Etre une Institution de Référence et d’Innovation
Projet « Vers des Politiques Régionales pour une Pêche Durable des Petits Pélagiques en Afrique Nord-Ouest »

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Importance of small pelagics

- Total landings of small pelagics; all fleets in 2010 were estimated at 2.6 million tons (FAO 2011)
- Small pelagics are important source for;
  - Animal protein for coastal communities (Per capita consumption: Senegal 30%, Gambia 27%);
  - Raw material for canned and fishmeal and oil industries (Mauritania and Morocco)
  - Elements of commerce within and outside; Cameroon, Congo, Côte d’Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, Nigeria, Togo, Benin, DRC and Mali, etc.;
  - Direct and indirect employment for heavily populated coastal areas; Several socio-professions are associated with fishing (offloading, boat building, marketing, processing, distribution, etc.)
  - Income to government budgets (e.g. Mauritania; 40 per cent to national income and 25 per cent to the national budget, and;
  - As a food security safety net.
Importance of small pelagics

- Culturally and security wise, SP are equally very important for;
  - Bringing diverse people and professions together
  - Forging friendships and even marriages
  - Etc.
Challenges

• Fishing crafts and gears have become bigger and more efficient;
• Increase in fishing effort as a result of the development of fishmeal and oil industries in the sub-region;
• New fishing licenses are being allocated to distance fishing vessels;
• Increase in fishing effort due to the introduction of industrial trawlers and the artisanal fishing operations;
• Negotiation between member countries and the foreign countries on the renewal of fisheries agreement that requires an estimate of the “surplus” of sardinella available for foreign fleets;
Sustenance of SP Fisheries

- Fishing is a tradition in the region; SP fisheries contribute significantly to achievement of high level national objectives (values) such as **food security, income generation, employment creation**, etc. for their population;

- SRFC, an intergovernmental organization created by a Convention on 29th March 1985 was mandated:
  - to improve cooperation and to coordinate harmonization of Member States policies with regards to conservation and exploitation of the sub-region’s fisheries resources.

- Realizing the looming threat to sustainable SP fisheries, the SRFC sought and got funding for the project titled **Towards regional policies for sustainable fisheries for small pelagics in Northwest Africa**.
Project Objectives

• **Overall Objective:** To achieve sustainable management of the small pelagics resource in North West Africa

• The project aims to support three SRFC member states; The Gambia, Mauritania and Senegal and the Kingdom of Morocco to:
  – Create mechanisms for consultation between the administration, research and fisheries professional at national and regional level;
  – Enhance the capacities of professionals, especially the leaders of fisheries organizations for sustainable management of the small pelagics resources;
  – Improved knowledge on the resources and fisheries
Expected Results

• Consultative frameworks between fisheries administrations, research and fisheries professional organizations are operational in the four countries and at sub-regional level;

• Capacities of stakeholders, especially that of representatives of artisanal fisheries professional organizations, are enhanced with regards to better participation in the elaboration of management plans;

• Knowledge on small pelagic stocks, fisheries and value chain is improved and accessible to all concerned stakeholders;

• Management and legal frameworks exist for sustainable small pelagics fisheries
Achievements

• Saly, 2011 workshop to reorient the project activities (ACP Fish II)
• Establishment of National Consultative Committees for sustainable small pelagics fisheries (Arête):
  – Gambia (28 June, 2011);
  – In Mauritania (12 May, 2012), and;
  – In Senegal (23 November, 2011).
  – Same framework existed in Morocco,
• A resolution to establish a regional consultative committee for SP by Conference of Ministers in December, 2012;
• Studies on knowledge and knowledge gaps (end of 2011 to early 2012), www.spcsrp.org
• Workshop on knowledge gaps on sardinella stocks and fisheries (June, 2012), see website and publication
• Regional Fisheries Policy:- Consolidation and validation workshop (Nouakchott from 12 – 14 February, 2013 (SRFC/FAO/CCLME)
  – 10 – 15 page Strategic Directions for promoting sustainable exploitation and cooperative management of small pelagics
  – Strategic Directions was presented at the 24th extraordinary session of the Coordinating Committee of the SRFC and the 14th Extraordinary session of the Conference of Ministers of the SRFC (25 – 28 March, 2013)
  – The Same document was again presented at a technical workshop (FAO/CCLME/EAF-Nansen/SRFC) May, 2013
• Training needs assessment for the Pos and NCC members
Conclusion

• Concerted managed of Small pelagics:
  – Guarantees achievement of high level objectives (values) of member states
  – food, income, poverty reduction, employment, resources and ecosystem protection

• The success of the framework for concerted conservation and management of the small pelagic resources is dependent on the collective interest and political will of states utilizing the resources

• Adoption and implementation of Strategic Directions for promoting sustainable exploitation and cooperative management of small pelagics off Northwest Africa
SMALL PELAGICS FOR WEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Thank you for your ATTENTION
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