



# THE EAF-NANSEN PROJECT

## The Fisheries Manager and the ecosystem approach to fisheries

The ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) emphasises the need to maintain or improve ecosystem health and productivity for sustainable fisheries production.

The purpose of EAF is to plan, develop and manage fisheries in a manner that addresses the multiple needs and desires of societies, without jeopardizing the options for future generations to benefit from the full range of goods and services provided by the ecosystems.

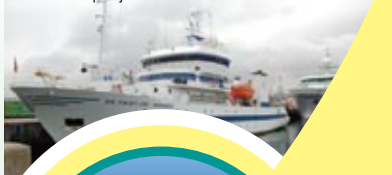
The implementation of an ecosystem approach to fisheries can benefit fish, fishers, fishing communities and countries by:

assisting in the achievement of food security;

- strengthening national and regional efforts to combat poverty;
- improving knowledge of fishery resources and restoring depleted fish stocks;
- improving the monitoring of fish stocks and the planning of management activities;
- encouraging stakeholder participation in management decisions in order to ensure compliance;
- regulating activities that impact on fisheries.

For more information about EAF and the EAF-Nansen project contact:

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NANSEN PROJECT



Assisting developing countries to implement an ecosystem approach to fisheries

# The Stakeholder and the ecosystem approach to fisheries



**The ecosystem approach to fisheries benefits fish, fishers and fishing communities.**

The ecosystem approach to fisheries (EAF) recognises that fisheries management should strive to achieve both human well-being and ecosystem well-being. EAF addresses the multiple needs and desires of societies, both now and in the future. It also ensures that fisheries managers and stakeholders share a common vision for a fishery and fisheries resources.

**The participation of stakeholders, such as fishers, fishing communities and fishing entrepreneurs, in the management of fisheries and fishery resources is essential for the successful implementation of EAF. The role of stakeholders includes:**

- **sharing your knowledge of fish populations and fisheries with fisheries officers (resource managers and scientists);**
- **adopting responsible fishing methods;**
- **helping to combat illegal fishing;**
- **recognising the importance of all species in the sea and ensuring that recommended catch limits are adhered to;**
- **helping to maintain a balanced ecosystem by avoiding the bycatch of seabirds, sea turtles, sharks and other endangered species; and**
- **participating in consultative and planning exercises with fishery managers.**

By implementing an ecosystem approach to fisheries, governments can develop and promote management policies that ensure sustainable fisheries and combat poverty.

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