 000 tonnes) and perch (28 800 tonnes), accounting for up to **85%** of the annual catch.

Exports of sardine, sprat and perch were worth **USD 870 000** in **2021**.

The sardine, sprat and perch sectors are predominantly artisanal and employ **27 000** fishers and **11 000** fish processors.

**95%** of fishers are male and **78%** of fish processors are female.

Post-harvest losses are **16%** on average, but can reach up to **40%** during the rainy season, due to poor fishing, processing, storage and handling methods as well as suboptimal landing sites, market and transport infrastructure.

Lake Tanganyika is the world's second largest lake by volume. Millions of people rely on the lake's rich aquatic biodiversity reserves for food and income. Today, two-thirds of catches are sold fresh on local markets and smoked, dried or frozen for domestic consumption. One-third is exported to neighbouring countries, including Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia.

However, post-harvest losses, climate change and poor fishing methods are threatening the future of fishing on the lake. Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a further cause of declining yields.

FISH4ACP is supporting Tanzania to strengthen the Lake Tanganyika's sardine, sprat and perch value chain by helping fishery-dependent populations to reduce waste and manage fish stocks more sustainably.

FISH4ACP works to increase incomes of small-scale fishers, processors and traders, particularly women, by investing in improved fish handling and processing methods and by upgrading business models to access high-value markets, while contributing to poverty reduction, food security and the conservation of natural resources.



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**FISH4ACP** is an initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) aimed at making fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific more sustainable. FISH4ACP is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

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