



Project 5

5 years

US\$15 702 330

All 6 FCWC countries

Current management of the fishing may accelerate the overexploitation of stocks (weakness of support) and undermine livelihoods of the communities that depend on it. To preserve the socio-economic benefits drawn by fishing communities and to ensure the productivity of the ecosystem management approaches that involve and empower more users of the resources must be developed...

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Support co-management for maritime artisanal fisheries

Background

The maritime artisanal fishing represents the main source of employment, income and food for a large proportion of the populations of the 6 FCWC member States . Despite the shortcomings (quantitative and qualitative) of the data on the maritime artisanal fisheries sector, the contribution of the sector in the economy was highlighted by the PMEDP. The 6 FCWC Member States total up 843.900 traditional fishermen and total landings averaged of 534 000 tonnes representing in value US\$284,4 million. Fish also contributes to food security.

Fishing remains traditional. It does not involve significant financial resources. In Ghana, artisanal fishing occupies an important role in the local and national economy. Ghanaian fisherman helped convey a know-how in this sector. Artisanal fishing is "an important vector of the Ghanaian culture and know-how abroad, resulting from a broad tradition". It is found that the dynamics of the artisanal fishery contrasts with the little attention granted to it by the decision makers. The sector contributes largely to food security. The bulk of the catch is unloaded on the grounds. Pelagic species which represent the majority of the catches are generally smoked and distributed domestically or exported to neighbouring countries. However, the small pelagics stocks are under high pressure resulting from the increasing markets demands, population growth and open access to the resource.

PROBLEMS TO SOLVE

Little adapted traditional fisheries policies have observable implications on the fisheries resources management. The absence or weakness of the fishing policies relating to the traditional fisheries led authorities to adopt day to day management of the sector in an effort to solve short-term concerns of stakeholders. Thus, traditional fishermen, processors, traders, inadequately organized have little financial and technical support.

Fishing communities are not involved in fishery resources management and feel powerless before the degradation of habitats and overfishing of fish stocks. They have no alternative than to confide to the gods and talk very little of their own capacity to influence a course of events. Only the official fisheries managers decide. Unfortunately, the low resources (human and material) of the administrations compromise their effectiveness. Finally, the administrative management's efforts remain without effect. Fisheries resources are deteriorating. Economic benefits are reducing. Livelihoods of artisanal fishing are deteriorating.

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the project is to ensure, during an experimental period, the sustainability of the traditional fisheries through its participatory management. It focuses on a co-management plan, the participation of users and stakeholders in the management process (decision making and evaluation) the establishment of partnership with the territorial communities.

Product 1: An experimental co-management plan is implemented for a fishery

- 1.1 Develop fishery co-management plan
- 1.2 Adopt co-management plan
- 1.3 Take acts of fisheries

Product 2: A fishery co-management Framework is put in place

- 2.1 Analysis of stakeholders
- 2.2 Create fishery management local Communities
- 2.3 Create fishery management regional Committee
- 2.4 Create fishery management national Committee
- 2.5 Train members of the management committees
- 2.6 Ensure the regular functioning of the management committees

Product 3: FOOD hygiene laboratories strengthen their technical capacities and their skills

- 3.1 Organize campaigns on the rights of access to the resource (fishing license)
- 3.2 Organize campaigns on registration of canoes
- 3.3 Organize awareness campaigns to adopt regulatory gear

Product 4: A programme support to the application of management is implemented

- 3.4 Organize awareness
 - 4.1 Support the change of non-regulatory gear
 - 4.2. Support the conversion of fishermen through income-generating activities
 - 4.3 Support the conversion of the processors/traders through income-generating activities

Product 5: Relevant information feed process

- 5.1 Strengthen the collection of statistic data on fisheries
- 5.2. Conduct studies of evaluation of the social, economic and environmental impacts of the fishery management measures
- 5.3 Conduct evaluation studies of the fishery participatory management process
- 5.4 Conduct studies of assessment of the impacts of participatory management on poverty alleviation and the vulnerability of the members of the fishing communities

Product 6: Fisheries communities integrate local development

- 6.1 Establish partnership with local communities
- 6.2 Organize visits of local fishing communities
- 6.3 Organize advocacy to consider the fishing communities in local development plans

PRODUCTS AND ACTIVITIES

Product 7: Lessons learnt from the implementation of the project are dissiminated

- 7.1 Organize the project supervision
- 7.2 Organize the project evaluation

PARTNERS and BENEFICIARIES

The direct beneficiaries of the project are artisanal fishing communities in all their components (fishermen, processors, traders, their association and various groups and the operators of the activities). The fisheries administrations and other stakeholders (customary authorities, devolved administrations, NGOs, extension services, etc.) are the second level of the partners in the project. Finally, the technical and financial partners, regional fisheries organizations provide support and share the lessons learnt from the implementation of the project.

SITUATION EXPECTED AT THE END OF THE PROJECT

At the end of the project, all of the stakeholders including organized and legitimated fishing communities to whom a place is given in the management process feel truly invested to take responsibility in the optimization of the fisheries resources and fishing operations.

Links established with other partners in a holistic dynamic opens perspectives to the fishing communities of access to services that improve their condition of life and livelihood.

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Product 1 Activities 1 to 3:	US\$ 186 000
Product 2 Activities 1 to 6:	US\$ 2 122 000
Product 3 Activities 1 to 4:	US\$ 874 000
Product 4 Activities 1 to 3:	US\$ 9 000 000
Product 5 Activities 1 to 4:	US\$ 1 194 000
Product 6 Activities 1 to 3:	US\$ 60 000
Product 7 Activities 1 to 2:	US\$ 228 000