

Workshop on Turtle Excluder Device (TED) implementation, Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) and Bycatch Utilization in Nigeria on Project EP/GLO/201/GEF.
6-12 March 2006, Lagos, Nigeria.

Prospectus

1. Introduction

Nigeria is one of the participating countries of the FAO Executed Project “Reduction of Environmental Impact from Tropical Shrimp Trawling, through the Introduction of Bycatch Reduction Technologies and Change of Management”. Nigerian Institute for Oceanography and Marine Research (NIOMR) in Lagos is implementing the technical part of this project in Nigeria. As in most other countries where TEDs are legislated for in the shrimp fishery, the actual use by the industry is not implemented in Nigeria. Without thorough guidance on the correct rigging of the TED, the trawlers will face an unacceptable loss of shrimp when using the TEDs. This workshop will bring specialists that will teach the Industry to rig the TED legally in a way that prevent shrimp loss, and demonstration sea-trials will be conducted on a commercial trawler from Lagos.

The expenses linked to the at sea enforcement of fisheries legislation is so large, that an effective control in Nigeria and many other African countries is not economical possible. As a consequence a considerable amount of Illegal fishery is conducted by foreign and national vessels. Attacks by pirates are also an issue of concern in Nigerian Waters, and Nigerian vessel owners have requested information on systems that automatically could provide updated position of their fleet. Therefore the workshop will also bring specialists to inform about Vessel Monitoring Systems.

Tropical shrimp trawling has larger average bycatch percentage than any other fisheries. Frequently a significant fraction is discarded. Every measure should be taken to reduce this discard. Primarily by Bycatch reduction devises that sort out unwanted and juvenile fish when trawling. When there is an unavoidable discard anyway, it should be utilized preferably for human consumption. The workshop will also address this issue.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the Practical Training/Demonstration/Sea-Trials are as follows:

- a. To help implementing TED use in the Nigerian trawl fishery by teaching the industry how to rig TEDs in a way that shrimp loss are avoided or reduced to a minimum.
- b. To enhance the general knowledge on Vessel Monitoring Systems.
- c. To update the participants on the technical developments on selectivity and.

d. To raise the awareness and knowledge of bycatch utilization.

3. Agenda/Daily Activities (to be attached)

4. Dates and Venue: 6-12 March 2006, Lagos

5. Participants:

The invited participants will be stakeholders from the fishing industry, government and fishery research.

6. Administrative arrangements

The training/workshop will be implemented under the Project EP/GLO/201/GEF and is organized by the project team in NIOMR, Lagos