

Introduction: The SmartFish Programme in action

Smart
Fiche
INTRO

SMARTFISH BY NUMBERS

In its three years of existence, from 2011 to 2014, the SmartFish Programme has impacted a lot of people and has been successful throughout the Programme region.

150

Workshops and Trainings organized by SmartFish,

72%

of them were regional

140

Field activities undertaken by SmartFish

21 millions euros

Available to SmartFish for sustainable fisheries's outcomes

THE SMART FICHES INITIATIVE

The Smart FICHES in the present folder aim at highlighting some of the key achievements, impacts, lessons learnt and recommendations of the SmartFish Programme. The material is based on the work done by our experts and consultants in the field. Their final reports, which contain additional information, can be downloaded from our website: <http://www.smartfish-coi.org/>

The purpose of the FICHES is to disseminate SmartFish's experience on how various activities have contributed to a better recognition of the role of fisheries at national and regional level, how these actions could continue in the future (during the second phase but also after SmartFish) and how SmartFish succeeded to actually make a difference.

SOME KEY ACHIEVEMENTS OF SMARTFISH

SmartFish has had great successes during its first phase and you will learn about them in this folder, some of them include:



Octopus drying © Yann Yvergniaux St Luce Spiny Lobster © Azafady

- the seasonal octopus closure in Rodrigues (Mauritius) – Fiche 8
- the implementation of fisheries management planning (spiny lobster, octopus, sea cucumber, kapenta) – Fiches 1, 8, 13
- the management of shared lakes – Fiche 5
- the organization of joint patrols and Vessel Monitoring System in the South West Indian Ocean
- the development of Monitoring Control and Surveillance capacities and operational training on selected large East African Lakes
- a regional cooperation for the implementation of Port State Measures
- the programme building of market information systems and collection of data on post-harvest loss assessment through the use of mobile technologies

- the improvement of fish business thanks to the "Clean Fish Better Life" campaign and activities such as the well-established Trade Event – Fiches 16, 18, 19
- the improvement of value chain performances in mud crab (Madagascar) and in dagaa (Tanzania) – Fiche 3



The mud crab (Madagascar) © Toky Rasoloarimanana

THE SMARTFISH PROGRAMME

SmartFish is a regional fisheries Programme financed by the European Union under the 10th European Development Fund, with a total financial contribution of 21 million euros for the first of the two implementation phases. The programme is managed by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC) and co-implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), in collaboration with the Common Market for East and Southern Africa (COMESA), the East Africa Community (EAC) and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD).



Other regional institutions involved include the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and regional fisheries management organizations, such as the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC), the Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC), the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), and the Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA).



Co-implemented by
Food and Agriculture Organization
of the United Nations

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Agrotec



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The Programme aims at contributing to an increased level of social, economic and environmental development and deeper regional integration through improved capacities for the sustainable exploitation of fisheries resources.



SmartFish operates in twenty countries throughout the Eastern and Southern Africa – Indian Ocean region (ESA-IO): Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. Although they don't benefit from 10th EDF ESA-IO funds, Mozambique and South Africa are involved as members of SADC and through the Inter-Regional Coordination Committee (IRCC) framework. Réunion Island (France) also participates in the Programme as a member of the IOC; although not as a financial beneficiary.

The first phase of the Programme has been implemented over a period of 37 months (March 2011-March 2014). The second phase will be implemented over a period of 42 months with an additional budget of 16 millions euros.

BACKGROUND OF THE SMARTFISH PROGRAMME

Fisheries are one of the most significant renewable resources that ESA-IO countries have for food security, livelihoods and economic growth based on sustainable resource management plans and there is significant potential for value-added production. As populations in these countries continue to grow, the future benefits that these resources can provide will require balancing the increasing demands on fisheries, with the capacity of oceanic, coastal and freshwater fish stocks to sustain those harvests.



Joint patrols and Vessel Monitoring System © Marcel Kroese, SmartFish

During the European Partnership Agreement negotiation in 2007-2008, the EU agreed to support the ESA-IO region in improving regional capacities for fisheries development and management. In 2009 the Council of Ministers of the Indian Ocean Commission endorsed a Fisheries Strategy to ensure the long term sustainable development of the fishing sector. At the same time the Ministerial Councils of SADC, EAC and the ESA-IO region endorsed specific fisheries chapters in their Interim Economic Partnership Agreements.

MAIN COMPONENTS OF SMARTFISH

The ultimate beneficiaries of the Programme are the fishermen, coastal communities and wider populations of the ACP States of the ESA-IO region covered by the 10th EDF Regional Indicative Program. Diverse stakeholder groups drawn specific direct and indirect benefits from the SmartFish Programme.

The Programme aims at achieving five main results:

Result 1: An Action Plan is prepared for fisheries management and development for the ESA-IO region

Result 2: A governance framework for sustainable regional marine fisheries management and development is initiated

Result 3: An effective MCS for transboundary fisheries resources in the ESA-IO region is developed

Result 4: A regional trade strategy is produced to ensure access of fish and fisheries product to domestic, regional and export markets

Result 5: An action plan for fish and fish products, food security, and nutrition is developed and fisheries and aquaculture are integrated within overall food security strategies



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