



FAO - BCC Project Proposal

Title :	Guidance on Institutional Arrangements Which Support an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management
Project Reference:	EAF/09/02
Funded:	BCC, BCLME, EAF-Nansen, Angola, Namibia, RSA
Total Contribution:	USD 48,497¹
Technical Advice:	FAO through the EAF-Nansen project
Countries:	Angola, Namibia, South Africa
Duration:	6 months
Estimated starting date:	July 2010

¹ The EAF-Nansen will contribute with a budget of USD 42,497 and the three countries USD 6,000 as in-kind contribution

Summary:

The global commitment to implementation of the ecosystem approach to fisheries by the year 2012 has spurred a flurry of important scientific activity aimed at understanding the complex marine ecosystem and interactions. However, the practical implementation of the EAF remains a challenge an aspect of which could be the lack of the necessary institutional arrangement to promote its adoption. This project will allow interaction with fisheries managers and policy-makers to assess the necessary institutional arrangements for the management of fisheries in line with the ecosystem approach.

Objectives:

The specific objective of Project EAF/09/02 is to provide information and advice to the national fisheries institutions of Angola, Namibia and South Africa on any restructuring needed to meet the requirements of the ecosystem approach to fisheries management.

Outputs/deliverables:

The output / deliverables of Project EAF/09/02 are:

- i. Comprehensive reports to BCC and FAO with specific and implementable country-specific recommendations that would assist implementation of fisheries management in accordance with EAF;
- ii. Advice on implementation of recommendations from the policy and legal reviews undertaken under the EAF-Nansen project;
- iii. An overall project report summarising the results of the project.

Background and Rationale:

There has been a general acceptance of the limitations of fisheries management based on a single species approach and a global move and commitment towards implementing an Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries by 2012. This may require modifications in the organisational structure and functioning of fisheries management systems, both in terms of management and research processes and priorities.

The Benguela Current Commission (BCC), a multi-sectoral initiative by Angola, Namibia and South Africa, aims at promoting integrated management, sustainable development and protection of the environment using an ecosystem approach to ocean governance. It is focussing, *inter alia*, on the management of shared fish stocks, environmental monitoring and early warning, biodiversity and ecosystem health, socio-economics and governance and is striving to keep training and capacity building at the forefront of its agenda. The BCLME EAF project document and the BCLME legal review provide further background regarding institutional arrangements.

This project will assist the BCC to offer the required policy direction towards possible institutional changes to enable the countries effectively adjust their fisheries management systems to conform to the EAF, for fisheries under national jurisdiction as well as for those that are shared.

Scope of Work:

The work is expected to assess *inter alia* the requirements and needs of the institutions in respect of effectively managing fisheries in accordance with EAF noting and taking account, in the analyses and proposed improvements, of the very different nature of the fisheries, the current institutional structures and the political priorities in each country.

FAO will engage a consultant to lead the work. The consultant will visit the government fisheries institutions in Angola, Namibia and South Africa to obtain information about the implementation of fisheries management in accordance with EAF in the country. The consultant would receive a briefing from BCC Chief Technical Advisor and other Secretariat members at the start of the mission to the three countries, as well as a debriefing at the end to discuss his/her findings and recommendations and receive suggestions on the report from the BCC Secretariat.

In each country, the consultant will be accompanied by the EAF-Nansen project National Focal Point to meet the relevant government officials and stakeholders. In the meeting, a presentation specific to the country will be made to the institution's top management. The presentation would include:

1. The international context with respect to the implementation of fisheries management in accordance with EAF.
2. Examples of successful national institutional structures for implementation of fisheries management following EAF in other countries.
3. Description of the system currently in use in the countries for the implementation of fisheries management consistent with EAF.
4. Comprehensive information on:
 - a. Where would the country want to be with regard to the implementation of EAF into its fisheries management system by 2012?
 - b. What are the shortcomings of the existing institutional structure and processes in relation to implementation of fisheries management in accordance with EAF?
 - c. What institutional arrangements in terms of management, research and enforcement can be changed to make the implementation of fisheries management in accordance with EAF more effective?
 - d. What can be done without increasing costs or to reduce costs?
 - e. If there are costs identified, what are the funding implications or external support required?

Collaborators:

The EAF-Nansen Project National Focal Points and the EAF National Task Groups in Angola, Namibia and South Africa.