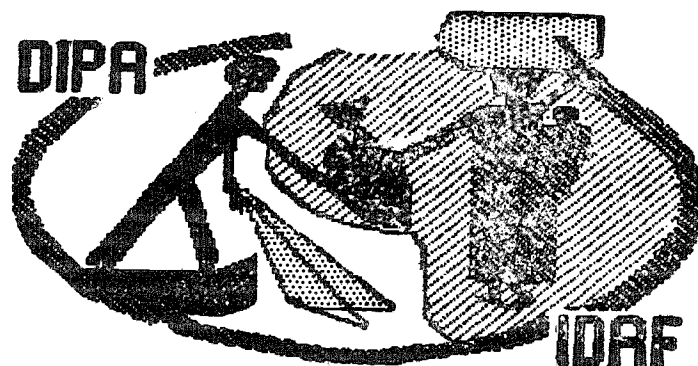


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REPORT OF ROUND TABLE MEETING ON WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN ARTISANAL FISHERIES
(PROJECTS) IN WEST AFRICA



May 1990

Report

of

Round Table meeting on women's activities and community
development in artisanal fisheries (projects) in
West Africa.

by

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With financial assistance from Denmark and Norway, and in collaboration with the Republic of Benin, the Fisheries Department of FAO is implementing in West Africa a programme of small scale fisheries development, commonly called the IDAF Project. This programme is based upon an integrated approach, involving production, processing and marketing of fish, and related activities; it also involves an active participation of the target fishing communities.

This report is a working paper and the conclusions and recommendations are those considered appropriate at the time of preparation. The working papers have not necessarily been cleared for publication by the government (s) concerned nor by FAO. They may be modified in the light of further knowledge gained at subsequent stages of the project and issued later in other series.

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1 - INTRODUCTION

The Programme for Integrated Development of Artisanal Fisheries in West Africa (IDAF-FAO) was established at the end of 1983. The overall purpose of the Programme is to improve the productivity and to increase the well-being of fisherfolk. Within this general framework, actions have been undertaken towards improving women's activities and enhancing community development.

In order to facilitate an exchange of experiences regarding this kind of interventions, the Programme has organised a Round Table meeting on "Women Activities and Community Development in Artisanal Fisheries Projects in the West African region". Representatives from fisheries projects and institutions in The Gambia, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Benin, Burkina Faso, Nigeria and Angola as well as representatives from FAO headquarters came together in Cotonou from 7 to 9 May 1990 (see annex V, list of participants).

The overall objective of the Round Table meeting was:

- to exchange experiences concerning fisherwomen activities and community development,
- to try and draw conclusions on successful and less successful ways of action in this field,
- and to attempt to determine objectives/actions on which development agencies' interventions should concentrate in the future.

Mr. Luc Affoyon, National Director of the Model Project, Bénin officially opened the meeting on behalf of the Director of Fisheries, followed by a word of welcome by Mr. George Everett, IDAF's Coordinator. Both stressed the importance of integration of women's activities and community development in artisanal fisheries projects and they were looking forward to the outcome of the discussions, the meeting being a first gathering in the West African region focussing on this subject and providing the opportunity for an exchange of information.

The meeting continued with the representatives of fisheries projects and departments of fisheries presenting the work they undertake, followed by the representatives of the Institute for African Studies and FAO-headquarters, who explained how they try to facilitate the field work (a full report of these presentations is given in annex I).

The next day the participants met in small groups to discuss a wide range of women's involvement in the artisanal fisheries sector (see chapter 2).

The morning of the third day was set aside for field visits, followed by a plenary meeting on the recommendations of the three discussion groups during the afternoon (see chapter 3). The Round Table meeting on women's activities and community development in the artisanal fisheries sector ended with this concluding session and the meeting was formally closed by Mr. Affoyon and Mr. Everett.

2. SYNTHESIS OF THE DISCUSSIONS ON WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN ARTISANAL FISHERIES

After the presentations of the projects and fisheries departments interventions (see annex I), the participants met in small groups to discuss their experiences. All groups followed the same guidelines (see annex IV). The groups were formed along the languages spoken (two "English" groups and one "French" group). This somehow limited the exchange of information but greatly facilitated the discussions. Any set backs of this arrangement were rectified during the plenary discussion on the recommendations of each group, which was again held in both languages with consecutive translation.

WOMEN'S INVOLVEMENT IN :

2.1. Fish production, processing and marketing

Production

In general women take up a minor part of the work on catching fish, as their household chores don't permit them to spend long hours at sea. However, in the West African region women play an important role in financing fish production: they may provide petrol and food to a crew, pre-finance nets or other inputs or they may own complete fishing units. With their investments in fish production and their processing and marketing activities, women manage a substantial part of the cash flow in the artisanal fisheries sector in West Africa (some estimate this as high a 40-60%)

Though concrete data are lacking, many participants remarked that the artisanal fishermen depend more and more on financial assistance from the fisherwomen. New fishing inputs such as outboard engines, echo-sounders or machine-made nets require higher investment than traditional fishing methods. Fishermen find themselves without any money at the end of the lean season and are unable to prepare for the next fishing season without women's financial assistance.

The financial position of fisherwomen is more and more becoming a deciding factor for their own business as well. The traditional practice of fisherwomen receiving fish from their husbands diminishes, as the fishermen become dependent on those, men or

women, who invest in their fishing ventures. Women are therefore obliged to find ways to pre-finance fishing trips in order to ensure access to the catches. They need thus more working capital, to buy fish and to invest in fishing operations. An example was given from Ghana, on how fisherwomen have been able to profit from the rise of the industrial fisheries and the introduction of coldstores. During the lean season they buy frozen fish to continue their processing and marketing activities.

Apart from this unique role of West-African fisherwomen financing artisanal fisheries, it was noted that there are areas where women do undertake fishing activities, notably in Nigeria, Benin, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde. They fish on lagoons, backwaters, rivers or in estuaries and use mainly scoop nets, set nets or traps. Most of their produce is for home consumption or they may exchange/sell any extra catch at village level. A special situation has arisen around Lagos: here fisherwomen set traps to catch lobster, crabs and other high priced crustacea, in response to the urban demand for these products.

Processing

Women's major role in the artisanal fisheries sector is in processing (and marketing) the fish. All participants reckoned that economic benefits from increased fish production will be limited if improvements in processing techniques (or searches for greater outlets) are omitted from or inadequately addressed in the development plans for this sector. This does not pertain to the circumstances in Nigeria where the demand for fish by far exceeds its supply.

Various -improved- processing techniques were discussed:

Smoking: different kind of fish-smoking ovens have been tried out along the coast of West Africa.

The best known example is the CHORKOR OVEN (see annex II), which performs very well in Ghana and is being introduced in several countries, e.g. Nigeria (Federal State Department of Fisheries action). It improves the working conditions and reduces the smoking time and fuel consumption. Furthermore the Chorkor oven gives a better quality smoked product and there is less breakage of fish, due to reduced handling. However, its use is not everywhere appropriate. In Benin, for example, the fish catches are too limited to make investments in the construction of a Chorkor oven economical, when used by individual women. In Shenge, Sierra Leone, where the catches of small pelagic species are more abundant, the fish is tightly stacked, on the wire mesh, obstructing a free circulation of the smoke through the trays and thus allowing only for one or two trays to be used. This reduces the overall capacity of the Chorkor oven, making it less appropriate for Sierra Leone (and other countries in comparable situations).

Furthermore, there is the ALTONA OVEN (see annex II), which was tried out in Nigeria and The Gambia. This oven also uses trays on which the fish is placed. The fisherwomen involved in the experiments rejected this oven as, especially, the upper trays have to be placed too high, making them too heavy to handle.

The participants from Sierra Leone explained about the changes they successfully introduced for the FANTI OVEN and the BANDA's (smoking houses). First, the open fires of the traditional fanti oven were enclosed with walls from mud blocks and cement plastering, to reduce the loss of heat and smoke and thus save fuelwood. Secondly they placed the ovens away from the walls of the smoking houses so that the fish could be handled from all around the oven, taking away the need to climb on the wire-mesh platforms to handle the fish. For the Banda's the project introduced holes in the upper parts of the walls and windows, to increase the ventilation (many fisherwomen have eye-problems because of the smoke).

Salting: Subject to local demand, salting can be a more profitable way of fish processing provided the salt is locally available or produced. Salting is safer than fish smoking, at least from a health point of view for the fishsmokers. Furthermore, salting doesn't require high investments or infrastructure as for example the smoking houses or ovens. Participants mentioned that it remains difficult to determine the salt concentration of brine solutions.

Icing: two discussion groups looked into the possibility of keeping fish fresh on ice obtained from solar ice-machines as tried out in The Gambia. Various disadvantages were mentioned: irregular ice-production because of variation in available sunlight; high investment costs; insufficient revenues to re-invest as there is no price differentiation for fish of better quality.

Lastly, the participants agreed that still a lot has to be done to improve hygiene during processing and to increase the storage of fish.

Marketing:

The conclusion of this discussion was that improved fishing technology and increased fish production and processing would not lead to higher returns for a fishing community, if marketing possibilities are not available. Only in situations where the demand for fish greatly exceeds the supply, would an increased production also augment the returns. A higher production will in all other circumstances increase the workload and costs of processing whereas selling prices will decrease or at best remain stable.

Lack of transport facilities (including infrastructure) and lack of information are the first problems fisherwomen encounter when they try to find new markets. Limited financial resources further

hamper marketwomen in the search for markets further inland. Not only do transport costs increase but the marketing cycle might become longer, meaning that the money they have invested remains outstanding for a longer period without giving quick returns for the necessary daily expenditures.

The Shenge project in Sierra Leone has started thinking about how to organise the fishprocessors/marketwomen and might try actions towards a form of a marketing cooperative.

2.2. Non-fisheries income generating activities

An inventory of non-fisheries income generating activities undertaken by fisherwomen in the areas covered by the participating projects showed a long list of "enterprises" normally determined by the availability of specific resources:

- agricultural activities - varying from vegetable growing to the production of staple foods (rice, cassava, maize) and seed multiplication,
- small animal husbandry
- processing activities - soap making, coconut oil production, salt making, processing of cassava
- petty trading
- handicrafts - tie-dye work of fabrics, macramé-work, sewing, basket weaving.

All projects represented provided assistance to fisherwomen for their secondary income generating activities, though at varying degrees: some provided only limited input facilities while others were actively involved in upgrading these activities. The returns from these activities are very important for the family budget, especially during the lean season. Though in countries where the catches diminish, like for example in Benin, the returns from secondary income generating activities may even surpass revenues from fish processing and marketing.

The participants stressed that certain conditions should be met, when a project plans actions to upgrade these non-fisheries related activities:

- there must be a market for the products and the enterprises should be economical viable,
- women's existing workload and available time should be taken into account when actions are proposed,
- the actions should preferably be based on locally available resources and skills,
- where possible the activities should be complementary to fishprocessing and marketing so as to limit additional work,
- actions should be taken as much as possible together with the Ministries or Departments concerned.

The representative of Benin agreed with the above but she cautioned the meeting not to forget the importance of the satisfaction women derive from learning new skills, even when

little gainful like for example handicrafts. She herself had been pressurised by women from two fishing communities to set up a handicraft training course, though it was expected that the economic benefits of their work wouldn't be high. The situation had become such that the collaboration with the women on anything else than handicrafts was difficult. The Benin representative agreed to go ahead with this assistance in view of extending the training to more economical activities once this psychological factor had been resolved. An evaluation after the training confirmed that the economic returns were limited, but the women's appreciation of this assistance had remained high. A similar situation occurred in Sierra Leone and the participants agreed that this psychological factor should be regarded carefully.

2.3. Participation in planning and decision-making

At first impression in West-Africa, men have more power and influence in the decision-making processes at village level than women. However, the participants acknowledged that it is difficult to judge the influence of for example women's secret societies, which were reported for The Gambia, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and Benin. Further, active women leaders are more respected when they become older. Besides, the fact that men and women keep separate economic budgets in West Africa, does provide women with a certain decision-making power at least at family level and maybe also at village-level, but than through their husbands.

The participants reported on tentative actions to increase women's participation in planning and decision-making especially regarding project activities. Women's participation is actively sought in group and individual discussions. Most project interventions are undertaken through groupwork whereby the members are requested to choose a leader from among themselves who will be responsible for partly directing the work.

Problems with "dominant people" or following ethnic differences sometimes occur and the participants saw a clear need for training in leadership skills.

Reflections concerning women's participation in planning and decision-making kept recurring during the discussions on community development activities and post-project continuation.

2.4. Community development actions in integrated artisanal fisheries projects

Public services and community facilities are in general scarce or non-existing in fishing communities and often less than in agricultural villages.

Actions to improve this situation varied greatly among the integrated artisanal fisheries projects represented. The Shenge project is the only project with a workplan and a budget that explicitly include community development actions. The Model Project, Benin has undertaken a great number of community development activities, though references hereto in its project document were more of a general character and no specific budget allocations existed. The organisation of villagers to discuss general village affairs, problems and priorities, project actions and requests for loans, is an important part of the Kabak project in Guinea. More common is, that field workers want to start 'community' improvements following the contacts with the villagers, but the existing budgets don't allow for any such expenditures (for example Nigeria). In Angola some tentative actions were tried -though not requested by the project document-, but these had to be stopped due to other commitments of the ministries concerned.

The community development activities undertaken in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Benin pertained to: well construction, health services, actions towards public sanitation, construction of latrines, basic needs shops, upgrading of rural roads and organising Village Development Committees.

Participants remarked that maintenance was usually lacking in those few places where public services did exist. This makes that facilities like pipe-born water don't last long.

In Nigeria for example, the women activities officer noticed in a fishing village that a public water tap wasn't functioning for need of a minor repair but none of the villagers came with the idea that they themselves could re-install the water supply by repairing the tap.

All participants agreed that whether public services or community facilities are provided by Governments or established through project interventions, it is imperative that the future beneficiaries are included in the identification of the problems and the solutions needed, so as to increase their awareness of the value of these services and their sense of responsibility towards their maintenance.

Similarly it is important to request a contribution of the villagers for any construction or upgrading work in the community, whether in kind, money or labour. Free donations can create a feeling of dependency and certainly don't facilitate social awareness and taking of responsibility for community development.

2.5. Institutional support services to ensure post-project continuity

Some form of fisheries extension services exist in The Gambia, Benin, Sierra Leone and Nigeria but they function largely by the support provided by externally financed projects. In general the training level of the extension workers is low, any facilities for field work are lacking and incentives or supervision are minimal. There are few women extension workers and in projects where a Women Activities Officer does work, it is not always possible to have a female counterpart.

Following the general difficult economic situation in many West-African countries, the financial position of public development banks and private commercial banks is often weak and even if the situation were better these banks are generally maladjusted to the credit needs of small enterprises.

Only the representative of Nigeria could report the availability of institutional credit, which was given only to fishermen cooperatives. Nowhere else did institutional credit exist for fisherwomen or fishermen. Informal saving and loan systems are however widespread: they are called 'osusu' in the anglophone countries and 'tontines' in the francophone areas. Men and women participate in these informal finance systems. However, the amounts they can obtain from an osusu or a tontine are rather limited, as these depend on local savings.

The Shenge project has a considerable loan component and the money is made available to men and women through the Shenge Central Cooperative Society. The Kabak project in Guinée is developing a credit system for individuals who have organised themselves in small groups. No collaterals are requested but the loanees have to provide guarantors from among the villagers or its leaders. The Benin project has undertaken limited credit activities for women to assist them in their agricultural activities or the salt production. The "agriculturists" faced difficulties in repaying their debts because of low production but the salt producers repaid all loans in time. Fish processing women in The Gambia also profited from credit given by the EEC project. The project in Angola provides assistance by running a supply store (among others). The store originally provided only items for fishermen, though this situation is changing.

The participants stressed the need for credit, referring to the discussion on fish production, processing and marketing. Furthermore they emphasized the importance of credit facilities for women, in order to ensure their position in the development process of the artisanal fisheries sector.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

Fishproduction, processing and marketing

- * Special focus is needed for women's role in the artisanal fisheries sector, starting at the project identification phase.
Explicit budget allocations should be made for improvements of women's socio-economical activities from the inception of the project.
- * Due to the importance of women's work in fisheries, all integrated artisanal fisheries projects should have a separate section for women activities - community development.
Such a section should be headed by an experienced women activities officer and female counterparts should be made available by the Government at all levels of the work. Regular staff meetings with all sections of a project are essential to assure the integration of the gender issue in all interventions. This includes fishing technology sections, following women's part in financing fishing inputs.
- * The search for appropriate fish processing methods and their introduction at village level should continue, taking into account local consumer preferences for the finished product. Improved processing facilities should preferably be based on locally available materials and fisherwomen and local craftsmen should be trained in the construction of these facilities in view of maintenance and spreading of the innovations at a wider scale.
- * Marketing and market studies are needed to identify problems in the present processes of commercialising fish and to determine new outlets for areas where the fish production increases.

Non-fisheries income generating activities

- * Non-fisheries related income generating activities should be included in the work of integrated artisanal fisheries projects, A) to off-set great fluctuations in income due to the seasonality of fishing and B) to offer alternative income possibilities in situations where the fish resources seem to diminish.
The Project Document should foresee studies/pilot activities towards this kind of actions, including provisional budget reservations.

- * Non-fisheries related income generating activities should be economically feasible and as far as possible be based on available local resources e.g. materials and skills.
- * Departments/ministries other than fisheries should be stimulated to partake more in the work in fishing communities. Rigid compartmentalisation between and within the international cooperation organisations will have to change to facilitate the horizontal integration of development actions.

Participation of women in planning and decision-making

- * Women's active participation is imperative to the progress of any integrated artisanal fisheries project. Separate women activities sections should be established in these projects, in order to facilitate women's involvement.
- * Actions to stimulate women's participation in the planning and decision-making processes should take cultural and local customs into account, so as to avoid conflicts. Participation has to be built on existing structures (secret societies, local women leaders).
- * Women's participation should be structured during the project-time, because the better their involvement is organised, the more their participation is warranted after the project as such has ended.
More research and experimentation should be done to establish a methodology for the participation of rural people, including those who are illiterate or semi-literate, in the planning and decision-making processes.

Community Development activities in integrated artisanal fisheries projects

- * Integrated artisanal fisheries projects should look into ways of how to improve public services and community facilities in rural fishing villages, as these are often worse off than other rural communities.
- * Fisheries extension officers should initiate and coordinate the collaboration with agencies/departments other than fisheries, which can contribute to the community welfare. Projects should actively seek this collaboration and if necessary provide financial and/or transport assistance to facilitate the work of these organisations in remote fishing villages.

- * Non-formal educational programmes should be undertaken to create awareness of community problems and to get the villagers to indicate their priorities. Community development activities should be undertaken upon request from the community or sub-target groups like women or youth. The future beneficiaries should partake actively in the planning and decision-making of actions as well as contribute in kind, finance or labour. Community facilities should not be provided free as this increases the sense of dependency.
- * Village Development Committees should be set up and their tasks should include monitoring the use and operation of various community/public services.

Institutional support -to women- to ensure post-project continuity

- * A prerequisite to ensure post-project continuation is training of national staff. Effort should be made to improve the status of and to strengthen extension services to fishing communities. Fisheries extension services do not always get the same recognition as for example agricultural extension services, whereas they are equally essential for the National Development.
- * Active Village Development Committees should be formed and trained. They should preferably get a legal status so that they can be transformed into non-governmental organisations oriented towards the integrated development of their community.
- * Formal credit systems should be established, based upon local savings and loans systems. Improving and upgrading existing systems will have a longer lasting effect than introducing completely alien systems. Care should be taken to ensure equal access for women to these credit systems.
- * In order to guarantee interest for post-project continuation at village level, a project should work towards
 - : functional literacy and problem awareness building,
 - : active participation of the villagers in the planning and decision-making processes,
 - : making villagers responsible for provisions and activities put up during the project period.
 The best guarantee for women's involvement in post-project developments is, to structure their participation as much as possible already during the project phase.

4. Concluding remarks

Remains to be said, that the Round Table meeting on women activities and community development in artisanal fisheries (projects) in West Africa gave a lively and interesting exchange of information in a cordial atmosphere. The mere fact of meeting with colleagues has been very useful and stimulating or as one participants said "now I know where to ask for more information and comments".

The discussions and consequently the recommendations showed great similarities; not one group came up with advices completely out-of-line with the other groups.

The synthesis of the discussions, as formulated in this report, therefore represent a general view of "field people" on the status of women activities and community development in rural fishing communities in the West African region. Likewise, their recommendations contain what should be done in the near future to improve the present situation and to capitalise the results achieved so far.

The meeting stressed the need for Government commitment and the importance of exchange of information about successful and less successful action.

We thank the participants for their contributions and their stamina.

ANNEXES

Artisanal fisheries project, Angola ASDI/SIDA by Lisa AKESSON

SIDA started this project in the early 80s. The project has two main goals: to increase the fish production and to raise the socio-economic standard of the people in the fishing communities. Due to political unrest the project area is concentrated around Luanda and Soyo, towards the border with Zaire. Artisanal fisheries is predominant north of Luanda, whereas industrial fisheries prevails towards the south.

This year's budget is SKr 3 million. The total budget since the beginning of the project amounts to US \$ 12 million.

Activities:

- Distribution of fishing materials, gears, boats etc.
- Technical assistance. There are 8 Swedish experts, 2 coordinators, 1 socio-economist, 2 mechanics, 2 fishing technologists and 1 economist.

The project faces two major problems. First there is the war, which makes it impossible to travel along the coast. The experts are therefore limited to work in Soyo and Luanda only.

Secondly the economical situation of the country causes difficulties. There is an active parallel market where one gets up to 100 times as much for the goods as on the official market. The project is obliged to purchase the fish at the officially fixed price, but as the fishermen get much higher prices at the parallel market, they only sell minor part of their catches to the project.

Despite the project's aim to increase the socio-economic standard of fisherfolk and despite a longstanding awareness in SIDA that this can be reached only by addressing men and women, the artisanal fisheries project in Angola has mainly focussed on fish technological problems and lack of fishing inputs. Initially mainly men benefitted from the project's assistance but this has changed little by little.

The women in the project area are involved in drying and salting of fish. The project has undertaken studies of women's activities and they have started to sell materials to the women as well.

The project intends to look after improvements of the market, construction of better basins for brining fish, training courses in improved fish processing and courses in simple administration and bookkeeping.

Project of Assistance to Rural Women in Fishing Communities,
Federal Department of Fisheries Lagos, Nigeria
by Janet Olu BOLAJI

The project was proposed in 1988 and started with a symposium in december 1988, where among others international organisations were invited. The aim of the symposium was to promote the project and to look for financial assistance.

In Nigeria the women in the fishing communities are mainly involved in fish processing and marketing. The project started with the introduction of the Chorkor smoker, which was unknown in Nigeria. The project intends to construct one model-oven in these States where fisheries is an important activity.

The first Chorkor was constructed in Lagos State with the assistance of IDAF. Since then there are two more smokers constructed, one in River State and one in Ogun State.

Discussions on joined action with UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) are in an advanced stage and a project document is prepared to incorporate nutritional activities and adult education into the existing project.

Further activities the project intends to undertake are:

- introduction of other income generating activities for the lean season, like production of soap, coconutoil, baskets or coir-ropes.
- a visit to Bénin and Ghana for representatives of the villages to see how the Chorkor is functioning there.

Pilot Project for Integrated Development of Artisanal Fisheries in Kabak, Guinea, FAO, by Mariama DIALLO

Donor agencies are the FAO, EEC and the Embassy of Canada. The project is executed under the State Secretariat of Fisheries.

The objectives of the project are to assist the 500 people living on the island of Kabak, to improve their living conditions and to give special attention to women.

A model should be provided on how to interfere in fishing communities, a Fisheries Development Unit should be formed and extension workers should be trained.

During 1986 and 1987 the plan of operations was prepared and the project site was chosen. Followed by the installation of the

infrastructure and training of project staff.

Socio-economic baseline studies were undertaken in the three project villages: Khunya and Konimodia on Kabak island and Matakang on a small island next to Kaback. Village meetings were held to explain what the villagers could expect from the project and to get feedback on the project plans. An inventory was held at which fishing inputs were available in the country and at what price.

Village development committees have been formed in each village and there are Executing Committees to ensure the villagers' participation in planning and decision making processes concerning project activities.

The project disposes over outboard engines and other fishing inputs as well as wiremesh for fishprocessing. It has set up a credit system to help the fishermen and women to purchase these goods. Attention is paid to the sustainability of the projects and how the activities can continue after the project ends.

Individual credit is given to persons organised in basic groups of five members. A Credit Committee formed by representatives from the Village Development Committee, village leaders and the project approves loans and loanees.

One of the basic group members is chosen as president. The choice of only five members per group is based on experiences from the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and a rural credit programme in Guinea itself. First, two members receive their loan and depending upon the regularity of their repayments two others receive their loan. The president is always the last person to receive his/her loan and the whole group is responsible for the repayments of the individual members.

Credit is mainly given for investment in fishing/processing inputs, though in November 1989 an experiment has started on credit for working capital to two groups of fishprocessors. Loans for outboard engines, nets are given after a 30 % down payment has been paid. Fishprocessors found it difficult to provide the requested downpayment and theirs has been fixed at 20 %. At the end of April 1990 all repayments were received as scheduled. The reimbursements are reinvested in the purchase of new materials.

Untill now the project has not faced scarcity of funds for credit nor materials.

In the project area women are involved in fishsmoking. Experiments are done with improved ovens. Ice boxes are introduced to enable the selling of fresh fish and experiments are ongoing with salt-drying of fish.

Most fish is sold outside the island of Kabak, to other parts of Guinea. The salt-dried fish is exported to Senegal.

Project: Valorization of potential fisheries resources in Burkina Faso, EEC, by Theresa ENDRES

Fisheries in Burkina Faso is undertaken in rivers and lakes and the catches are mainly for local consumption. Since the 1950s fisheries has been stimulated, at that time by the colonial occupants. For two third of the fishermen it is a secondary activity. Most fishermen are illiterate. Most fishermen are seasonal migrants from Mali and Niger, who fish in the small lakes behind dams.

The Department of Fisheries was established in 1976 and since 1986 the EEC provides assistance by way of this aquaculture project.

The project covers three zones, Sonrou, Tapou and the central zone around Ouagadougou. In the first two zones there is 50 Ha of watersurface where fisheries is done.

In the central zone around Ouagadougou it is more aquaculture on village level.

The objectives of the project are:

- to improve the use of natural and artificial lakes.
- to increase the consumption of protein by increasing the fishproduction.
- to start co-operatives to increase the development of aquaculture

Ms. Endres is organising the women in groups to help them with processing and marketing. The processing and marketing of fish is still on a small scale basis as there is not much fish. Part of the fish is sold by the women and part of the fish is sold straight to the clients by the fishermen.

Socio-economic studies showed that the women in Burkina faso are quite busy. If they have some spare time they look already for other income generating activities.

The illiteracy rate is high in the project area. It often happens that men are taking the decisions even about things concerning the women.

The project started with investigating whether the women were interested in learning new techniques for fishsmoking and where the fish could be sold. This was followed by training courses on how to clean and smoke the fish. The courses were given to two groups of 15-20 women. From these 15-20 women two or three are responsible for collecting the fish and two or three others are responsible for selling the fish. The women get the fish from their husbands or buy it from other fishermen or marketwomen. The revenues are distributed among groupmembers according to the time worked. Part of the benefits go back to the co-operative. Besides training, the project provides credit to the women. The credit, 25,000 FCFA, is given to the group and should be repaid in two years. No interest is charged.

The major problems the project faces are, lack of fish, illiteracy, working in groups and introducing this new way of smoking fish.

The improved fishsmoking is more suitable for large quantities of fish. For smoking smaller quantities of fish the women prefer the traditional method of smoking as the new one takes more time. It is not clear whether it is the training itself or the money the women earn from it that keeps them interested.

Integrated Rural Fisheries Development Project, Nigeria, FAO-NIR/87/010, by Annet IJFF and Frema OSEI-OPARE

The project started in 1988, with the arrival of the project manager. As it took till the end of 1989 before the experts arrived, the project manager asked assistance from IDAF to conduct a socio-economic baseline study in the meanwhile. The fact that the experts were not around, and that it was not clear yet how the project document would be worked out, influenced the methods of research used for the baseline study.

When IDAF staff first visited the project area, fishermen came asking whether the project was going to give them outboard engines, nets or credits. No women came forward. This can be explained by the fact that a former FAO project in the same area dealt only with fishing technology. The women were just not used to the idea that projects can also do something for them.

The base-line study was done through direct observations, informal talks and study of literature. No questionnaires were used, for the following reasons:

First, by asking about certain subjects, this in itself will create expectations about the project interventions, whereas these were not yet determined at the time of the baseline study. Secondly in general people do not like questionnaires and soon get tired of it, so one has to be careful with their willingness to sit down with you and give serious answers.

It was anticipated that the expected socio-economist also would have to interview the villagers in order to organise their collaboration with the project.

The project has two field centres, Koko in Bendel State and Uta-Ewa in Akwa-Ibom State. In the Koko area the project will work in three villages and in the Uta-Ewa area in six villages. All these villages are only accesible by boat.

The aim of the project is to increase the fishproduction and to improve the living conditions in the project area.

The project intends to look at the specific needs of the nine villages and to put up microprojects at the village level.

In the project area women also go out fishing but this has not been taken into account in the project document. All technological activities to improve fishing are only foreseen for men.

Fishprocessing remains the main income earning activity for the women but the supply of fish is limited. The women ask for more fish to smoke. The fishing technology part of the project is looking into this matter.

The project is supposed to introduce ice, coldboxes, cold stores and to improve smoking technics. One of the project centres has a cold store but there is not enough fish at present to run it profitably. The activities on fishprocessing are delayed as the expert has not yet arrived. The base-line studies done showed that there is need for improving the working conditions, reducing the consumption of firewood and constructing more durable smoking kilns.

The baseline studies further showed that,

- women in the project area do have time left for income earning activities like poultry, petty trading or weaving.
- many women belong to welfare groups but that there are no groups for economical activities.
- drinking water is a big problem in all the project villages.

In the meantime the project has started a women's cooperative and organised a workshop on the benefits of joining a cooperative and how to become a member. Furthermore the staff is looking into possibilities for intensified rainwater capture. The project has also initiated joined actions with a health centre in the area, whereby the project takes care of transport of the medical team to the villages and the team undertakes immunization of children and visits pregnant women.

Anthropometrical measurements are done to find out differences in the nutritional status of the children between the villages.

Artisanal and Inshore Fisheries Development, Lagos State Fisheries Department, FAO, 1980-1982, By Bose ADESUNLOYE -MOORE

The project aimed at increasing the fishproduction and worked mainly with men. The idea was to train the artisanal fishermen to become trawler fishermen. 48 trawlers were given to co-operatives. One women co-operative bought a trawler and sponsored a crew to go out fishing.

Other activities executed under the project are the construction of a workshop for repair of outboard engines, construction of a

fish sort and processing shed, construction of a fish storage complex and construction of Altona smoking kilns. The smoking kilns were not a success as it was difficult for the women to change the trays especially at the higher ledges and the finished product was new to the consumers as the fish smoked in the Altona ovens didn't become brown, as the people were used to, but stayed white.

FAO Core Group on Women in Fisheries, Rome, by Adele CRISPOLDI

Within FAO there has been an increasing recognition that women should be equal partners in the development process and that projects should promote the integration of women into mainstream activities. Such a recognition has been matched by an increasing interest on the part of donor agencies. Nowadays 28% of FAO projects include women to some extent. The 1989 FAO Conference approved a Plan of Action for the Integration of Women in Development, which aims to increase the information base on women in agriculture, forestry and fishery development, to formulate policies based on this knowledge and develop programs and projects up to 1995, supporting women in their roles as producers and workers.

As to fisheries, the Strategy supported by the 1984 World Conference on Fisheries Management and Development recognized the importance of including women as participants of fisheries development projects due to their roles in the production, processing and marketing in the artisanal sector of both capture and culture fisheries. In 1986 the Core Group on Women in Fisheries was formed, of which Ms. Crispoldi is the convenor at the moment. Participants, who are representatives of all different services of the Fisheries Department, meet regularly to discuss emerging issues and to advise the Department on them. The initial task of the Core Group has been to review existing projects to determine the possibility of including women activities in the project mainstream. The Group has also been involved in the preparation of information material (a bibliography and a slide-show) and has overviewed the preparation of the Guidelines "Women in Fishing Communities".

It is known that women are responsible for the processing of a major part of the fish caught in the artisanal fishing sector and thus provide income and proteins to the population. But more information is needed about the problems that fisherwomen experience and what the Core Group can do to help them in field projects. To this effect, the Core Group has promoted the holding of a Workshop in December 1990 for project staff and national counterparts to exchange experiences, discuss problems and determine objectives on which to concentrate attention in the

immediate future. The Workshop will be organized by the Swedish funded Aquaculture for Local Community Development Programme based in Zambia. It will link various FAO executed projects with the aim of developing operational strategies of fisheries development planning.

Fao, Population Programme, Rome by Ute HEINBUCH

In recognition of the manifold and complex interrelations between development and population issues, FAO is increasingly integrating population activities in its work through a diversified Population Programme. For instance concerns such as land use, technological change and employment are linked at the household, community and country levels with patterns of human fertility, migration and population growth.

These linkages imply that effective development policies must include appropriate population measures, while at the same time population policies aimed at rural areas must take into account the specific problems faced by families as economic units. In rural areas for example, children still are the retirement insurance.

The first contacts between the population programme from FAO and the fisheries department were established in 1988. Now they are working together on two projects, one in the Philipines and one based in Madras, India, the regional project for artisanal fisheries in Asia, the Bay of Bengal. The Bay of Bengal comprises seven member countries.

Both projects aim at improving the living conditions of the people in the fishing communities through increasing the incomes (of women) and contributing to positive changes in attitude, knowledge and practice in population education/ family planning.

Institute of African Studies, University of Ghana, Ghana
by Irene ODITEI

Ms. Odotei gave a presentation of the research she is doing on how the fisherwomen in West Africa adapted themselves to the changes in their existence since the 50s. The aim of the research is to supply information that can help projectplanners.

The research was a combination of participative observations, questionnaires and interviews. For Ghana she has interviewed 350 persons in three regions, 1050 questionnaires in total. Half of the questionnaires were answered by men and half by women.

Along the coast of Ghana fishing is the main economic activity. The coastal fisheries supplies most of the country with fish. The fisheries has changed considerably during the last 40 years.

There are two big innovations that influenced the position of the women.

Before the fishermen went out fishing with small canoes using paddles or sails. The introduction of the outboard engine, permitted the fishermen to go further at sea and to come back with larger catches. The second big influence was the rise of the industrial fisheries, which brought on coldstores.

Both influences led to more fish for the women to process and to market.

For the men the increase of the catches, and thus the increase in their revenues was necessary to pay the higher costs of their fishing inputs, the canoe, outboard engine and nets. The women got more income by smoking more fish.

Fish for sale at the cold stores gave the women an opportunity to continue their smoking activities and to have an income during the low fishing season.

The most significant impact of these developments is that the status of the women has raised. Whereas before the women depended on the fish their husbands brought in, now they are more independent. There are regional differences on this.

As the women faced larger quantities of fish to smoke, adjustments to the ovens were made. In Chorkor the chorkor smoker was developed. This oven is especially profitable for large quantities of fish. Though very practical for the situation there, it is not appropriate everywhere along the coast of West Africa.

At the household level the distribution of the incomes changed also. Now the women are responsible for the education of their children, whereas before the men were.

According to Ms. Odotei's observations, the women spend any extra money first on better clothes, hairdressers and cosmetics before investing in economical activities.

When men have some money they tend to invest in houses or more wives.

From the questionnaires 35% of the women said they were in fishing because it was expected from them, about 30% said they had no choice, and 6% answered because there is money in it. (Others didn't give a clear answer).

Some of the women were boatowners, most were fish processors.

The inflation is causing the women problems as they need more money to buy the fish now, there was said to be a need for credits.

Integrated Artisanal Fisheries Development Project, the Gambia,
EEC, By Sukai JOBE

The project has its central office in Banjul and deals with civil works and with a revolving loan fund in fishing villages along the coast. As to the construction of the civil works some delay was caused by lack of materials in the country.

The project deals with men and women with the condition that they have the Gambian nationality.

For women it supplied a shed for fishsmoking, started vegetable gardens and alphabetisation and numeracy courses.

It has taken a lot of discussions to convince the women of the usefulness of a numeracy course. They were used to calculate by head.

A problem the women had was that they did not keep money apart during the lean season. If the family needed money they used their working capital and by the time the fishsmoking had to start again they often didn't have any money left to buy fish. This problem was discussed during the numeracy course.

The project employs female extension workers from the villages as they understand better what is going on in the village. The extension workers from the different villages meet every three months to discuss their problems.

These extension workers stimulated the women to organise themselves. They organised meetings for the women where rules were laid down by the women self on how the group should be organised and who could become member.

10 women associations are formed in the village were Ms. Jobe works with 312 members in total. The groups are formed according to ethnic background, profession or the work the women want to do. The leaders are selected by the groupmembers themselves. This sometimes means that the eldest groupmember or a political important woman is chosen, not necessarily the woman with the best leadership skills. This can cause problems later on. In fact in some of the villages they have this problem.

Besides the womens associations there are also Village Development Committees where men and women together decide on what the village needs and how to finance it. These Village Development Committees are also the intermediate between the villagers and the project.

The place of the women in the Village Development Committees is not always clear. It is not easy to get women on important posts. It happens that the women are not even informed when the meetings are.

To get a loan one has to be a member of an association and one needs the approval of the village leader. The women can take loans of 50 or 100 Dalasi (8 Dalasi=1 \$). The 50 Dalasi loan should be repaid in 10 monthly installments and the 100 Dalasi loan should be repaid over 10 installments of 6 weeks (in total 14 months). They charge 10% interest. The interest becomes higher when people are delayed in paying back.

The approval for a demand for credit from an association has to come from Banjul and the associations themselves decide how to divide the credit among the members.

Ms. Jobe just received the approval for credit upto 25,000 Dalasi for her village.

Model project, Benin, FAO-GCP/RAF/198/DEN by Bonaventure HOUNDEKON

The Model Project has the last six years experimented with the participatory approach in an Integrated Artisanal Fisheries Project. It has been working towards the development of fish production as well as women activities and community development.

This presentation is limited to the women and community development activities and the fishing technology activities are left out.

In order to reduce the consumption of firewood the project has tried to improve the ovens used for the production of salt, coconutoil and fishsmoking.

Only the experiments with the Chorkor smoker for fish smoking gave a positive result. The Model Project also improved the traditional Chorkor smoker by rounding the inner corners in order to improve the smoke circulation and to get a more even distribution of heat.

Small scale credit has been given for vegetable gardening and salt production. The credit systems were different for the two activities.

For the salt production the women received loans of 4000 FCA per person but with group guarantee. The money had to be reimbursed in ten weeks. 100% was reimbursed.

For the vegetable gardening there were individual loans. Here the reimbursement caused problems.

The project has tried to improve pig raising by keeping them in enclosures and giving training to the women how to raise pigs. Most women had already some pigs who were left running free. Regularly feeding the pigs became an extra task for the women, which they didn't manage to keep up and this activity was abandoned.

The project organised the construction of 28 wells, with financial assistance from UNICEF. The villagers undertook most of the manual work. Furthermore joint actions were initiated with a health project in the neighbourhood of the fishing communities: first aid training for fishermen, health and hygiene campaigns for women and school children. Recent tests have shown that the water is polluted microbiologically. However, the villagers are still satisfied with the wells as the water is clear and the wells are nearer to their homes than the old water sources.

A course on small scale business and numeracy was organised for fisherwomen in Placondji, an urban area in Cotonou. These courses resulted in the establishment of a kiosk for selling fresh fish. The project paid for the construction of the kiosk and provided a loan to the women to buy necessary equipment and for working capital.

11 from the 25 women who started with the courses are involved in the fresh fish kiosk and despite lots of bottle-necks as problematic supply of fish and marketing problems due to the economical situation of the country, the kiosk is still operational two years after its start.

The project assisted villagers to obtain finances from external sources for rebuilding a primary school and upgrading two rural dirt tracks. Again all manual labour was undertaken by the villagers, the project arranged for technical assistance and assisted with the organisation and liaisons between the villagers and the outside help.

Training was given in handicrafts, sewing, knitting and macrame-work. Though the economical benefits remained limited from these activities, the psychological satisfaction was great.

One of the main results of the model project is that it has helped villagers to organise themselves in Village Development Committees and has trained them in discussion, planning and decision making. The villagers are now more used to discuss their problems together and try to find solutions for it themselves.

West-North West Artisanal Fisheries and Community Development Programme, Freetown, Sierra Leone - EEC

The two persons invited from W-NW AFCOD could not arrive in time at the Round Table meeting due to communication problems. The following is a resume of the information received by mail.

Background information

The Programme started in July 1989 and is now planned till June 1993. For the time being it is located at Kissy Dockyard, Freetown. The work is concentrated in four coastal villages: Goderich (West of Freetown) and Mahera. Konakridee and Yeliboya Island (all north of Freetown with Yeliboya Island closest to the Guinean border). The population of these four villages totals to approximately 18.000. The general objective of the W-NW AFCOD programme is to assist in the development of the programme villages through institution building.

1. Fish production

Fishing is the major economic activity of over 80% of the male population at Yeliboya and Konakridee. At Goderich about half of the men are engaged in fishing and at Mahera slightly less than half. The total production of the four villages mounts to around 110.5 metric tonnes of pelagic fish per month (mainly 'Bonga'-*Ethmalosa fimbriata*- and 'Herring' -*Sardinella aurita* and *elsa*-) and a greater part of this production is landed at Goderich and Yeliboya. There are a total of 260 artisanal fishing vessels in the four villages, half of them motorised with outboard engines of 25-40 HP.

2. Fish processing

Fish is preserved only by smoking and this is mainly done by women, assisted by their children. Most fish is smoked on smoking platforms or in banda's (see annex II), which are normally individually owned. Interventions from previous projects have resulted in a few communal Altona ovens at Konakridee and some Chorkor ovens at Yeliboya Island. Smoking is mostly done at night because the fish is normally landed late in the evenings. Fish is stacked laterally on the smoking platform, which permits maximum use of its surface area. Most communal as well as the individually owned smoking ovens are in need of repair.

3. Fish marketing

Smoked fish is transported from the four programme villages to regional inland market centre's, Freetown and neighbouring countries (notably Liberia), though Mahera's part in this trade is limited.

4. Non-fisheries income generating activities

This pertains mainly to petty trading of foodstuffs and some vegetable gardening (onions) exist in Mahera.

5. Health and sanitation

Health facilities are scarce in the programme villages and drugs are available at a very limited scale. Malnutrition is prevalent amongst children under five years old, especially at Yeliboya and Konakridee. Cases of Kwashiorkor and worm infestation have been recorded.

6. Community development/infrastructure

Roads are generally in a poor state and need to be rehabilitated. Only primary schools exist in the programme villages but they lack most basic facilities for teaching. Health posts are unequipped and hardly have any drugs available.

Approach of W-NW AFCOD Programme

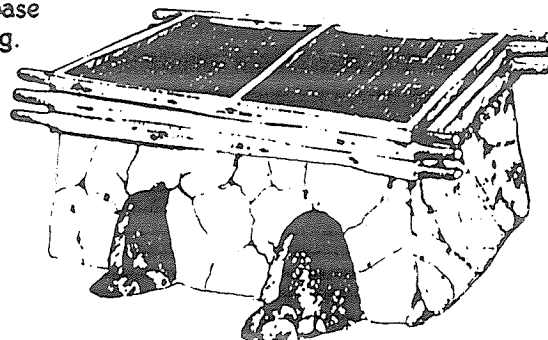
The Programme will focus on fleet modernization, fish processing, Credit and subsidies for infrastructural and community development. It is foreseen that credit will be channeled through an already existing bank-institution (like for example Rural Banks) and that imported goods for fish production and processing will be handled by cooperatives. Training of cooperative (-board members) to upgrade their managerial capacities will form an important part of the Programme. This approach is chosen in order to guarantee sustainability after the Programme pulls out.

Community Development teams have been established in the programme's villages consisting of around 30 members each. These teams will receive 2 days training every month in Community Development related issues as: leadership skills to increase participation, planning and organisation of income generating activities, environmental health and sanitation, basic nutrition and child care. Community Development actions will be taken through these teams, which are assisted by a community development officer based in each of the villages. Plans exist to upgrade roads and to install fish processing and marketing infrastructures. Furthermore actions are foreseen to stimulate income generating activities (with credit), to undertake family planning, nutrition and health programmes in collaboration with existing institutions/programmes specialised in these fields.

As long as returns from the sales of imported goods cannot be (re-) converted into hard currency, these will be used for community development.

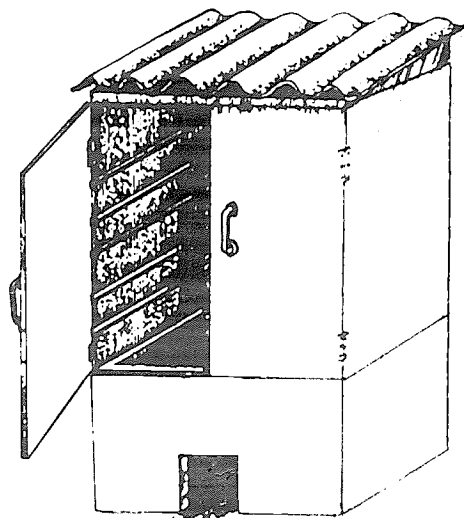
Chorkor Smoker

Originally designed in Ghana to resemble the traditional rectangular smoking kilns, the Chorkor smoker contains two stoke holes along one of its sides. Wooden trays fitted with wire mesh are stacked on top of the rectangular base and can be alternated during smoking.



Altona-Type Oven

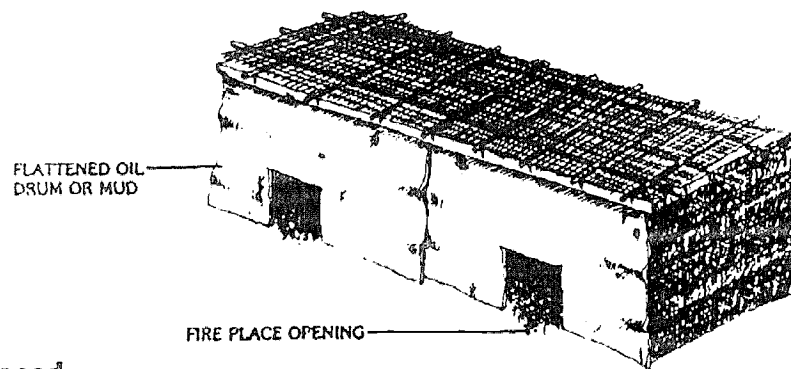
The simple version of an Altona oven consists of a brick or cement fire box located below a smoking chamber made of metal. The fish are placed on trays which slide into the smoking chamber. Many other versions of this kiln have been constructed using less expensive materials such as mud or fired bricks instead of metal. A more complex design built of cement known as the Rogers Kiln, was introduced into Uganda. However, with both the Altona type and the Rogers Kilns the initial cost of construction makes them unaffordable for artisans. Although the Rogers Kiln was still being used in Uganda some time after its introduction, the fish processors had not built any other ones themselves.



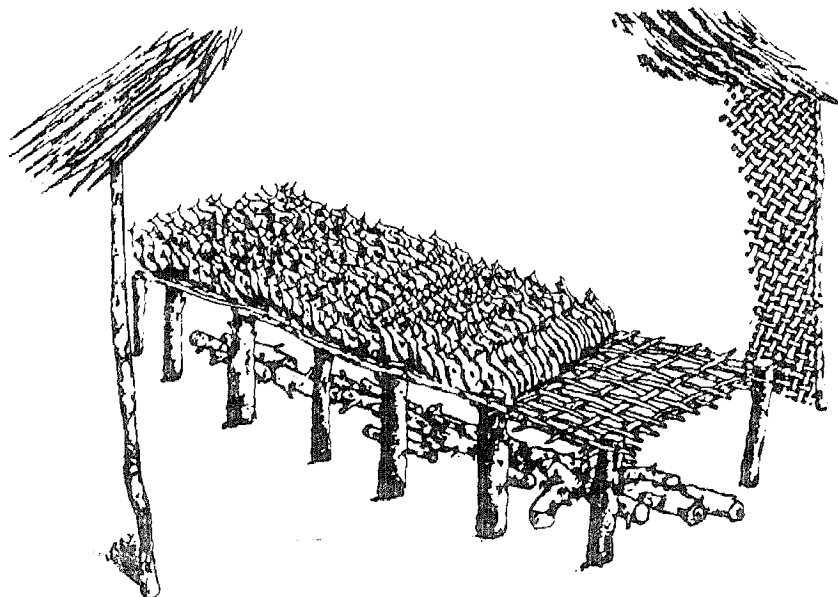
* Fish Processing, Food Cycle Technology Source Book No 4, UNIFEM, 1988

Traditional Smoking Platforms in Sierra Leone

The metal sheeting (often made from a flattened oil drum) covering the open sides of the banda helps to conserve fuel.



a) Enclosed



b) Open

ROUND TABLE MEETING ON WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES -
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT IN ARTISANAL FISHERIES
PROJECTS IN WEST AFRICA

(Cotonou, Benin, 7 - 9 May 1990)

Programme :

Monday, 7th May

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 9 00 - 9 30 | Opening, introduction of participants
administrative matters |
| 9 30 - 10 30 | Short presentations (10-15 minutes) by
representatives of 4 projects |
| 10 30 - 11 00 | Break |
| 11 00 - 12 00 | Short presentations by representatives of
another 4 projects/support institutions |
| 12 00 - 14 00 | Lunch Break |
| 14 00 - 15 00 | Short presentations by representatives of
another 4 projects |
| 15 00 - 15 30 | Break |
| 15 30 - 17 00 | Discussions in working groups |
| 17 00 - 17 30 | Slide show "Women in Fisheries" |

Tuesday 8th May

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 8 30 - 10 30 | Working groups |
| 10 30 - 11 00 | Break |
| 11 00 - 12 30 | Working groups |
| 12 30 - 14 00 | Lunch break |
| 14 00 - 15 30 | Working groups |

15 30 - 16 00 Break
16 00 - 17 30 Working groups

Wednesday, 9th May

Morning Field visit
 Lunch Break
14 00 - 14 30 Distribution of the recommendations of the
 working groups, plus reading time
14 30 - 16 30 Plenary discussion
16 30 - 17 00 Break
17 00 - 17 30 Closing session

- * Working groups will be formed for English or French speaking participants to facilitate the discussions. People from francophone countries but also speaking English will be requested to participate in the "English" working group and vice-versa, to increase the information exchange. All plenary sessions will be bilingual.

ROUND TABLE MEETING ON WOMEN'S ACTIVITIES - COMMUNITY
DEVELOPMENT IN ARTISANAL FISHERIES PROJECTS IN WEST AFRICA

Guidelines for the working groups

The discussions have been arranged around women's involvement in the following aspects :

- I. Fish production, processing and marketing
- II. Non fisheries income earning activities
- III. Participation in planning and decision-making
- IV. Community development activities
- V. Institutional support services to ensure post-project continuity

Questions have been prepared for each topic along the line of :

1. Informative questions : concerning the existing situation in the project area
2. Project interventions : pertaining to aspects I to V
3. Recommendations : identifying the major factors for success or what else could be done

The questions under N°2 and 3 for each subject are regarded more important than those under N° 1 and we request the participants to keep this in mind with the timing of the discussions.

I. FISH PRODUCTION - PROCESSING - MARKETING

1. In what sense does the introduction of improved fishing techniques influence the position of women in your project area ?

For example :

- changes in their supportive role of pré-financing fishing trips,

- changes in their access to the fish catches,
 - changes in the workload of handling and processing fish,
 - changes in the marketing process as a result of the increased catches or other species caught.
2. What has your project done to support women in their work in the fish production-processing-marketing chain of activities? (introducing appropriate processing technology/training/organisation of processing or marketing).
 3. What -else- can (the Women Activities section of) a project do to ensure that women receive a fair share of the benefits ?

II. NON FISHERIES INCOME EARNING ACTIVITIES

- 1.- What non-fisheries income earning activities do women undertake in your project area ?
 - How important are the returns from these activities for the family budget in comparison with returns from fish smoking/marketing ?
 - ° over the year :
 - ° during high/low fishing season :
- 2.- Does your project assist women in increasing returns from non-fisheries activities ?
 - ° by improving existing activities
 - ° by introducing new secondary income earning activities
 - What is the response to this kind of assistance
- 3.- Should an integrated artisanal fisheries project engage itself in non-fisheries income earning activities ?

If yes, which guidelines do you recommend or which conditions should be met ?

III. PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN PLANNING AND DECISION-MAKING

- 1.- Do women play an active part in village decision-making processes ? Are their views listened to, respected ?
- 2.- In what way does your project stimulate the active participation of women in decision-making and the execution of project activities ? (formation of groups/discussions on social awareness/training to develop leadership skills etc.)
- 3.- Should an integrated artisanal fisheries project encourage participation of women in decision-making processes ?

If yes, which guidelines do you recommend or which conditions should be met ?

IV. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN INTEGRATED ARTISANAL FISHERIES PROJECTS

- 1.- What community services exist in the fishing villages of your project area . (schools/medical centres/public sanitation/drinking water/child care/markets or basic needs shops)
- 2.- Does the project aim at improving basic community services and have these improvements been foreseen in the budget ?
 - Have women been consulted in setting priorities for such services and how is in general the villagers' collaboration/participation arranged for community development activities ?
- 3.- From your experience, what would you recommend on how to undertake community development activities ?

V. INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT TO WOMEN TO ENSURE POST-PROJECT CONTINUITY

- 1.- Are extension services and banking services available in the fishing communities of your project ?
 - Do special women groups/organisations/cooperatives exist which assist women in obtaining extension and/or banking services ?
- 2.- Does the project work towards strengthening of existing- or does it initiate new- organisational and technical support services ? (government extension services/non government services/banking services).
 - In what way does your project facilitate women's access to these services ?
- 3.- What provisions does your project make for the continuation of support to the fishing communities after the project period ends ?
 - What actions would you recommend to be taken, to ensure the continuation of women's participation in the development of the artisanal fisheries sector.

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LISTE DES RAPPORTS DIPA - LIST OF IDAF REPORT

Documents de travail/Working papers

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- Black Michaud, M.J., Mission d'identification des communautés littorales de pêcheurs artisans au Bénin. Cotonou, Projet DIPA, 24 p., DIPA/WP/2.
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