



Strategic Partnership
for Sustainable Fisheries
Investment Fund

SPFIF



AFRICAN UNION
**INTERAFRICAN BUREAU FOR
ANIMAL RESOURCES**



Strategic Partnership
for
Fisheries Investment Fund
Creating Wealth Through Sustainable Fisheries

PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL RESOURCES FOR AFRICA

About AU-IBAR

The African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) is a specialized technical office of the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture (DREA) of the African Union Commission (AUC). AU-IBAR's mandate is to support and coordinate the utilization of livestock, fisheries and wildlife as resources for both human wellbeing and economic development in the Member States of the African Union (AU). Since 2004, the AU has given the fisheries sector the attention it requires to grow and the AU-IBAR has demonstrated its commitment to support and develop the fisheries in Africa to ensure the sector contributes to the continent's economic growth. As a start, the fisheries issues

are now well covered in the newly developed AU-IBAR Strategic Plan.

Rationale

The Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) of sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) have a wealth of globally significant marine biodiversity with some of the world's most fertile fishing grounds, many of which are transboundary. It is estimated that some 2.7 million people in the region are engaged in

coastal and inland fishing activities on a full or part-time basis, for both subsistence and commerce. Fish also provides about 23% of total animal protein intake in sub-Saharan Africa, significantly higher than the global average of 16%.

The estimated value of net exports of fish products for the continent in 2001 was US\$ 1.7 billion, exceeding the net foreign exchange income reported for any other agricultural commodity.

Many governments in sub-Saharan Africa do not have the financial resources or capacity to prevent overexploitation of their fisheries resources or to protect the critical habitats that support them. The regional fisheries management organizations in sub-Saharan Africa do not have sufficient funds to assist individual coastal countries to implement the needed governance reforms in fisheries. Taking cognizance of these needs, the Global Environment Facility (GEF) availed the Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund for SSA country and regional-level projects to address the fisheries management and coastal communities' poverty challenges.

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Strategic Partnership for Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund (SPFIF) project

The project has two components: the Sustainable Fisheries Investment Fund component to assist countries better manage their fisheries; and the Strategic Partnership component that assists to disseminate lessons learned from investments facilitated by the Fund. The project is advised by stakeholders led by the African Union through a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) with a secretariat based at the AU-IBAR, Nairobi, Kenya.

The project objectives

The overall objective of SPFIF is to promote sustainable use of fisheries resources and the management of marine ecosystems that support them, with the aim of facilitating poverty eradication and enhancing sustainable income growth of the fishing communities of SSA.

To achieve the objective, the partnership will ensure that country-level projects are consistent with existing international instruments for sustainable fisheries and poverty eradication such as the FAO Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries and the World Summit on Sustainable Development implementation plan. The new projects should complement the existing work of LME programmes and NEPAD as part of the CAADP agenda.

The project functions

The project has four main functions:

- Coordination;

- Communication;
- Linkage and cohesion with Regional Fisheries Bodies (RFBs) and LME programmes; and
- Advocacy and capacity building for greater African support.

RAC membership and functions

The RAC consists of the Strategic partners; the AU, The World Bank/GEF, FAO and WWF; the SSA RFBs; the GEF-funded fisheries LME programmes; Civil Society Organizations; and Observers who include NGOs, IGOs, development partners and donors. The RAC chaired by AU guides and advises the project. The RAC's major roles include; ensuring country-level projects are in support of agreed regional goals and that there is coherence between the country-level projects supported by the Strategic Partnership; coordination with regional fisheries management bodies and the GEF-sponsored LME programmes to identify synergies and disseminate common lessons; advising each proposed project; formulation of strategies to replicate similar projects in the region; raising awareness on the importance of sustainable fisheries in development of policies and strategies; and assisting countries in the co-funding mobilization.



Goal To facilitate the sub-Saharan African region manage its marine fisheries resources for socio-economic benefits

Objective To promote sustainable use of fisheries resources and the management of marine ecosystems that support them to facilitate poverty eradication of fishing communities of sub-Saharan Africa

Main Expected Results

- Increased knowledge of and support for best practices in sustainable management of fisheries at both country and LME level.
- Increased financial commitment to the reforms of fisheries management and governance.
- Increased capacity for participation in LME projects and Regional Fisheries Bodies for effective management of transboundary fishery resources.

Canary, Guinea, Benguela, Agulhas and Somali currents The geographical coverage of 5 large marine ecosystems targeted by the Partnership.

November 2005—November 2015 Project implementation period.

Beneficiaries Small-scale fishermen, fish traders, Regional Fisheries Bodies, fisheries management and research institutions.

Stakeholders

UNDP, UNEP, LME projects, Civil Society, Regional Fisheries Bodies.

60 million US dollars 1:3 co-financing for country-level projects
The available Partnership Investment Fund for the fisheries investments in SSA LMEs.

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Fish is sorted and put on a string for drying or cooking.
Bazaruto Archipelago, Mozambique
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Fish trader, Mafia Island, Tanzania
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Implementing partners:



Financial support:

