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Review and Alignment of National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policies with the PFRS, Regional Instruments and Global Best Practices

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Centre for Coastal Management, Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR), University of Cape Coast, Ghana

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Detailed Partner Contact Information
Professor Denis W. Aheto Consultant (PI), CCM/ACECoR, UCC. Email: daheto@ucc.edu.gh Tel.: +233 242910056

Dr. Ernest K. Amankwah Afrifa (Co-PI) Email: ernest.afrifa@ucc.edu.gh Tel.: +233 241798570

Address: Centre for Coastal Management, Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience, Ground Floor C.A. Ackah Lecture Theatre, Complex, University of Cape Coast, Cape Coast, Ghana.
Tel: +233 (0) 33 2092654.
Email: acecor@ucc.edu.gh

Authors: Afrifa, Ernest Kofi Amankwa; Osei, Isaac Kofi; Blay, Lois Akosua; Adotey, Joshua; Angnuureng, Donatus Bapentire; Pelebe, Edeya, Orobiyi Rodrigue; Deikumah, Saviour Komla Sobia; Aja, Daniel; Deguenon, Sena Donalde; Ekumah, Nanabanyin Okwentsie; Pawar, Vinolia; Ogbon, Abdou Matinou; Faseyi, Charles Abimbola; Agyekumwaa, Elizabeth; Aheto, Denis Worlanyo.

For additional information on partner activities:
Weblinks: https://ccm.ucc.edu.gh/
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The objective of this consultancy assignment was to review and align national fisheries and aquaculture policies and laws with the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa, regional instruments and global best practices in 15 African Union Member States (AU MS) namely: Somali**a**, South Sudan, DR Congo, Libya, Chad, Sudan, Central Africa Republic, Sahrawi, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Madagascar, Niger, Burkina Faso and Liberia. The specific tasks undertaken under the contract include**d** the development of a framework within which to coordinate and harmonize fisheries policies to ensure coherence in the policies of the selected member states in line with the PFRS and other relevant global fisheries and aquaculture instruments. To achieve this, we sourced relevant documents, and legal instruments including existing relevant reports from the selected countries and AU-IBAR/AUDA-NEPAD and incorporated applicable recommendations from them. Virtual consultation meetings with relevant national authorities identified by AU-IBAR as consultants (and relevant key stakeholders) from the selected AU MS and where necessary**,** Regional Institutions (e.g.**,** RFOs, RECs, etc.) were held. Furthermore, reviews of relevant national policies, legislative/regulatory frameworks and strategies of the specific countries were undertaken **by in-country consultants together with relevant stakeholders** to identify gaps, major policy challenges/issues and proposed appropriate interventions**/actions to** support the process **to** actualize alignment of the national policies to PFRS with guidance from AU-IBAR. In evaluating the extent of alignment of the national policy documents to the PFRS, a scoring system was used, where 'Yes' is assigned a unit (1) score, 'In part' is assigned 0.5, and 'No' is given zero (0). Percent averages were computed for the various **P**olicy **O**utcomes **(PO)**, **P**olicy **A**reas **(PA)**, as well as the **O**verall **L**evel of **A**lignment of the document(s). The sum of the scores ('Yes' and 'In part) was expressed as a percentage of the number of questions under the policy outcome, area and the overall framework. Non-applicable (N/A) scores are not included in the scoring scheme. In the scheme of the workflow. four countries were concluded for the assignment, namely Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar. The main challenge of this assignment was access to national fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies of the 15 AU MS. It was then suggested that AU-IBAR engages country-based consultants to assist in accessing and writing a report on the alignment of national policies with the adapted PFRS and global best practices. To this end, out of the 15 expected reports, only four (4) have been submitted from Madagascar, DR Congo, Zambia and South Sudan. Therefore, this report will be based on the four country-level assessments by the consultants. The summary of the alignment scores **for the various countries are** shown **as** below**:**

Country	PA 1	PA 2A	PA 2B	PA 3	PA 4	PA 5	PA 6	PA 7	PA 8	MEAN
Zambia	75	60	N/A	50	60	66.5	50	N/A	58	**60**
DR Congo	58.0	54.0	N/A	53.0	50.0	58.0	50.0	50.0	72.0	**63.5**
Zimbabwe	56.1	69.4	N/A	52.5	54.2	83.3	58.3	58.3	59.9	**61.5**
Madagascar	91.7	95.8	33.4	70.0	83.3	100.0	66.6	86.7	63.3	**76.6**

The overall alignment scores for Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar were 60.0 %, 63.5%, 61.5% and 76.8 %, respectively, which are indicative of wide gaps to address. Gaps were identified for all policy areas, with Policy Area 2B (Identification, Development, and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based

Shellfisheries) receiving the least attention in policy development for coastal countries. For each gap, actions **have been** proposed to ensure the alignment of fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies of Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar with the PFRS and global best practices.

It is recommended that AU-IBAR encourages the remaining 11 countries that are yet to submit their assessment reports on their national fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies to do so using the PFRS. Moreover, AU-IBAR should work with Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar to ensure their proposed actions are incorporated into their national fisheries and aquaculture policies to ensure coherence with the PFRS.

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ACRONYMS

ACECoR	Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience
AIMS	Atlantic, Indian Ocean, Mediterranean and South China Sea
AU	African Union
AUDA-NEPAD	Africa Union Development Agency- New Partnership for Africa's Development
AU-IBAR	African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources
CCM	Centre for Coastal Management
CSI	Coastal Regions and Small Islands platform
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FishGov	Fisheries Governance Project (Enhancing sustainable fisheries management and aquaculture development in Africa: A programme for the accelerated reform of the sector)
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
MPS	Marine Protected Areas
AOSIS	Alliance of Small Island States
MSP	Marine Spatial Planning
RECs	Regional Economic Communities
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SIDSnet	Small Island Developing States Network
SIDSEC	Small Islands Developing States Economic Community
UN	United Nations
UCC	University of Cape Coast
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change

1. INTRODUCTION

Background

The African continent is endowed with enormous natural resources, including aquatic ecosystems (marine and freshwater), which supports its thriving fisheries (AUDA-NEPAD, 2021). The fisheries sector, comprising capture fisheries and aquaculture, plays a key role in food and nutrition security, health, livelihoods, employment, exports and foreign currency, conservation, and biodiversity values in many African States (de Graaf & Garibaldi, 2014). Again, the sector has colossal potential to significantly increase its contribution to GDP (African Union, 2014), address food security challenges, and alleviate poverty in the five regions of the continent.

Despite this immense potential, the sector is inhibited by a plethora of challenges including ineffective governance, poor conception and implementation of policies, and uncoordinated policies between neighbouring States within the African Union (AU). Attempts to address some of these issues have led to different interventions being developed to unravel and appreciate the drivers of these challenges to develop appropriate strategies to address them. To this end, the first continent-wide intervention in the African fisheries and aquaculture (FishGov1), was framed and implemented by the African Union Interafrican Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR) to address specific challenges including poor coordination among actors, coherence issues in governance instruments and approaches, and increasing incidence of IUU fishing activities.

As a means of streamlining processes and procedures within the AU States in the utilisation of animal resources, including fisheries, the AU-IBAR has the mandate to support and coordinate the use of livestock, fisheries, aquaculture, and wildlife as resources for both human well-being and economic development. The Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS) for fisheries and aquaculture developed in 2014 guides AU-IBAR's intervention in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in Africa (AUC & NPCA, 2014). It provides critical policy objectives to Africa's fisheries sector and highlights best practices for a sustainable fisheries sector. Moreover, the guide for implementation of the PFRS developed in 2015 also stipulates the criteria for alignment of national and regional policies, indicators to monitor the progress of alignment, and the mechanism to support the implementation (AUC & NEPAD, 2015). The overall purpose of the PFRS is to facilitate transformation of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture for food, livelihoods, and wealth. Accordingly, the PFRS is intended to elaborate and make explicit essential guiding principles for good governance. The PFRS, developed in a broader participatory manner, identifies key and cross-cutting issues as policy areas for reform in the African fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

As a follow-up to FishGov1, the second phase, FishGov2 is aimed at enhancing the contribution of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture to the achievement of the AU Agenda 2063's objectives, notably in terms of food security, livelihoods, and wealth creation. The specific objectives are as follows: (i) AU decisions on sustainable fisheries and aquaculture policies are evidence-based; (ii) Fisheries and aquaculture policies in Africa are coherent with the PFRS and other AU priorities and coordinated at continental, regional, and national levels; and, (iii) Africa is adequately represented and effectively participates in international fisheries and aquaculture fora and ably domesticates relevant global instruments.

Towards achieving the objective (ii) of FishGov2, AU awarded a consultancy to the Centre for Coastal Management (CCM), Africa Centre of Excellence in Coastal Resilience (ACECoR), University of Cape Coast (UCC), Ghana to review national fisheries and aquaculture policies, legislative frameworks and strategies to align them with the PFRS, regional instruments and global best practices for 15 AU member states. For the assignment, to shed light on the marginalized and overlooked coastal fisheries in Africa, ACECoR adapted the PFRS to also highlight estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS.

Objectives

The objectives of the consultancy were to:

- review all national policies, strategies, and regulatory frameworks for their coherence with the provision of PFRS.
- identify policy challenges and reform areas in national fisheries policies that should be addressed by relevant provisions in the PFRS for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa.
- develop a national plan of action for aligning national policies with the policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa.
- identify appropriate entry points for revisions of national policies.

2. METHODOLOGY

Adapted PFRS

Development of an adapted PFRS was carried out by conducting desk studies to identify relevant regional instruments and global best practices, and reviewing the selected documents to capture all aspects of African fisheries (see Appendix 1 for the adapted framework). The PFRS; Africa Blue Economy Strategy (ABES); United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS); Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries; and the Toolkit: Empowering Women for Shellfish Management, Food Security and Biodiversity Conservation in Estuarine Ecosystems of West Africa appeared fit for purpose, hence their consideration in the development of the adapted PFRS. The latter aforementioned instrument is a current best practice developed by the USAID under the Women Shellfishers and Food Security project implemented in 11 coastal West African countries (Women Shellfishers and Food Security Project, 2022). The selected instruments were thoroughly reviewed to gain an in-depth understanding and establish priority areas for the revision of the PFRS.

A three-day residential workshop was organized at Busua Beach Resort, Western Region, Ghana to review the selected instruments, reach a consensus on relevant policy areas for consideration, and draft an adapted framework (Fig. 1).



Figure 1: *A photograph of the review team at a 3-day workshop at Busua Beach Resort, Ghana*

Country-level Consultation with Stakeholders

Country-level consultants were selected and engaged by AU-IBAR. The consultants engaged key stakeholders and practitioners on relevant national laws and policies on fisheries and aquaculture to guide the review and validation. The stakeholders were individuals from academia, industry, government, media, lawmakers, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and International Institutions (i.e., AU-IBAR and USAID).

Country-level Alignment Reports and Validation

The level of alignment of the national laws and policies on fisheries and aquaculture to the adapted PFRS or global instruments were assessed. In evaluating the extent of alignment of the national policy documents to the Framework, a scoring system was used, where 'Yes' is assigned a unit (1) score, 'In part' is assigned 0.5, and 'No' is given zero (0). Percent averages were computed for the various policy outcomes, policy areas, as well as the overall level of alignment of the document(s). The sum of the scores ('Yes' and 'In part) was expressed as a percentage of the number of questions under the policy outcome, area and the overall framework. Non-applicable (N/A) scores are not included in the scoring scheme.

The adapted PFRS instrument was used by South Sudan, Zimbabwe, and Madagascar, whereas DR Congo and Zambia adopted portions of the instrument or global best practices in the preparation of their reports. Moreover, unlike Zimbabwe and DR Congo, reports from Madagascar, South Sudan and Zambia were validated.

National laws and Policies Perused in the Assessment

South Sudan

South Sudan's national fisheries and aquaculture authorities and experts were consulted to provide relevant laws and policies for the review and alignment with the PFRS. Besides, development partners in the sector were engaged to provide other relevant documents. The following national policies were perused:

- National Fisheries and Aquaculture Policy, (December 2022); Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Republic of South Sudan, Juba.
- National Blue Economy Strategy (2023 – 2027), Republic of South Sudan, Juba, May 2023.
- Report of National Workshop to Support South Sudan to Align and Domesticate Relevant Global Instruments related to Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation, Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Environmental Management, April 2023.

DR Congo

The consultant for DR Congo perused and analysed documents on legislative or regulatory frameworks to assess the level of level alignment and identify gaps using the Guide for implementation of the PFRS developed by AU-IBAR. The documents reviewed were:

- Decree of July 12, 1932, Regulating Fishing Concessions.
- Decree of April 21, 1937, on Fishing and Hunting.
- Decree of May 6, 1952, on Concessions and Administration of Waters, Lakes, and Watercourses.
- Ordinance of July 1, 1974, on Pollution and Contamination of Springs, Lakes, Watercourses, and parts of Watercourses.
- Law no. 74.009 of July 10, 1974, Delimiting the Territorial Sea of the Republic of Zaire.
- The Fisheries Master Plan drawn up in 1987.
- Constitution of the Third Republic of February 18, 2006, articles 123, litera 14 on the Fundamental Principles of Agriculture, Fishing, and Aquaculture.
- National Aquaculture Development Plan (NADP) in 2011.

Madagascar

Two (2) relevant national documents, namely the National Aquaculture Development Strategy (SNDAM) and the National Blue Economy Strategy (SNEB) for Madagascar's fisheries and aquaculture sector were used to ascertain the level of alignment with the adapted PFRS and identification of gaps.

Zimbabwe

Three (3) national laws and policies were used in the assessment for Zimbabwe. These are the Draft Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Development Plan (FARDP), Agriculture and Food Systems Transformation Strategy (AFSTS) (2020-2025), and the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) Act.

Zambia

Two relevant national documents were reviewed, namely National Aquaculture Trade Development Strategy and Action Plan (NATDSAP) and National Agriculture Investment Plan (NAIP) 2014-2018.

Gap Analysis

The identification of the gaps in the national fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies of the AU MS was carried out using the adapted PFRS as a standard. Consultations were conducted by the country consultants with the relevant stakeholders.

Compilation of Final Report

Several meetings were held to thoroughly peruse the reports by the national consultants and draft a final report (Fig. 2). Key areas of concern were the use of the adapted PFRS in the assessment, level of alignment for the various policy areas, gaps identified and recommendations or actions to be taken.



Figure 2: *Photograph of the working team at the University of Cape Coast, Ghana*

Challenges

The main challenge of this assignment was the difficulty in accessing national fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies for the 15 AU MS. It was then suggested that AU-IBAR engages country-based consultants to assist in accessing and writing a report on the alignment of national policies with the adapted PFRS and global best practices. To this end, out of the 15 expected reports, only four (4) have been submitted from Madagascar, DR Congo, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Therefore, this report is based on the four country-level assessments by the consultants.

3. RESULTS

Drafted Review Framework

A framework has been developed to review and align the 15 AU MS Fisheries and Aquaculture Policies and Laws, drawing from the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy (PFRS), regional instruments and best practices (see Appendix 1). It comprises eight all-inclusive policy areas as outlined below:

- Policy Area 1: Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use
- Policy Area 2a: Small Scale Fisheries Development
- Policy Area 2b: Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS
- Policy Area 3: Sustainable Aquaculture Management
- Policy Area 4: Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing
- Policy Area 5: Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation
- Policy Area 6: Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development
- Policy Area 7: High Seas Fisheries
- Policy Area 8: Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture

Alignment Scores, Gap Analysis and Proposed Actions for the various countries

Documents on the national fisheries and aquaculture policy and laws have been reviewed for four countries namely Zambia, Zimbabwe, Madagascar, and DR Congo, out of the targeted 15 AU MS for the consultancy. The summarized results of the level of alignment together with the identified gaps and suggested actions for alignment with the PFSR are presented in Tables that follow.

MADAGASCAR

Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Madagascar with PFRS, global instruments and best practices as well as the identified gaps and actions are presented in Table 1 and Table 2.

Table 1: *Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Madagascar to PFRS, global best practices*

Policy Area	Description	% Score
1	Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	91.7
2A	Small Scale Fisheries Development	95.8
2B	Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	33.4
3	Sustainable Aquaculture Management	70.0
4	Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing	83.3
5	Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation	100
6	Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development	66.6
7	High Seas Fisheries	86.7
8	Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture	63.3
OVERALL LEVEL ALIGNMENT		76.6

Table 2: *Policy gaps and recommendations for Madagascar*

Policy Area	Identified Policy Gaps	Proposed Action for Alignment with the PFRS
Policy Area 1: Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	1. The Ministry in charge of fisheries and aquaculture is severely lacking in financial resources to implement fisheries management and good governance: there are not enough specific funds for the development of fisheries and aquaculture. Financial allocations come under a single Treasury account, and allocations to the sector are therefore not a priority for significant development. 2. The statistical data collection system needs to be further improved. There are very few research vessels for stock assessment, which hampers the ability to gather reliable information to draw up national plans for fisheries and aquaculture development. 3. There is no provision for collaboration with the Ministry of Trade on the import of destructive equipment for fishing activities (small-mesh nets	1. Partnership agreement between the Ministry in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture (political decision-makers) and the FTM (Foibe Taon-tsaritany Malagasy), the institution responsible for developing cartography in Madagascar (Geographic Information System) to ensure the effective implementation of spatial planning at both marine and continental level (water body, river, lake). 2. 2. 2. Signing of a partnership agreement between the Ministry in charge of Fisheries and Aquaculture (policymakers) and the IH-SM of the University of Toliara promoting visible coordination of each group's activities and legalized institutional arrangements for collaboration, exchange of information (research results, policy documents, licenses) or periodic deliberation on fisheries or aquaculture needs for research-oriented development programs. 3. An effective collaboration with the Ministry of Trade control the importation of destructive equipment for fishing activities should be highlighted and promoted 3. Putting in place an advisory committee for Fisheries and Aquaculture
Policy Area 2: Small Scale Fisheries Development and Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	1. Small scale fisheries are not fully prioritized in National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIP), poverty alleviation documents and national strategy documents. 2. No provision has been made for the co-management of estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries. 3. There is no clear-cut strategy to promote estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries within local and international markets	1. There is the need to fully prioritize small scale fisheries in documentations for poverty alleviation and NAIP 2. The co-management of estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries should be highlighted. 3. A clear-cut strategy for the promotion of estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries within local and international markets should be taken into account.
Policy Area 3: Sustainable Aquaculture Management	There are no common strategies on management and research on transboundary resources to ensure improved regional cooperation in shared ecosystems	Provisions must be made to harmonize coherent policies, institutional and legal frameworks for aquaculture shared ecosystems
Policy Area 4: Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade And Marketing	Existing policies not fully compliant with sanitary standards and market requirements	There is the need to ensure full compliance with sanitary standards and market requirements

Policy Area	Identified Policy Gaps	Proposed Action for Alignment with the PFRS
Policy Area 5: Regional and Sub-regional Cooperation	A high level of impact from illegal fishing (IUU) indicates the need for monitoring and enforcement of compliance with legal and regulatory instruments to control IUU. The scale of the challenge can be explained by the low budget allocation for training and the acquisition of appropriate monitoring equipment. Enforcement, monitoring, and surveillance resources are limited	Provision should be made for obtaining adequate patrol vessels and communications equipment for joint patrols and surveillance with member countries, particularly for shared stocks.
Policy Area 6: Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development	1.Low level of knowledge of regulatory instruments due to inadequate awareness/ clarification on the part of operators. 2.The main challenge facing the legal review is that the department responsible for legal affairs and litigation within the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture does not have enough of the necessary staff who are trained, informed, and have the capacity, ideas, and experience to make recommendations. 3. There is a lack of trained personnel at all levels of implementation of policies and instruments in the fisheries. 4.The difference between fisheries policies, master plans and management plans is not always well understood by many players in the country's fisheries administration. 5. There are challenges in recruitment (movement and institution) and monetary through budgeting requiring financial authorizations for the Fisheries and Aquaculture sector to recruit staff. This is the main cause of the current understaffing of MPEB agents. 6. Most administrators, on the one hand, and academics and researchers, on the other, have a rather incomplete understanding of certain specific issues related to fishing (halieutic domain). 7. High levels of poverty and social fragmentation in fishing communities limit the implementation of political reforms.	1.Intra- and inter-sectoral coordination to move forward, ensure inclusiveness, organize dialogue and the development of collective actions, and strengthen public-private partnerships (SNEB, 2022). 2. Provision should be made for deliberate recruitment and training of legal officers to improve upon the competence of the legal department within the Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture 3. Provisions should be made for competence building of staff in the implementation of policies and instruments in the fisheries through refresher courses, advanced training and internships 4. The difference between fisheries policies, master plans and management plans should be clearly stated in the policies in order to avoid confusion 5. A well-defined means of recruitment and remuneration of staff should be highlighted so as to overcome the problem of understaffing. 6. Provision should be made for designing development models based on partnership relations between government, research, the private sector and civil society. 7. Deliberate and tailored poverty alleviation and social cohesion strategies such as decent work for fishing communities and workers in the fisheries sector and dignified living conditions through livelihood rights (including education, health services, social protection mechanisms, access to alternative livelihoods, etc.) should be included in the fisheries policies
Policy Area 7: High Seas Fisheries	1.There are no mechanisms for strengthening the alignment of donor and partner efforts with the PFRS. 2. No provisions for strengthening of alignment to and co-ordination of development partners' efforts with the PFRS exist.	1.The new policy should make provisions for mechanisms aimed at strengthening the alignment of donor and partner efforts with the PFRS. 2. Provisions should be made for strengthening of alignment to and co-ordination of development partners' efforts with the PFRS.
Policy Area 8: Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture	1. There are no mechanisms for disaster-related insurance and compensation in place	1. There should be mechanisms for instituting disaster-related insurance and compensation.

DR CONGO

Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of DR CONGO to PFRS, global instruments and best practices as well as the identified gaps and recommendations are presented in Tables 3 and 4.

Table 3: *Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of DR Congo to PFRS, global best practices*

Policy Area	Description	% Score
1	Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	58.0
2A	Small Scale Fisheries Development	54.0
2B	Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	N/A
3	Sustainable Aquaculture Management	53.0
4	Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing	50.0
5	Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation	58.0
6	Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development	50.0
7	High Seas Fisheries	50.0
8	Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture	72.0
OVERALL LEVEL ALIGNMENT		63.5

Table 4: *Policy Gaps and Recommendations for DR Congo*

Policy Area	Identified policy gaps	Proposed Action for alignment with the PFRS
POLICY AREA 1: Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	Poor fisheries governance at national level and for the management of trans boundary resources and ecosystems, as well as an insufficient policy framework to protect the poor in coastal communities whose livelihoods depend on fishing	Enhancing national and sub-national governance will improve conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources.
POLICY AREA 2A: Small Scale Fisheries Development	Open capture fisheries (artisanal) are easily accessible, contributing to overfished stocks, Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing.	1) The proposed fisheries policy needs to be revised to reflect the current realities. 2) The management of ecosystems in relation to fisheries should be addressed in a policy declaration
POLICY AREA 2B: Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	N/A	N/A
POLICY AREA 3: Sustainable Aquaculture Management	No clear institutional mechanisms for collaboration, information sharing (research findings, policy documents, licenses), or regular discussions on the needs of fisheries or aquaculture for research-driven development plans	1) Clear institutional collaboration, information sharing (Research findings, policy documents or regular discussion on the needs of fisheries or aquaculture.
	2) Poor understanding of fisheries and aquaculture issues and challenges by policy-makers, academics and researchers.	2) There should be a clear understanding of fisheries and aquaculture issues and challenges by policy-makers , academics and researchers

POLICY AREA 4: Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing	1) Inadequate implementation of quality assurance in the production, processing, transportation and importation of fisheries in DRC	1) The removal of trade obstacles, quality control for trade promotion, interregional stakeholder meetings, information exchange, etc. 2) Enhancing national and sub-national governance and institutional frameworks that ensure the social contributions made by Africa's sectors have the greatest effects at the most suitable level will improve conservation and sustainable use of fishery resources. 3) Promoting ethical and fair fish trade and marketing by fully using Africa's fisheries and aquaculture resources through faster trade and marketing
POLICY AREA 5: Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation	1) Lack of mechanisms to hold incumbents accountable for accountability, adherence to project implementation structure and schedule, or achievement of set objectives.	1) There should be a clear mechanism to hold incumbents accountable, adherence to project implementation structure and schedule.
	2) AU member states are not reaping sufficient benefits from the institutional and management level.	2) The AU member states should reap sufficient benefits from the institutional and management
-	3) Instability of fisheries-related policies, plans and initiatives implemented within an institutional framework, resulting in AU member states not taking sufficient advantage of institutional and management weaknesses in fisheries and aquaculture	3) There should be more stable fisheries-related policy plans and initiatives implemented within institutional frameworks.
POLICY AREA 6: Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development 1) The lack of formal institutional frameworks to support the growth of human capital and untapped potential, or to foster the conditions necessary for people to realise their full potential through education, employment, mentoring, and knowledge.		1) There should be adequate institutional frameworks to support the growth of human capital as well as tapped potential to foster the conditions necessary for people to realise their full potential through education and mentoring
-	2) Lack of waste regulations and systems to hold jobholders accountable for compliance with project implementation structures and timetables, and for achieving objectives	2) There should be adequate systems to hold jobholders accountable for compliance with project implementation structures and timetables
-	3) Weakness of institutional arrangements, legal considerations, financial and technical requirements as well as the development of human resources	3) There should be strong institutional arrangements, legal considerations, financial and technical requirements as well as development of human resources
-	4) Low budget allocations for training and the acquisition of appropriate monitoring equipment may explain the size of the challenge	4) There should be proper budget allocations for training and acquisition of appropriate monitoring equipment.
-	5) A low level of understanding about regulatory instruments because operators are not appropriately informed or educated about them	5) There should be education and sensitization to understand the regulatory instruments
POLICY AREA 7: High Seas Fisheries	N/A	N/A

POLICY AREA 8: Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture:	A high level of illegal fishing (Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing)	1) A high level of illegal fishing indicates the need to monitor and enforce legal and regulatory instruments to control Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated fishing. 2) Implementation of IUU regulations in the DRC.

ZIMBABWE

Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Zimbabwe to PFRS, global instruments and best practices as well as the gaps and recommendations are presented in Tables 5 and 6.

Table 5: *Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Zimbabwe to PFRS, global best practices*

Policy Area	Description	% Score
1	Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	56.1
2A	Small Scale Fisheries Development	69.4
2B	Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	N/A
3	Sustainable Aquaculture Management	52.5
4	Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing	54.2
5	Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation	83.3
6	Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development	58.3
7	High Seas Fisheries	58.3
8	Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture	59.9
OVERALL LEVEL ALIGNMENT		61.5

Table 6: *Policy Gaps and Recommendations for Zimbabwe*

POLICY AREA	IDENTIFIED GAPS	PROPOSED ACTION FOR ALIGNMENT
1	1. Less or inadequate functional quarantine measures. The few ones also need upgrading. 2. The development plan does not intend to introduce genetically modified genomes. 3. Challenges with engaging Zambia and other countries to harmonise fisheries activities in Lake Kariba and other shared water bodies. 4. Financial and capacity challenges for the implementing authorities to effectively carry out their expected mandates. 5. There is no coordinated monitoring in the 10,700 dams that fall under RDCs. 6. No advanced co-management in protected areas (resulting in river pollution, siltation, poaching and illegal fishing)	1. The need to expand the quarantine stations (Henderson has facilities that can be used for quarantine measures). 2. The introduction of development plans for genetically modified genomes. 3. To develop plans to implement challenges like holding regular technical committee meetings and lack of sharing of data. 4. Constant monitoring should be encouraged. 5. Protection for areas outside the protected areas must be improved. Also, the need for strengthening the enforcement of the regulations and adherence to regional and international standards that promote environmental sustainability.

2A	1. No co-management structure on Lake Kariba shores at district levels. 2. No concrete measures in Zimbabwe particularly in SADC Monitoring, Control & Surveillance, and Coordination Charter.	1. Further strengthening of co-management at district levels. 2. The establishment of a Centre to monitor fishing activities in shared inland water bodies, by employing vessel monitoring systems. A pilot project will be carried out on Lake Kariba where Zambia and Zimbabwe's Kapenta fishing rigs will be monitored to curb illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing leading to overfishing in both countries.
2B	N/A – Landlocked Area	N/A - Landlocked Area
3	1. Lack of funds to support aquaculture plus high-interest rates on loans. 2. Inadequate funds for research and capacity building 3. "Non-existent" Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association (ZFPA) but it is facing financial and technical capacity constraints which limit its functional capacities (FARDP). 4. High influx of imported cheap fish. 5. Few programmes to increase the competitiveness of locally produced aquaculture products. For instance, the issue of High compliance costs (e.g., taxes and levies) undermines the competitiveness of the fisheries and aquaculture products. 6. No evidence of concrete steps to harmonize coherent policies, institutional and legal frameworks for aquaculture-shared ecosystems. 7. No current policies for accreditation mechanisms for aquaculture management.	1. Funding modalities are being explored, e.g., from the National Building Society (NBS), FISH4ACP, SADC ProFishBlue and World Fish 2. Funding and capacity building through other multiple non-governmental partners such as the Centre for Coordination of Agricultural Research and Development for Southern Africa, which is integrating the fisheries and aquaculture sub-sector should be considered. 3. Creation of the Zimbabwe Fish Producers Association (ZFPA) 4. The FARDP plans measures to protect local aquaculture from imports through import duty. 5. Measures like providing fingerlings to small-scale producers, research in fish feeds and duty-free imports of aquaculture inputs are likely to increase competitiveness. 6. The plan of the Fisheries and Aquaculture Act currently at the stakeholder consultation stage, is premised on the domestication of regional and international policies for the management of shared aquaculture ecosystems. 7. Regulations, protocols and processes are being put in place and being implemented
4	1. Fish trade policies and other policies not in compliance with international standards 2. The informal sector (dominated by small-scale producers) does not conform to sanitary standards and market requirements. 3. The National Fisheries Quality Control Laboratory for standardization of fishery products is not available. 4. Illegal and unregulated fishing/poaching.	1. Extensive work needs to be done to comply with international standards. 2. The need to capacitate the small-scale producers in order to facilitate their inclusion in trade. 3. The need for specialized infrastructure for fisheries and aquaculture.

5	1. Challenges in the implementation of the FARDP that have provisions for entrenched awareness of important international instruments for sustainable fisheries management and frameworks. 2. IUU fishing in the region and areas shared with **neighbouring** countries account for about 45% of the fish produced in Zimbabwe being lost. 3. Challenges in mechanism implementation to address inland fish fraud including seizures of fish in transit such as abalone.	1. The SADC Trade Protocol potentially has the mechanisms. The SADC Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre is playing a critical role in bringing Zimbabwe and Zambia together on Fisheries IUU issues as well as linking with other inland states within the region. 2. i. Issuing deterrent sentences to reduce IUU fishing. Fish farmers want the definition of livestock to include farmed fish so that cases of theft are handled like other livestock in terms of the law. ii. The Centre is also linking with other FRBs regarding information exchange on IUU fishing. The draft FARDP also contains measures to address management issues in Lake Kariba and Zambezi River. The Zambia – Zimbabwe joint fisheries management committee needs to be activated. 3. The conveyance of RECs and RFBs vehicles to promote a well-defined fishery and aquaculture. For example, under the SADC ProFishBlue project, breeding centres are being developed in Zambia, Malawi, and Mozambique. ii. The SADC Trade Protocol, SADC Protocol on shared Water Courses, SADC Fisheries Protocol, and FAO Code of Conduct on Fisheries are in place to prevent and resolve regional conflicts. The SADC Secretariat is available to play a facilitative and coordination role in conflict resolution.
6	1. Lack of implementations of existing provisions enhancing entrenched awareness of important international instruments for sustainable fisheries management and frameworks 2. Challenges in regulating IUU fishing despite policy interventions. 3. Challenges in implementing mechanisms to prevent inland fish fraud.	1. Creating an enabling environment for the implementation of existing provisions 2. Redefining livestock to include fish to persecute accordingly with national laws. 3. Creating enabling environments to enhance implantation of fish fraud.
7	1. No existing policy or provision to ensure high seas resource exploitation	1. Development of policies that facilitate high seas fisheries
8	1. Incoordination of capacity-building programmes and inadequate research output sharing. 2. No specific early warning systems available. 3. Unavailability of mechanisms for disaster-related insurance and compensation. *4.* Non-inclusion of Fisheries and Aquaculture in disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. 5. Lack of policies and programmes to improve marine spatial planning 6. Import quotas and surtaxes for fish products should be implemented. 7. Lack of affordable access to financial resources and investment funds	1. Strengthening and coordination of capacity-building programmes to reduce vulnerability to climate change and aquaculture. 2. Generate specific early warning systems to prevent or mitigate disaster. 3. Establishment of mechanisms to improve disaster-related insurance and compensation to improve climate change resilience. 4. Developing policies that improve Fisheries and Aquaculture in disaster risk management and climate change adaptation. 5. Development and implementation of policies for marine spatial planning. **6.** Establishment and implementation of policies to enhance investment security and market certainty. 7. Improvement of incentives to enhance private sector investment

ZAMBIA

Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Zambia to PFRS, global instruments and best practices as well as the identified gaps and recommendations are presented in Tables 7 and 8.

Table 7: *Level of alignment of fisheries-aquaculture policies and laws of Zambia to PFRS, global best practices*

Policy Area	Description	% Score
1	Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use	75.0
2A	Small Scale Fisheries Development	60.0
2B	Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS	N/A
3	Sustainable Aquaculture Management	50.0
4	Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing	60.0
5	Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation	66.5
6	Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development	50.0
7	High Seas Fisheries	N/A
8	Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture	58.0
OVERALL LEVEL ALIGNMENT		60.0

Table 8: *Policy Gaps and Recommendations of Zambia*

Policy Area	Identified Gaps	Proposed action for alignment
1	1. Limited budget allocation and funding to unlock the potential 2. No adequate hatcheries for fish seed production 3. Challenges in the implementation of projects by state actors due to non-involvement of non-state actors in monitoring and evaluation 4. Calendar of production by isolated fish producers find markets a challenge 5. Difficulty in engaging the private sector in conservation-related research	1. Increase investment and funding opportunities by creating an enabling environment to attract private investor 2. Provide incentives to the private sector to establish hatcheries and nurseries to improve fish seed production 3. There is a need to involve non-state actors in monitoring and evaluation 4. Establish scheduled bulking cold chains for sales of calendared supply of fresh fish 5. Private sector should be engaged in conservation-related research
2	1. The challenges associated with the implementation of some programmes that need modern resources to be effective and capacity building 2. There has been no success in the implementation of some state-driven projects without the involvement of the private sector, which led to the non-establishment of Aquaculture parks with service centres in high potential Aquaculture Zones 3. The systems appear very good in design but on the ground, there is no clear policy direction being followed, the input suppliers are limited and markets have no proper calendar to attract private sector supply of inputs regularly 4. The NAIP is biased towards crop Agriculture and to some extent Livestock but Fisheries and Aquaculture are mentioned but without allocation of tangible resources 5. Lack of clear policy direction in the promotion of fish markets and implementation modalities of regional and intra-regional access materializes	1. Capacity building in transformative small-scale fisheries management innovations and implementation 2. The establishment of out-grower schemes in aquaculture parks will lead to unlocking the potential 3. Establish out-grower-schemes with centres of excellence to handle both quality input supply, advisory services and bulking centres for sales of products along the entire value chain 4. There is need to transform the old NAIP to accommodate Fisheries and Aquaculture adequately 5. Make clear policy direction in the promotion of fish markets and implementation modalities of regional and intra-regional access

3	1. There are no clear incentives to attract PPP arrangements with the private sector 2. The lack of involvement of the non-state actors in the implementation and monitoring of government-sponsored projects. The need for accountability on deliverables 3. Lending institutions and insurance not conversant with Fisheries and aquaculture value chain and associated risk management required 4. Lack of technical competencies on the Zambia Compulsory Standards (ZCS) in Aquaculture products 5. The skill training institutes still use old syllabi, infrastructure and equipment not ideal for modern-day skill requirements	1. Provision of enabling environment by Government and Incentives to attract private investment in PPP 2. Create room for the involvement of non-state actors in government infrastructure related projects to ensure they deliver and are monitored by an independent organ 3. Capacity building of financial and insurance institutions in Fish value chains 4. There is a need for capacity building and equipping of the staff at both the Fisheries department and those belonging to ZCS to implement standards, labelling and certification criteria 5. Complete rebranding of the skills training institutes and capacity build the staff to be responsive to the current skills requirements
4	1. Low compliance to agreed protocols despite their conformity 2. Inadequate observance of sanitary standards and market requirements 3. There is currently inadequate or dilapidated infrastructure and hence difficult to attain prudent macroeconomic management 4. The construction works by government through the project called ZAEDP is either slowed down or has stalled due to financial limitations 5. Underdeveloped pricing conditions for value addition across value chain segments	1. Strengthen monitoring and enforcement of compliance by allocating adequate resources for implementation 2. Need setting up deliberate enforcing unit of sanitary standards 3. Rehabilitation and upgrading of infrastructure with a prudent macroeconomic management system put in place 4. Government need to involve the private sector in the implementation of such projects to monitor the implementation 5. Capacity building is required for both public and private sector players through technical aid projects in the value addition across value chain segments
5	1. Low compliance with implementation of various provisions 2. Low compliancy to implementation of various measures in place to address IUU fishing 3. Lack of adequate research on which to base the clear policy direction and measures 4. There are synergies between ZRA and SADC but no funding for meetings 5. Low level of implementation of the strategies to sustain lake basins, combat IUU, and implement Aquaculture following protocols set	1. Ensure the sustainable use of transboundary water resources by facilitating cooperation for the protection and management of transboundary surface waters and ground waters. 2. Strengthening fisheries governance and legal frameworks to eliminate IUU fishing 3. Publish and disseminate research findings on the impact of invasives in which crayfish is included but no specific studies are mentioned in policy documents 4. There must be a deliberate mechanism to fundraise for cooperation meetings among these bodies or alternatively AU IBAR through the African Union can implement these collaboration meetings 5. To ensure the protection of biodiversity and the sustainable management of the natural resources in the Lake Tanganyika Basin.

6	1. Inadequate research competencies 2. Inadequate competencies for Aquaculture to enhance fisheries or reduce fishing pressure 3. Lack of a clear professional institution to accredit the fish hatcheries, nurseries, feed and service providers to be professionals 4. Inadequate technical competence capacity and inadequate funding to implement these strategies	1. Sharing of research results and training in a collaborative manner 2. Increase competencies in genetic improvement competencies on own local species 3. Need a professionally specialized Aquaculture accreditation institution to prevent misinformation to potential Aquaculture investors 4. Capacity built the implementors with appropriate technical skills and increase budgetary allocation to adequate levels
7	1. The alarming rate of illegal unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing 2. Lack of livelihoods for coastal communities through sustainable small-scale fisheries; 3. Lack of policy no strategies for Sea coast benefits 4. Focus on intergovernmental management of Aquaculture, IUU, trade and shared fisheries resources	1. Curb illegal unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, through a regional plan of action 2. Support livelihoods for coastal communities through sustainable small-scale fisheries 3. There is no need for programmes for Zambia which has no Sea Coast 4. Increase participation for Zambia in the blue economy regional action plan for Aquaculture
8	1. Lack of awareness of the climate smart innovations for Aquaculture and Fisheries 2. Non-participation of vulnerable in Climate change issues 3. Lack of early warning system 4. No capacity by extension staff in AAH Surveillance	1. Conduct awareness and sensitization campaigns on climate-smart aquaculture and sustainable Fisheries 2. Enhance participation of vulnerable but viable groups (youths and women and persons with disabilities) 3. Establishment of early warning system for Aquatic Animal Health system for (TILV & EUS) 4. Strengthen the capacity of extension workers AAH Surveillance

4. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Four country-level reports namely; Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar were developed by in-country consultants in consultation with relevant stakeholders in the fisheries and aquaculture sectors in the various countries. The assignment entailed the review of various national policies, strategies and regulatory frameworks for coherence with the PFRS and global best practices. The alignment scores for Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar were 60.0 %, 63.5%, 61.5% and 76.8 %, respectively, which are indicative of wide gaps to address. Gaps were identified for all policy areas, with Policy Area 2B (Identification, Development, and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries) receiving the least attention in policy development for coastal countries. For each gap, actions are proposed to ensure the alignment of fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies of Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar with the PFRS and global best practices.

It is recommended that AU-IBAR encourages the remaining 11 countries that are yet to submit their assessment reports on their national fisheries and aquaculture laws and policies to do so using the PFRS. Moreover, AU-IBAR should work with Zambia, DR Congo, Zimbabwe and Madagascar to ensure their proposed actions are incorporated into their national fisheries and aquaculture policies to ensure coherence with the PFRS.

5. REFERENCES

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APPENDIXES

Appendix 1: Adapted Framework

FRAMEWORK TO AID IN THE REVIEW OF (name of country) FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE POLICIES AND LAWS USING THE PFRS, REGIONAL INSTRUMENTS AND GLOBAL BEST PRACTICES AS BENCHMARKS

Documents Used in the development of the Framework:

1. A Guide For The Implementation Of The Policy Framework And Reform Strategy For Fisheries And Aquaculture In Africa

Documents Perused:

1.
2.

Overall Level of Alignment:

Computed Alignment of Policy Areas:

1. POLICY AREA 1: Conservation and Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture Resource Use: -
2. POLICY AREA 2A: Small Scale Fisheries Development: -
3. POLICY AREA 2B: Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove-based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS:-
4. POLICY AREA 3: Sustainable Aquaculture Management:-
5. POLICY AREA 4: Responsible and Equitable Fish Trade and Marketing:-
6. POLICY AREA 5: Regional and Sub-Regional Cooperation: -
7. POLICY AREA 6: Awareness Enhancing and Human Capacity Development: -
8. POLICY AREA 7: High Seas Fisheries: -
9. POLICY AREA 8: Cross Cutting Issues in African Fisheries and Aquaculture: -

Alignment Scoring:

Note: *Alignment Scoring, a 'Yes' is given unit (1) score, 'In part' is assigned 0.5 and 'No' is given zero (0). Percent averages are computed for the various policy outcomes, policy areas, as well as the entire framework.*

POLICY AREA 1: CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE RESOURCE USE						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		IN PART	NO			
Outcome 1: Policies, frameworks and tools in place to sustainably increase national benefits from fisheries and aquaculture					%	
1	Fisheries and aquaculture are mainstreamed into national development a. Member States should increase allocation of national budgets to fisheries and aquaculture b. The aquaculture development programme should focus on areas where market-led aquaculture investments and developments are underway and accelerated rates of aquaculture production are being achieved, or great potentials exist? c. The state should focus on strengthening the private and public sectors' capacity to develop comprehensive and realistic strategic plans and their implementation in the short to medium term? d. The State must encourage the development, expansion or introduction of new and proven production techniques At regional level: a. harmonize policy, institutional, legal, regulatory, and monitoring regimes to govern aquaculture operations that occur in waters that go beyond national jurisdiction b. endorse and apply standards and norms on aquatic animal health: fish disease, safety, quality and traceability c. implement quarantine measures for the introduction of exotic and genetically modified genomes d. elaborate mechanisms to support and harmonise the activities of regional aquaculture and capture fisheries bodies					
2	Globally accepted best practices integrated into national policy frameworks and tools 1. Does the policy promote globally accepted best practices and pursuing excellence in fisheries science and integrated evaluations? 2. Does it promote effective management, improved product processing, utilization and technology transfer?					
3	Are policy and management decisions made based on the existence of reliable data and information management systems?					

4	Adoption of participatory fisheries management mechanisms/approaches					
Outcome 2: Effective and sustainable national and regional Monitoring, Control and Surveillance systems in place to ensure that sustainable benefits are realized					%	
1	Are there aspects of MCS in place?					
2	Are there mechanisms in place for efficient and effective regional cooperation on fisheries MCS?					
Outcome 3: Healthy ecosystems to support sustainable fisheries and aquaculture					%	
1	Are Scientific research (natural, social, economic and technological) that support fisheries management and aquaculture development in place?					
2	(a) Are there tools and programmes in place to protect fishery resources and their habitats? (b) Are there measures to adhere to national, regional and international pollution instruments, standards and practices, especially regarding chemical products and plastics?					

POLICY AREA 2A: SMALL SCALE FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		IN PART	NO			
Outcome 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	Are there mechanisms and strategies that highlight the economic and social importance of small-scale fisheries development?					
2	Are there mechanisms and strategies to unlock and unleash potentials of the subsector to generate socio-economic benefits?					
3	Is there a system to facilitate organized value chain development in order to effectively derive the benefits from small-scale fisheries?					
4	Are small Scale Fisheries prioritized in National Agricultural Investment Plans (NAIP), Poverty alleviation documents and National strategy documents, etc.?					
Outcome 2: Bilateral and regional cooperation for effective management of shared fishery resources and ecosystems is strengthened					%	
1	Are there provisions for the adoption and implementation of Regional and intra-regional minimum terms and conditions for access?					
2	Are there mechanisms in place for efficient and effective regional cooperation on fisheries management, including MCS, migratory and shared stocks?					

Outcome 3: Fishers are organized to foster good fisheries governance, sustainable development and responsible use of natural resources					%	
1	Are the international Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries appropriately applied?					
2	Are provisions made for the capacity of fisheries stakeholders and institutions for participatory management of the fisheries to be developed and nurtured?					

POLICY AREA 2B: Identification, Development and Promotion of Estuarine and Mangrove - based Shellfisheries (EMS) among the AU-MS						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		IN PART	NO			
OUTCOME 1: Recognition of EMS among AU-MS					%	
1	Are there provisions to account for EMS among AU-MS?					
2	Do AU-MS assign budget allocations to the conservation and development of EMS?					
OUTCOME 2: Management of EMS among AU-MS					%	
1	Are the estuarine and mangrove-based shellfisheries co-managed?					
2	Are catch data in EMS recorded regularly to inform management strategies?					
OUTCOME 3: Promotion of EMS among AU-MS					%	
1	Are there strategies to promote EMS on the local and international markets?					

POLICY AREA 3: SUSTAINABLE AQUACULTURE MANAGEMENT						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		IN PART	NO			
Outcome 1: Improved market-led aquaculture investments					%	
1	Are market campaigns included for aquaculture products (awareness creation, PPPPs – Price, Place, Promotion and Product)?					
2	Aquaculture infrastructure- Are there measures for the state to provide basic infrastructure for aquaculture development?					
3	Financing/investment strategy - Are there strategies for the promotion of financial instruments such as guarantee funds, micro-credit institutions?					
4	Quality assurance and standards - Are there provisions for aquaculture product labelling and traceability through certification programmes?					
5	Skills development plan - Are there provisions in the policy for aquaculture development plan and strategies to appropriately address competencies and skills development?					

6	Research and Extension Services - Are there provisions of adequate funding for research to enhance technology development and innovation?					
7	Fish farmers associations or cooperatives- Is there the existence of an institutional framework to allow Fish farmers associations and cooperatives to flourish?					
8	Enabling environment – Is there provision of policy and institutional framework as well as one stop shop to facilitate registrations and investments by the private sectors?					
9	Growth in trade of locally produced aquaculture products- Are there measures for the protection of local aquaculture products from imported products? Are there programmes in place to increase competitiveness of locally produced aquaculture products?					
Outcome 2: Improved regional cooperation in shared ecosystems					%	
1	Common strategies on management and research on transboundary Resources - Are there provisions to harmonize coherent policies, institutional and legal frameworks for aquaculture shared ecosystems?					
2	Are the policies consistent with best ecosystems management approaches (e.g. FAO, EAF, EAA, CCRF)?					
3	Conformity with accreditation mechanisms- Are the Best Management Practices (BMPs) required for certification and standardization for sustainable aquaculture practices included in the policies?					

POLICY AREA 4: RESPONSIBLE AND EQUITABLE FISH TRADE AND MARKETING						
Criteria for Alignment YES IN PART		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		NO				
Outcome 1: Improved intra and inter regional trade					%	
1	Is there compliance with agreed regional trade protocols and regulations?					
2	Is it coherent with fish trade policies and other policies?					
3	Is it Compliant with sanitary standards and market requirements?					
Outcome 2: Increased competitiveness for African fish and fishery products					%	

1	Economically efficient fisheries sector - Are fisheries sustainably managed and supported by appropriate infrastructure and prudent macroeconomic management?					
2	Standards and supportive technology - Is infrastructure, such as the National fisheries quality control laboratory for standardization of fishery products in place? Does it conform to international guidelines for certification of fishery products?					
3	Competitiveness through increasing value chain efficiencies - Are there appropriate pricing conditions for value addition across value chain segments?					
4	Coherence of trade policies (harmonization) - Are national trade policies coherent and harmonized at sub regional or regional levels?					
5	Consumer Information - Is symmetric information ensured between buyers and sellers?					

POLICY AREA 5: REGIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL COOPERATION					
Criteria for Alignment YES IN PART	Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
	NO				
Outcome 1: International fisheries issues at regional levels are coherent and harmonized				%	

1	Are there provisions for entrenched awareness of important international instruments for sustainable fisheries management and frameworks that identify the need for their domestication in realizing sustainable fisheries management?					
2	Are there measures in place to address Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing?					
3	Are there mechanisms to address seafood fraud?					
Outcome 2: RECs and RFBs are positive forces for fisheries management within the framework of regional economic and political integration agenda						
1	Are there mechanisms for linkages between RECs and RFBs?					
2	Are RECs and RFBs vehicles to promote a well-defined fishery and aquaculture?					
3	Are there strategies and mechanisms in place for preventing and resolving regional conflicts?					

POLICY AREA 6: AWARENESS ENHANCING AND HUMAN CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:				Comment and Reference
		In part	No	Level of alignment (%)		
Outcome 1: Enhanced sectoral competencies and proficiencies					%	
1	Continuous professional education, mentorship and training - Are there provisions to facilitate continuous awareness and enabling environment to seize and utilize opportunities for sectoral development					
2	Accreditation of practitioners and institutions - Are there provisions for relevant stakeholders/institutions to be accredited to maintain relevance?					
3	Facilitate centres of excellence of fisheries and aquaculture - Provision in the national and regional policies that ensures continual establishment, development and maintenance of minimum operating standards					
Outcome 2: Improved evidence-based decision making					%	
1	Is Information based policy decision making evident in the policy?					
2	What provisions exist to facilitate Information sharing between policy makers and policy consumers?					
3	Responsive to real community needs - What strategies exist to improve enabling conditions in fish producing communities to enhance competence?					

POLICY AREA 7: HIGH SEAS FISHERIES						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of alignment(%)	Comment and Reference
		In part	NO			
Outcome 1: Greater African Voice in high seas fisheries					%	
1	Is there an avenue for effective participation of the MS in international deliberations, meetings, etc. and increased access to high seas fisheries? Have provisions been made for the MS to become a member or cooperating party of appropriate RFMOs? Are there modalities/provisions for the country to ratify United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the FAO Port States Measures Agreement?					
2	Are there mechanisms for strengthening the alignment of donor and partner efforts with PFRS?					
3	Are there provisions for strengthening of Alignment to and co-ordination of development partners' efforts with the PFRS?					
Outcome 2: Increased participation and benefits for MS in high seas fisheries					%	
1	Increased access to high seas fisheries -Is there a provision made in the policy that ensures high seas resource exploitation by MS?					
2	Accrued benefits to concerned MS increased - Are there programmes and strategies proposed to increase investment for economic value addition (such as harbour)					
Outcome 3: Active participation of MS in RFMOs processes and agenda					%	
1	Cooperation for high sea fisheries management - What provisions are there to facilitate management decisions for active roles in intergovernmental cooperation? Are there modalities guiding the participation in newly established partnerships?		X			

POLICY AREA 8: CROSS CUTTING ISSUES IN AFRICAN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE						
A. Strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerabilities to climate change in African fisheries and aquaculture						
Criteria for Alignment YES		Check X to Indicate if:			Level of Alignment (%)	Comment and Reference
		IN PART	NO			
OUTCOME 1: Adaptive capacity and resilience at the local level built					%	
1	Capacity building programme on climate smart fisheries - Is there promotion of capacity building in the sector on climate change?					

2	Communication systems- Are there systems on participatory Climate Change (CC) and Disaster Risk (DR) vulnerability assessment and aquaculture development?					
3	Facilitate the creation of alternative livelihoods - Are there available opportunities for at least temporary shifting to alternative occupation in the event of shocks?					
4	Early warning system in place as a focus for disaster - Are there provisions for early warning mechanisms at national level?					
5	Formulating mechanisms for disaster-related insurance and compensation					
OUTCOME 2: Policy coherence and coordination at the national and regional levels improved					%	
1	Do the Disaster risk management (DRM) and climate change Adaptation (CCA) policies include fisheries and aquaculture?					
2	Do the Fisheries and aquaculture policies include DRM and CCA?					
3	Are there policies for marine spatial planning?					
B. Gender and Youth						
OUTCOME 1: Increased access to resources					%	
1	Do policies and interventions aim at attracting women and youth? Do they address key barriers and constraints to entry and access to land and water?					
2	Security of investment and access rights and ownership - Does the policy have provisions for the system to ensure security of investments and market certainty?					

C. Private Sector Investments and Financing Mechanisms for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa						
OUTCOME 1: Improved enterprise performance within the fisheries and aquaculture sector					%	
1	~~World Bank ease of doing business index - Does the policy comply with WB for creating efficient and inclusive practices/values for enterprise and business?~~	√				
2	Global competitiveness report of World Economic Forum - Does the policy Conform with the Global Competitiveness Report of World Economic Forum (WEF)?		√			
3	World Bank Fisheries Performance indicators - Does it align with the WB Fishery Performance Indicators (FPIs)?		√			
4	Awareness of diversity of business structures - Are there provisions for awareness creation that enable practitioners and enterprise owners?			√		
OUTCOME 2: Improved private sector governance					%	
1	Consistency with industry best practices - Are the policies consistent with efficient structures that enable effective and well-documented best practices?	√				



African Union
Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (AU-IBAR)
Kenindia Business Park
Museum Hill, Westlands Road
P.O. Box 30786
00100, Nairobi, KENYA
Telephone: +254 (20) 3674 000 / 201
Fax: +254 (20) 3674 341 / 342
Website: www.au.ibar.org
Email address: ibar.office@au-ibar.org