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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Background information

- Three SRFC member states; The Gambia, Mauritania and Senegal and the Kingdom of Morocco
- Fishing is a tradition; a social and economic activity in the sub-region.
- Fishing industries (Industrial & Artisanal) target small pelagics
- They are renewable natural resources but can be subject to overexploitation to depletion
Status of Stocks

• Total Sub-region SP catches:
  – 1.91 million tonnes in 2006
  – 2.64 million tonnes in 2010 ~ 38 % increase
  – 699 000 tonnes are Sardinella spp (Mor- 52 000, Mau- 355 000, Sen- 284 000 & Gam- 8000)

• **Status of SP Stocks**
  – The general conclusions on the status of the small pelagics stocks in the sub-region in 2010 is that all the stocks are fully or over-exploited with the exception of Sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*) in Zone C, Morocco (FAO, 2010)
Status of stocks

- The fact that the sardinella species are fully or overfished
  - Increase in fishing effort is observed in Mauritania as a result of the development of fishmeal and oil industries;
  - New fishing licenses allocated to Chinese vessels;
  - Increase in fishing effort in Senegal due to the introduction of industrial trawlers;
  - Negotiation between member countries and the foreign countries on the renewal of fisheries agreement that requires an estimate of the “surplus” of sardinellas available for foreign fleets;
Small Pelagics Project

• DO NOTHING?
  – Countries risk not attaining high level national objectives (values): **food, income, poverty reduction, employment, resources and ecosystem protection**

• SRFC sought obtained funding for a regional project
  – «Towards Regional Policies for Sustainable Fisheries for Small Pelagics in Northwest Africa» co-financed by the DGIS of the Nederland and the French AFD
**Overall Project Objective**

To achieve sustainable management of the small pelagics resources in North West Africa

**Specific Objectives**

- To facilitate the harmonization of fisheries policies in four countries (Morocco, Mauritania, The Gambia and Senegal) by establishing consultation mechanisms;
- To improve the contribution of fishery professionals to the design of fisheries policies by the strengthening of their capacities.
- To create a consultation mechanism at the sub-regional level to promote sustainable management.
2008 Symposium: Way forward

• Develop stable and robust research and management approaches;
• Develop institutional/administrative arrangements to implement the management decisions, including a multidisciplinary Working Group.
Expected Results

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

• 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;

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

• A management plan for at least one priority management unit (sardinella) is elaborated.
Work Program

• Presentations of National Reports
  – Review of the Fisheries Sector (The Gambia, Mauritania, Senegal and Morocco)
  – Studies on the Biology, Socioeconomics and Management/Governance of small pelagics stocks and fisheries

• Why the studies?
  – Improve knowledge on the small pelagics
  – Identify knowledge gaps that impede the achievement of high level objectives (values) **food, income, poverty reduction, employment, resources and ecosystem protection**
Group Work

• Take notes during national presentations
• Break into three groups:
  – Biology, Ecology & Environment
  – Socioeconomic
  – Management/Governance
Group Work

• Tasks
  – Review the gaps identified in national studies, improve them, etc.
  – Identify their impact on resources and fisheries
  – Prioritize gaps base on the chance (RISK) that they will affect the achievement of the high level objectives (values)
  – Propose mitigating activities with operational objectives
## RISK ANALYSIS

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<tr>
<td>Likely</td>
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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 mechanisms for concerted conservation and management of the small pelagic resources is dependent on the collective interest and political will of states utilizing the resources.
SMALL PELAGICS FOR WEALTH AND WELL-BEING
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