



AFRICAN UNION

A 10 YEAR ACTION PLAN FOR SMALL SCALE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA:

A companion Document to the Policy Framework and reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.

From the Perspectives of Stakeholders



Small scale fisheries landing site at the Lake Tanganyika near Bujumbura, Burundi (above) and at Botianor Ghana (below)

A 10 Year Action Plan for Small Scale Fisheries Development in Africa

Copyright © African Union Commission and NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency AUC
- NEPAD Agency 2017

All rights reserved:

Rights and Permissions:

Material in this publication may be freely quoted or reprinted. Acknowledgement is requested, together with a copy of the publication.

Disclaimer

This publication has been produced with the kind assistance of the various governments, African and non-African, United Nations Agencies, Non-Governmental Organizations, Civil Society Organizations, Fish Producer Organizations, Private Sector, as well as individuals. However, the responsibility for this content rests entirely with the AUC and the NEPAD Agency.

Compiled and prepared by, in alphabetical order:

Dr. Aboubacar Sidibe (Project Officer, Fisheries Resources, AU-IBAR [2014 -2016]); Dr. Simplicie Nouala (Chief Animal Resources Officer, AU-IBAR); Dr. Mohamed Seisay (Senior Fisheries Officer, AU-IBAR); Mr. Obinna Anozie (Policy Analyst – Fisheries & Aquaculture, AU-IBAR) and Members of the Small-Scale Fisheries Working Group of the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM).

Citation:

AUC and NPCA (2017). A 10 Year Action Plan for Small Scale Fisheries Development in Africa

1. Background

The African Small Scale Fisheries account for more than 60 % of Africa's fisheries production and almost all the catches from the sector are destined for human consumption. The sector provides significant employment and income for poor rural communities. For many of those involved in small scale fisheries, the sector represents a way of life. The contribution of SSF to GDP in the whole Africa is estimated at 0,76%. Ten million Africans rely on small scale fisheries as their primary livelihood, and a further 90 million (farmers and resource poor) depend on fishing as part of a diversified livelihood strategy. More than 200 million Africans rely on fish as an affordable source of protein and important micro-nutrients and in most countries in Africa, small scale fishers account for the bulk of the local fish supply. For many millions of people in Africa, fishing and aquaculture is the only available source of jobs, income and animal protein, and the constraints associated with this – particularly in the context of free access and depleted fish stocks, and lack of effective management in the marine and inland small scale fisheries - represent a significant policy and good governance challenge for many African governments.



Rationale

To improve governance and management of small scale fisheries sector for increased benefits to African populations and countries, the African Union has developed a Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture, which was adopted by 23rd Summit of African Heads of States and Governments in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea in June 2014. One of the main objectives of the pan African Policy document is to improve and strengthen the contribution of small scale fisheries to poverty alleviation, food and nutrition security and socio-economic growth especially for the fishing communities in Africa.



A typical scene of activities at a small scale fish landing site in Senegal



Consistent with the call for action in response to the Africa Agriculture Transformation Agenda by 2025 and also in line with the implementation of key policy pillars of the Policy Framework and Reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa, AU-IBAR, in collaboration with the NEPAD, embarked on a process of formulating Pan African Plans of Actions on enhancing the contribution of fisheries and aquaculture towards the attainment of the objectives of food security and poverty reduction goals of African Union. The formulation of this Plan of action is to facilitate the implementation of the PFRS as well as assist member states and other stakeholders to increased benefits from the small-scale fisheries sector consistent with particularly the food security goals of the Malabo Declaration.

Process of formulating the Plan of Actions: Think Tank Consultative Meeting of Stakeholders

Accordingly and in consideration of the potential role of the small-scale in meeting the objectives of Malabo Declaration on Agricultural Transformation and PFRS, a continental Think Tank meeting on small-scale development was organized in Dakar, Senegal on the 18-22 January 2016 that identified priority areas for increased governance of the sector, food security and economic growth,



strengthening regional cooperation, capacity building and investment. The 103 participants of the Think Tank comprises 49 African Union member states, 7 Regional Economic Communities, representatives of Regional Fisheries Bodies, Water Basin Commissions, Non-state actors, women groups, youth and development partners and experts.

The Small-Scale Fisheries Working Groups of the African Fisheries Reform Mechanism (AFRM) refined, consolidated and transformed these priority areas into Pan African Plan of Actions for the sustainable development of small-scale fisheries.

Overall Policy Objective of the Plan of actions for SSF development in Africa

To improve and strengthen the contribution of small-scale fisheries to poverty alleviation, food and nutrition security and socio-economic benefits of fishing communities.



Specific Objectives

- » Improve governance for Sustainable Management of SSF in African context.
- » Enhance the contribution of SSF to food and nutrition security and wealth creation.
- » Improve resilience and adaptability of SSF so as to reduce vulnerability in face of internal & external shocks.



Fish processing section at the ferry fish market servicing a small scale fish landing site in Ilala Municipal Council, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

2. The Plan of Actions

A comprehensive and consolidate Plan of Action for the sustainable development of SSF in African context is presented below by priority areas identified by the stakeholders of the wide continental consultation process.

PRIORITY AREA 1: Role and importance (contribution) of fisheries for improved livelihoods, food and income of small scale fishing communities and related operators are evident, recognized and secured in Member States

A. Enhancing the role and importance to Food and Nutritional Security

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Increase sustainable production and productivity in small scale fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to appropriate fishing technologies/gears • Restock and restore water bodies 	Local National Regional	Fisher organizations MS RFBs NSAs/CSOs	Ongoing with annual reviews
2	Increase utilization and consumption of fish and fishery products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eat more fish campaigns • Product diversification • Improve fish marketing and distribution networks • Promote the respect for the rights of migrant fishers 	Local National	Fishers Fish processors Fish traders Private sector NSAs/CSOs MS	Ongoing with annual reviews



B. Enhancing the role and importance to Economic Growth and Wealth creation

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Promotion of Value addition and reduction of postharvest losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and development of fish processing technologies • Adoption of the new fish processing technologies • Provide cold chain facilities • Development of fish and fish products standards • Create awareness on the African eco-labelling mechanisms • Infrastructure development and marketing systems • Provide cold chain facilities in landing sites • Improve basic infrastructure (road, electricity, potable water and sanitary facilities) 	Local National Regional	Fishers NSAs/CSOs MS RFBs	Ongoing with annual reviews
2	Inter/intra-regional fish trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understanding of market trade corridors • Strengthen inter/intra-regional fish trade • Asses the existing trade volumes • Promote women and youth investments in fisheries trade 	National Regional	RECs MS	Ongoing with annual reviews
3	Increased budgetary and resource mobilization for support to the Small Scale Fisheries sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby for increased budgetary funding to the fisheries sector • Calculating the GDP contribution • Establish sustainable funding mechanisms (trust funds) 	National regional	Champions MS RFBs RECs NSAs/CSOs	Ongoing with annual reviews



C. Enhancing evidence based advocacy

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Improved research, data collection and information dissemination in SFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop and harmonize data collection and sharing protocols Involve fisher-folk in data collection Build capacity for fisheries research and information dissemination Joint research collaborations between MS 	Local National Regional	MS NSAs/CSOs Research Fisher Organizations RFBs	Ongoing with annual review

D. Strengthening Resilience and Adaptability of SSF to Climate change and other related risks in Africa

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Vulnerability, adaptation and resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Build capacity for adaptation and resilience 	Local National Regional	MS RFBs	Ongoing with annual reviews
2	Prevention & Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish early warning systems 			Ongoing with annual reviews



PRIORITY AREA 2: Bilateral and regional cooperation for effective management of shared fishery resources and ecosystems is strengthened

A. Strengthening good Governance of Small-Scale Fisheries in African Context

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Align national & regional policies to the PFRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review & harmonize existing policies and legal frameworks Develop strategies Develop Fisheries management plans Sensitize policy and decision makers on the important contribution of SSF to food and nutrition security 	National Regional	Member States, RFBs and RECs	December 2017

B. Strengthening Institutional Arrangement and Partnerships at Sub-Regional and Regional level

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Strengthening of Institutions responsible for fisheries governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review and establish/ strengthen institutions as appropriate (Fishers Associations/Network, MCS (IUU), Management, RFBs and Research Institutions) 	Local National Regional	Fishers Organizations NSAs/CSOs Member States RFBs and RECs AU	Ongoing with annual reviews



No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve knowledge, skill and attitudes of the fisheries managers to manage SSF • Linkages between RECs and RFBs • Coordination of Strategic partnership 			

PRIORITY AREA 3: Fishers are organized to foster good fisheries governance, sustainable development and responsible use of natural resources

A. Enhancing Capacity Development and Stakeholders participation

No.	Priority Actions	Activities	Geographic level	Responsibilities	Timeframes
1	Promotion of participatory fisheries resources management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthen capacity of the fisher community management groups • Limit access to SSF • Establish MPAs • Review the existing Bilateral & multi-lateral fisheries access agreements • User Right Approach 	Local National Regional	Fishers NSAs/CSOs MS RFBs	Ongoing with annual reviews
2	Development of Professional identity for SSF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education, exposure tours, awareness, new sustainable technologies 	Local National	Fishers MS NSAs/CSOs	Ongoing with annual review



3. Implementation Strategies

3.1. *Accountability for Actions and Results*

It is generally accepted that follow-up on actions plans is the neglected crux of the matter in resource development and management circles. It is crucial that in the implementation of the action plan, responsible persons/institutions are held accountable for actions and results delivered in a timely fashion and the following M&E plan specifies activities/indicators.

3.2. *Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E)*

AU-IBAR, Regional Institution (RECs and RFBs) and indicated National Institutions in the respective member States are responsible for the M&E for the implementation of the action plan. The planned results of the logical framework for sustainable development of small-scale fisheries in Africa (2017-2027) and indicators will form the basis for monitoring results. An assessment of the plan of action status will be submitted semi-annually by the AU-IBAR. Other M&E activities include base line studies (social surveys), annual technical audits, beneficiary assessment before annual review, and an independent impact assessment. The key components of the monitoring plan comprise:





Activity at a SSF landing site in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Enhancing the role and importance to Food and Nutritional Security. The objective here is to increase the production & productivity of SSF in order to increase the consumption and utilisation of fish and fish products.

Enhancing the role and importance to Economic Growth and Wealth creation. This component should promote value addition and reduce postharvest losses in addition to increasing budgetary support for SSF and facilitating inter/intra-regional fish trade.

Enhancing evidence based advocacy. This component should allow to share and consolidate experiences on sustainable fisheries and environment management in Africa's context and package lessons learnt and best practices for sound management of Africa's Small Scale Fisheries.





An adjacent artisanal fish market to the landing site in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Strengthening Resilience and Adaptability of SSF to Climate change and Other Related Risks in Africa. The issue here is to strengthen the adaptation and resilience capacities of SSF communities in the face of climate change and other related risks.

Strengthening Good Governance of Small-Scale Fisheries in African Context. The thrust is to align national & regional policies to the PFRS. In doing so, constraints are addressed and opportunity seized in order to develop, review and harmonise policy and legal framework; develop strategies for policy implementation and develop fisheries management plans.



Strengthening Institutional Arrangement and Partnerships at National, Sub-Regional and Regional Level. The focus here is to strengthen institutions responsible for fisheries governance and promote participatory fisheries resource management with good linkages between RECs and RFBs; coordinated strategic intervention framework; well-functioning co-management arrangements; controlled open access; instituted aquatic protected areas and instituted user rights regime.

Capacity Development and Stakeholders Participation. This component seeks to improve the capacity research and data collection in participatory manner and dissemination of information in SSF including the development of professional identity for SSF.

It may be necessary for some key plan of action outcome indicators to be re-measured/refined over the first year of implementation.

3.3. *Performance indicators*

The Indicators to monitor the implementation of the African Union Action Plan for sustainable SSF development are strongly linked to the indicators of fisheries reform and performance at national and regional Levels as highlighted in the Guide





for the implementation of Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS). The mainly output/activity indicators are used to measure progress in the implementation of SSF Action Plan and to investigate how something has been done, rather than what has happened as a result.

The performance indicators at the level of the output/activity are shown in table below.



Output/activity	Output/activity Indicators	Use of Output/activity Information	Indicators for monitoring & and performance assessment of PFRS
PRIORITY AREA 1: Role and importance (contribution) of fisheries for improved livelihoods, food and income of small scale fishing communities and related operators are evident, recognized and secured in Member States			
1- Increase sustainable production and productivity in small scale fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water bodies and Fisheries Restocked and restored Productivity and Production of SSF increased at sustainable level Access to appropriate (non-destructive & eco-friendly) fishing technologies/gears enhanced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure of restored fisheries Measure of increased production and productivity in SSF Measure of access to non-destructive technologies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stakeholders are aware of the fish stock size, status of exploitation to make informed decisions about the management of fisheries and ecosystems
2- Increase utilization and consumption of fish and fishery products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Per capita consumption increased Fish and Fishery Products diversified Fish marketing and distribution networks improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure of increased Per Capita consumption Measure of diversified fish and fishery products Measure of improved fish marketing and distribution networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Average consumption of fish and fishery products per person within a population
3- Promotion of Value addition and reduction of postharvest losses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and fish processing technologies developed and adopted African standards for fish and fishery products progressively developed and awareness created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure of developed research and fish processing techniques adopted Measure of African standards developed Evidence of infrastructure and marketing systems developed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in post-harvest loss Percentage contribution of small-scale fisheries to total national fisheries expenditure



Output/activity	Output/activity Indicators	Use of Output/activity Information	Indicators for monitoring & and performance assessment of PFRS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure and marketing systems developed • Basic infrastructure (road, electricity, potable water and sanitary facilities) improved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of basic infrastructure and improved sanitary facilities 	
4- Inter/intra-regional fish trade	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market and trade corridors better understood • Trade barriers removed • Women and youth investments in fisheries trade promoted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of better understanding of trade corridors • Evidence of removed trade barriers • Evidence of promotion of women and youth investment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total yearly income reported by fishing communities • Benefits accruing to women and youth regarding ownership of enterprises
5- Increased budgetary and resource mobilization for support to the Small Scale Fisheries sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budgetary allocation to the SSF increased • Sustainable funding mechanisms (trust funds) established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of increased budgetary allocation to SSF • Evidence of trust fund established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritization of SSF in poverty alleviation documents and other national strategy documents
6- Improved research, data collection and information dissemination in SFF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data collection and sharing protocols developed and harmonized • Fisher-folk involved in data collection • Capacities for fisheries research and information dissemination built 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protocols for data collection established and shared among countries • Evidence of involvement of fisher in data collection • Relevant articles & other information produced by African fisheries research 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of information produced, knowledge sharing and utilization



Output/activity	Output/activity Indicators	Use of Output/activity Information	Indicators for monitoring & and performance assessment of PFRS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint research collaborations between MS promoted and strengthened 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint research programme developed 	
7- Vulnerability, adaptation and resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity for adaptation and resilience built 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of built adaptation and resilience 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building of adaptive capacity and resilience at the level through relevant initiatives and programmes
8- Prevention & Mitigation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Early warning systems established and functional. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence of established and functional early warning system 	
PRIORITY AREA 2: Bilateral and regional cooperation for effective management of shared fishery resources and ecosystems is strengthened			
9- Align national & regional policies to the PFRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Developed, reviewed & harmonized policies and legal frameworks in place Strategies developed for policy implementation Fisheries management plans developed Policy and decision makers sensitized on the importance of SSF contribution to Socio-Economic Growth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure of coherent and harmonise policies and legal framework Measure of developed strategy Measure of efficient fisheries management plans developed. Measure of sensitised decision makers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policies and regulations exist and are part of the mechanisms to unlock potentials of the small-scale fisheries sector
10- Strengthening of Institutions responsible for fisheries governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewed, established and strengthened institutions as appropriate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Measure of established and strengthened institutions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Existence of mechanisms for efficient and effective regional cooperation on fisheries management



Output/activity	Output/activity Indicators	Use of Output/activity Information	Indicators for monitoring & and performance assessment of PFRS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linkages between RECs and RFBs established and strengthened • Interventions of Strategic partnership Coordinated 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure of established and strengthened linkages between RECs and RFBs • Measure of coordinated strategic interventions 	
<p>PRIORITY AREA 3: Fishers are organized to foster good fisheries governance, sustainable development and responsible use of natural resources</p>			
<p>11- Promotion of participatory Fisheries resources management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of the fisher community and other stakeholders for co-management • Open access of SSF controlled • MPAs (Aquatic Protected Areas) established for the fisheries resources management • User Right Approach instituted in African context 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure of built capacity for co-management • Measure of controlled open access • Measure of established MPAs • Measure of instituted user rights 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisheries organizations and associations exist for participatory management of the fisheries.
<p>12- Development of Professional identity for SSF</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Data base of professional Fishers developed and made public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measure of developed database published 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yearly employment generated by the small-scale fisheries sector



Key impact indicators

The wider outcomes or impacts will be achieved after planned action phase and the key impact indicators will be:

- » **Environmental Indicator:** Increased production and productivity by restoring stocks and making environment adaptive and resilience to climate change and natural disaster (Priority area 1)
- » **Economic Indicator:** Increased SSF contribution to food security and wealth creation seeks to achieve economic benefits (Priority area 1)
- » **Social Indicator:** Strengthened policy and institutional framework, and capacity building for participatory resource management underpins effective operation of community co-management established in member states fishing communities (Priority area 2 & 3).



Activity, reports and milestones

The expected reports and targets/milestones to be attained are shown in Table below.

Outcome/Impact Indicators	Remarks	Target Values			Data Collection and Reporting		
		2018	2020	2025	Frequency & Reports	Data Collection Instruments	Responsibility for Data collection
Environment Indicator: Increased production of SSF; developed adaptation and resilience plan; increased aversion of disaster	Water bodies and Fisheries Restocked and restored. Productivity and Production of SSF increased at sustainable level Capacity for adaptation and resilience built Early warning systems established and functional		55 Members States developed and implementing their adaptive and resilience plans	25% of SSF Fisheries restocked and restored on the continent SSF production Increased by 5% from 2018 values	Annual fish landings data Annual Annual	Collected at landing sites, from commercial logbooks MS institutions MS institutions	MS aggregated and shared with RECs and RFBs



Artisanal fish market in a small scale fish landing site in Maputo, Mozambique

Outcome/Impact Indicators	Remarks	Target Values			Data Collection and Reporting													
		2018	2020	2025	Frequency & Reports	Data Collection Instruments	Responsibility for Data collection											
<p>Social Indicator: Aligned national & regional policies to the PFRS; Strengthened of Institutions responsible for fisheries Governance; Promotion of participatory fisheries resources management; Capacity development in data collection and dissemination; Development of Professional identity for SSF</p>	<p>Ensure Policy coherence across national, regional, continental and international levels</p>	<p>At least 2 Institutions and partnership arrangements established and in use at respective levels</p>	<p>55 Members States with coherent policies by December 2018</p>	<p>25% of Fisheries using co-management systems</p>	<p>Annual Review</p>	<p>MS relevant Institutions</p>	<p>Member States, RECs RFBs AU</p>											
	<p>Establish and develop institutional and partnership arrangements at national, sub-regional and regional levels</p>							<p>54 Members States have harmonized data collection protocols developed and shared</p>	<p>Annual Review</p>	<p>MS relevant Institutions</p>	<p>Members States RECs RFBs</p>							
	<p>Capacity of the fisher community and other stakeholders strengthened for co-management</p>											<p>Annual Reviews</p>	<p>MS relevant Institutions</p>	<p>Members States Fisheries communities RFBs</p>				
	<p>Establish and/or improve data collection and information dissemination systems at national and regional levels</p>														<p>55 MS with data base of Professional Fishers by 2020</p>	<p>Annual Review</p>	<p>MS relevant Institutions</p>	<p>Members States Fisheries communities RFBs</p>
	<p>Data base of professional Fishers developed and made public</p>																	
<p>Annual Review</p>	<p>MS relevant Institutions</p>	<p>Members States Fisheries communities RFBs</p>																





Communal Life at the Botianor Small Scale Fisheries Landing Site in Botianor, Ghana



African Union
Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources
(AU-IBAR)
Kenindia Business Park
Museum Hill, Westlands Road
PO Box 30786
00100 Nairobi
Kenya
Tel: +254 (20) 3674 000
Fax: +254 (20) 3674 341 / 3674 342
Email: ibar.office@au-ibar.org
Website: www.au-ibar.org



New Partnership for Africa's Development
(NEPAD)
International Business Gateway
P.O. Box 1234 Halfway House Midrand
Johannesburg, South Africa
Tel: +27 (0) 11 256 3600
Fax: +27 (0) 11 206 3762
Website: www.nepad.org