

Madagascar welcomes all efforts conducted by FAO to mainstreaming biodiversity in fisheries and aquaculture. Our country is heavily reliant on its aquatic biodiversity as a primary resource for production and thus socioeconomic development and the welfare of its citizens. Biodiversity is an economic and social good, with benefits arising from its sustainable utilization and management that spill over to our regional and international trading partners namely, the SADC region, Africa and beyond. Any threats to biodiversity and aquatic resources such as climate change, pollution, overexploitation need to be prevented. Madagascar, as being one of the world's biodiversity hot spot, therefore, commends FAO's initiatives to create awareness and strengthen the capacity of Member States to enhance the value of conserving aquatic biodiversity that fosters to promote the adoption of sustainable use and safeguarding of aquatic biodiversity for sustainable utilization and for future generations.