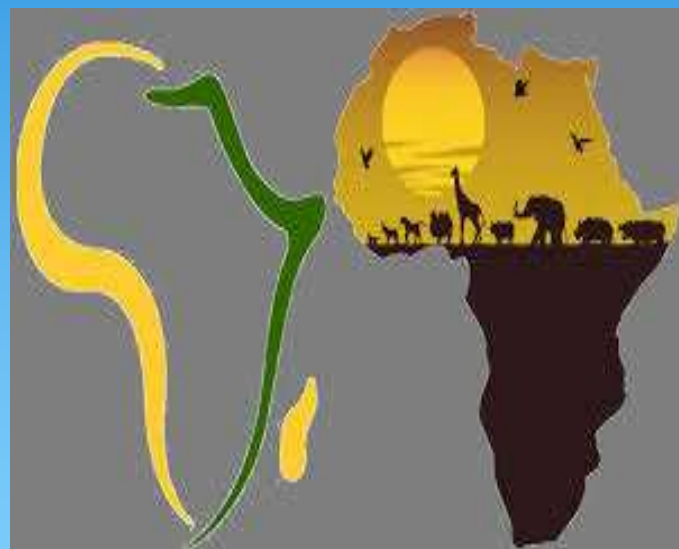




The capacity building of journalists and communicators members of MOSFA.

Strengthening Africa's voice in international fisheries bodies



Abdennaji LAAMRICH
Head of Cooperation and Information Systems Department
ATLAFCO Secretariat

Rabat 04 November 2020

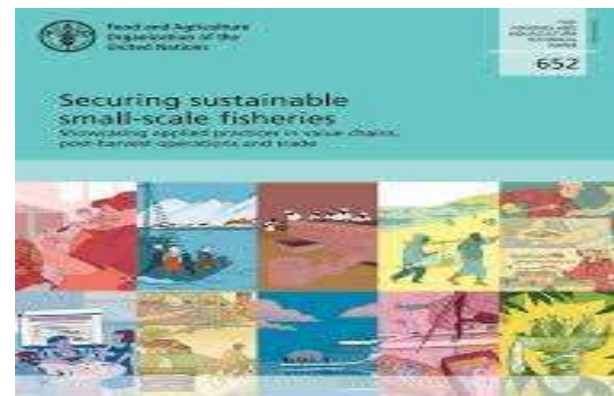
Harnessing today without compromising tomorrow ...



African Fisheries and Sustainable Development



- ❑ Despite the large economic and social benefits fisheries can offer to address Africa's development needs, **investment in African fisheries and aquaculture has been remarkably low**
- ❑ Communities living from maritime fisheries show **the same attachment to the sea and face the same challenges**
- ❑ However, if fisheries and aquaculture are to meet the challenges of technological change, ***institutional reforms and resource mobilization needed in support of the sector's development to achieve sustainable development***
- ❑ The achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals **require all hands on deck**
- ❑ African Voice should be advocated in all different levels



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REGISTER YOUR INITIATIVE IN SUPPORT OF THE
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Partnerships for sustainable development are multistakeholder initiatives voluntarily undertaken by:

- Government
- Intergovernmental organizations
- Major groups and other stakeholders, which efforts are contributing to the implementation of *intergovernmentally agreed development goals and commitments*





Consolidation of the African Voice in fisheries



- ❑ In conformity with guidelines of the Framework of the Policy and Strategy for the Reform of Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa, the strengthening and consolidation of the African Voice in fisheries governance and management were selected as the fourth strategic objective of the action of ATLAFCO:
 - ❑ Promoting the harmonization and coherence of fisheries policies
 - ❑ Harmonization of positions in international bodies
 - ❑ Strengthening integration and regional cooperation



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Tuna Fisheries Transparency Initiative (TTI) in ATLAFCO zone

Report of the Workshop No. 2

«The Partnership Agreements for Sustainable Fishing (SFPAs) and the good governance of the fisheries in ATLAFCO area»

El Jadida, Morocco
2-3 June 2016





Strengthen the participation of MS in the decision-making process



- ❑ The ATLAFCO has worked to encourage its Member States to:
 - ❑ Adhere to appropriate Regional Fisheries Management Organizations (RFMOs)
 - ❑ Ratify the FAO Agreement on Port State Measures
 - ❑ Prepare, coordinate and harmonize their positions on key issues prior to RFMO meetings
 - ❑ Participate in the "Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction" program (ABNJ), to promote efficient and sustainable management of fisheries resources and biodiversity conservation in areas beyond national jurisdiction. (ABNJ).





Coordination of positions at the level of international fisheries bodies



- ❑ It is essential that MS have an active presence and speak with one voice in international forums, such as
 - ❑ **ICCAT** (International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas),
 - ❑ **CITES** (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora)
 - ❑ **IWC**(International Whaling Commission)
 - ❑ **FAO**(Food and Agriculture Organization)
- ❑ In this connection, ATLAFCO managed to ensure the regular participation of at least one national representative per Member State proceeded each time by a preparatory meeting
- ❑ Each time participants were unanimous about the need for the strengthening of good governance of the fisheries sector and aquaculture which remains a condition sine qua non for its growth and its effective contribution to the socio -economic development of Member States





Example of ICCAT

- ❑ The future of the tuna fishery in the Atlantic region, which is covered by ICCAT, affects directly two-thirds of ATLAFCO member states: **Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Gabon, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Morocco, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, etc.**
- ❑ It is therefore extremely important for ATLAFCO to mobilize these countries in order to participate actively in the work of ICCAT
- ❑ Thus, ATLAFCO organizes the participation of many delegates to the regular meetings of ICCAT
- ❑ Preparatory work, for coordination and harmonization of positions, are also undertaken.
- ❑ At the different meetings, ATLAFCO delegates supported the introduction of strong measures, which were deemed necessary to ensure the conservation and exploitation of tuna resources, which are under high pressure, because it is in their common interest in the long term.
- ❑ **Obtained the Chair of a Committee for Côte d'Ivoire**
- ❑ **Obtained the Chair of the Commission for Ghana**
- ❑ **Obtained the Executive Secretary of the Commission for Senegal**

- ❑ *It is also in this way - by being more active and more present in these international forums - that we can best make African concerns heard in relation to fisheries and aquaculture.*



Cooperation with LDAC



- ❑ The memorandum was signed on 29th May 2013 in Tangier, Morocco
 - ❑ to fight Illicit, Unregulated and Undeclared (IUU) fishing
 - ❑ to promote responsible and sustainable fishing
- ❑ The Cooperation between LDAC and ATLAFCO has set *a priority, improving fisheries governance and especially the fight against IUU fishing in Africa*
- ❑ ATLAFCO can benefit from the LDAC's role of privileged interlocutor of the EU distant water fleets and NGOs with the European Commission

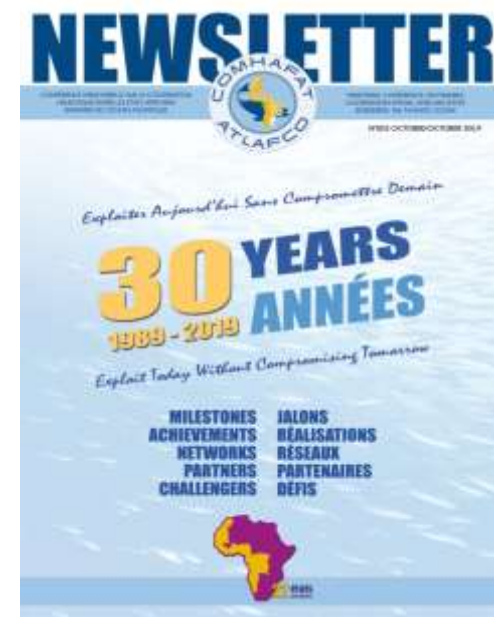




Publications



- ❑ ATLAFCO has been undertaking capacity development of its Member States, to enable them to develop its fishery and aquaculture, and to enhance its management conducive to sustainable use of fishery resources. With its increasingly influential voice, ATLAFCO has come to secure a solid standing in various international conferences. Hence, it is well understood that ATLAFCO has grown into one of **the most prominent international organizations for African countries** **Yoshiharu Takenaka**, President OFCF
- ❑ It is very promising to see that ATLAFCO is going to support, in the West African region, the implementation of the FAO Port State Measures Agreement **Abdellah Srour**, Executive Secretary GFCM
- ❑ The best thing about our collaboration with ATLAFCO is being a member of the coordination of regional and non-state organizations, which meets every year **Lucie Attikpa Tetegan**, President WADAF
- ❑ The LDAC benefits from ATLAFCO's specific mandate as the only African regional body dedicated exclusively to fisheries management bringing together the views of 22 African Coastal States **Alexandre Rodriguez**, Executive Secretary LDAC
- ❑ Today, African countries are showing greater involvement in the debates and decisions of the Commission, thanks to the mobilizing role of ATLAFCO which has exemplary relations of cooperation with ICCAT " **Driss Meski**, Former Executive Secretary of ICCAT "





Participation of the Media

- ❑ Low attendance of the African Media in the international fisheries bodies meetings
- ❑ The media has become indispensable for making progress on inclusive governance and development outcomes and ultimately for achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development



Fisheries
Transparency
Initiative



Calling the involvement of African communicators and journalists



- ❑ To better understand and honestly describe:
 - ❑ Realities in which fishing communities have to live and work
 - ❑ Challenges they face
- ❑ To show also that African fisheries are composed of men and women who want to be heard
- ❑ To be powerful tools for advocacy and promoting inclusive participation in Fisheries development and decision-making



Conclusion

- ❑ Strengthening the participation of MS in the decision-making process
- ❑ Coordination of positions at the level of international fisheries bodies
- ❑ Improving advocacy capacity
- ❑ Creation of synergies and complementarities in programs at the regional level
- ❑ Strengthening South-South cooperation



Thanks for your attention



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