

November 2003



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Unidas
para la
Agricultura
y la
Alimentación

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COMMITTEE ON FISHERIES
SUB-COMMITTEE ON FISH TRADE
Ninth Session
Bremen, Germany, 10-14 February 2004
Agenda Item 11
DESCRIPTION OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED BY THE COMMON FUND FOR COMMODITIES

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities (CFC) was negotiated in the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) in the 1970's, concluded in 1980 and came into force in 1989. Currently¹ the CFC has 106 Member Countries plus the European Community (EC), the African Union (AU) and the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA). The CFC is an intergovernmental financial institution. Many Developing and Least Developed Countries are heavily dependent on commodities which form the backbone of their economies and account for the bulk of their export earnings. The CFC, therefore, deals with a core question of development in many regions of the world.

2. The rationale of the CFC's mandate is to enhance the socio-economic development of commodity producers and contribute to the development of society as a whole. In line with its market-oriented approach, the CFC concentrates on commodity development projects financed from its resources (voluntary contributions, interest earned, part of capital subscription). Through co-operation with other development institutions, the private sector and civil society, the CFC endeavours to achieve overall efficiency and impact in commodity development. The CFC operates under the novel approach of commodity focus instead of the traditional country focus. The unique commodity orientation of the CFC has the advantage of seeking more generally applicable solutions to commodity problems benefiting many commodity-producing countries. Below all fisheries related projects, so far financed by the CFC, are listed in detail.

PROJECTS COMPLETED

1.1 INFOPECHE: DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF VALUE-ADDED FISHERY PRODUCTS - GAMBIA

3. The objectives of the Project were to organize pilot production of value-added fishery products relying on transfer of appropriate processing technology and know how; to develop market opportunities, including an assessment of trends in European markets and conducting market trials; and to assess the longer-term investment needs for expansion of fish processing in the region.

4. The Project comprised the following components:

- a) pilot production of high value fishery products and introduction of quality control standards;
- b) identifying market opportunities and conducting market trials for the new products;
- c) carrying out techno-economic feasibility studies and assessment of longer-term investment needs and investment promotion; and
- d) project monitoring, supervision and evaluation.

5. Project duration: May 1995 - December 1998. Total project cost: US\$ 368 550. Project activities have been completed. A completion report has been submitted and accepted by the Fund.

¹ October 2003

1.2 INFOFISH: EXPORT PROMOTION OF VALUE-ADDED FISHERY PRODUCTS AND THEIR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - BANGLADESH

6. The objectives of the Project were to demonstrate the technical and financial feasibility of production of value-added fishery products through pilot production using appropriate processing technology and know-how; to develop market opportunities, including assessment of trends in the major markets in Europe, Japan and the United States of America and to conduct market trials; to improve the quality and sustainability of commercial fish processing; to study the feasibility and promotion of value-added shrimp products, and to assess the longer term needs and promote private sector investment for expansion of fish processing in the region.
7. The Project consisted of the following components:
- a) promotion of exports of value-added fishery products, particularly shrimps from Bangladesh;
 - b) adaptation and transfer of appropriate technologies for the processing of selected value-added fishery products;
 - c) promotion of private investment in ventures for the processing and marketing of value-added products; and
 - d) Project management, supervision, and technology and information dissemination.
8. Project duration: October 1996 - December 1999. Total project cost: US\$ 609 000. A completion report has been submitted and accepted by the CFC. The CFC undertook an evaluation mission in May 2000 and an ex-post evaluation in June 2002; and found the project very successful.

1.3 INFOPESCA: REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE SEAFOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRY IN RIO GRANDE AND MAR DEL PLATA

9. The Project was oriented towards the rehabilitation and development of the traditional industrial seafood sectors located in Rio Grande (South Brazil) and in Mar del Plata (North Eastern Argentina). In both locations the seafood sector is facing rapid changes due to regional development and is suffering from limited market awareness of the opportunities that have emerged through the creation of MERCOSUR and a lack of technical knowledge and expertise needed to develop new products adapted to market expectations.
10. The main objectives of the Project were to contribute to the development of Latin American regional emerging seafood markets; provide technical assistance for the development of products with high quality standards making such products competitive on the international as well as the regional markets; and give assistance to enterprises in the two important industrial fishery ports mentioned above to prepare investment programmes for upgrading their plants. The Project comprised the following components:
- a) development of value-added products;
 - b) assistance in the implementation of quality control systems;
 - c) assistance in the preparation of investment programmes for the participating companies;
 - d) project co-ordination, supervision and monitoring.
11. Project duration: March 1999 - November 2001. Total project cost: US\$ 960 553.

ONGOING PROJECTS

2.1 INFOSAMAK: TECHNICAL INFORMATION SERVICES FOR SMALLHOLDER FISHERIES AND PROMOTION OF INTER-REGIONAL TRADE - MOROCCO, MAURITANIA, TUNISIA AND YEMEN

12. The objective of the Project is to improve fishery sector productivity and expand access to markets. In doing so, the Project would introduce measures for quality enhancement and certification, develop a production and marketing strategy for selected value-added products, assess investment needs and private sector investment, and strengthen the capacities of INFOSAMAK and national institutions involved in quality control and certification.
13. The Project comprises the following components:
- a) identification of markets for value-added fishery products, assessment of market requirements and opportunities in intra-regional and inter-regional markets, and market promotion;
 - b) quality improvements and certification;
 - c) assessment of investment needs for fish processing, inter-regional fish trade development, and for smallholder fish production including aquaculture development;
 - d) strengthening the capacity of INFOSAMAK; and
 - e) project supervision, monitoring and evaluation.
14. Project duration 36 months, started in early 2002.
Total project cost: US\$ 1 233 000

2.2 COMESA AND LAKE VICTORIA FISHERIES ORGANIZATION: PRODUCTION AND MARKETING OF VALUE-ADDED FISHERY PRODUCTS IN EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA

15. The project aims at developing and promoting production of improved processed and value-added products from inland waters (Nile perch and dagaa). Pilot production will be carried out in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. Activities would involve the promotion or improvement of existing small-scale cottage enterprises, many of which are run by women, and a restructuring of industrial processing companies, taking into account the products and species.
16. In order to ensure economic and financial viability of these initiatives, the project would also design and implement, on a pilot scale, specific supporting investment and credit programmes in close co-operation with national and sub-regional financial institutions to ensure sustainable production of value added products and expansion of such activities after project completion.
17. Project duration: 24 months, started in mid 2002.
Total project cost: US\$ 544 005

2.3 INFOFISH: PROMOTION OF PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF VALUE-ADDED TUNA PRODUCTS FROM ISLAND COUNTRIES IN THE ASIA-PACIFIC - MALDIVES, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

18. The main objectives of the project are the promotion of export processing and domestic marketing of value-added tuna products from island countries in the Asia-Pacific region. The project comprises the following components:

- a) promotion of marketing and export of value-added tuna products from Papua New Guinea and Maldives;
 - b) adaptation and transfer of appropriate technologies for processing and presentation of selected value-added tuna products;
 - c) promotion and investment in ventures for processing and marketing of value-added products and
 - d) dissemination of technology and information.
19. Project duration: 36 months, started in early 2003.
Total project cost: US\$ 1 100 000

2.4 INFOPECA: DEVELOPMENT OF PROCESSING AND MARKETING OF TILAPIA PRODUCED IN BIG LATIN AMERICAN RIVER BASINS

20. The main objectives of the project are to contribute to the development of emerging Latin American fresh water aquaculture production. The project comprises the following components:
- a) provide market information
 - b) develop value added products from tilapia
 - c) training of producers in quality management
 - d) development of seals of origin
 - e) equip and organize producers through loans
 - f) disseminate the results of the project
21. Project duration: 24 months, started in March 2003
Total project cost: US\$ 1 477 560

SUMMARY OF PROJECT GRANT FUNDING BY SOURCES

Project Grant Funding in US\$

PEA and duration	Total	CFC	%	Co-financing¹	%
INFOPECHE 32 months	368 550	261 450	71	107 100	29
INFOFISH I 36 months	609 000	357 000	59	252 000	41
INFOSAMAK 36 months	1 233 000	425 000	34	808 000	66
INFOPECA 24 months	960 553	649 250	68	311 300	32
COMESA 24 months	544 005	378 525	69	165 480	31
INFOFISH II 36 months	1 100 000	759 610	69	341 000	31
INFOPECA II ² 24 months	1 477 560	875 160	59	602 400	41
Grand Total	6 292 668	3 705 995	59	2 587 280	41

1 Funds or contributions in kind from IFAD, INFOnetwork concerned, participating companies and Project GCP/INT/609/DEN

2 Loan financing component is an additional US\$ 2 000 000 through the CFC.