

EUROPEAN FISHERIES ¹ DEVELOPMENT ADVISORS' NETWORK MEETING

**The common vision for fisheries
in Africa and the african
expectative from the reformed
EU's CFP**

by

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G. MBA-ASSEKO : The common vision for fisheries in Africa and the african expectative from the reformed EU's CFP. European Fisheries Development Advisors' Network meeting, Eschborn, Germany 16-18 november 2011

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- African expectations from the reformed EU's CFP illustrated by the gabonses' case



ECCAS' members States





ECCAS' strategics priorities

Peace and security



**Infrastructures,
Water and Energy**

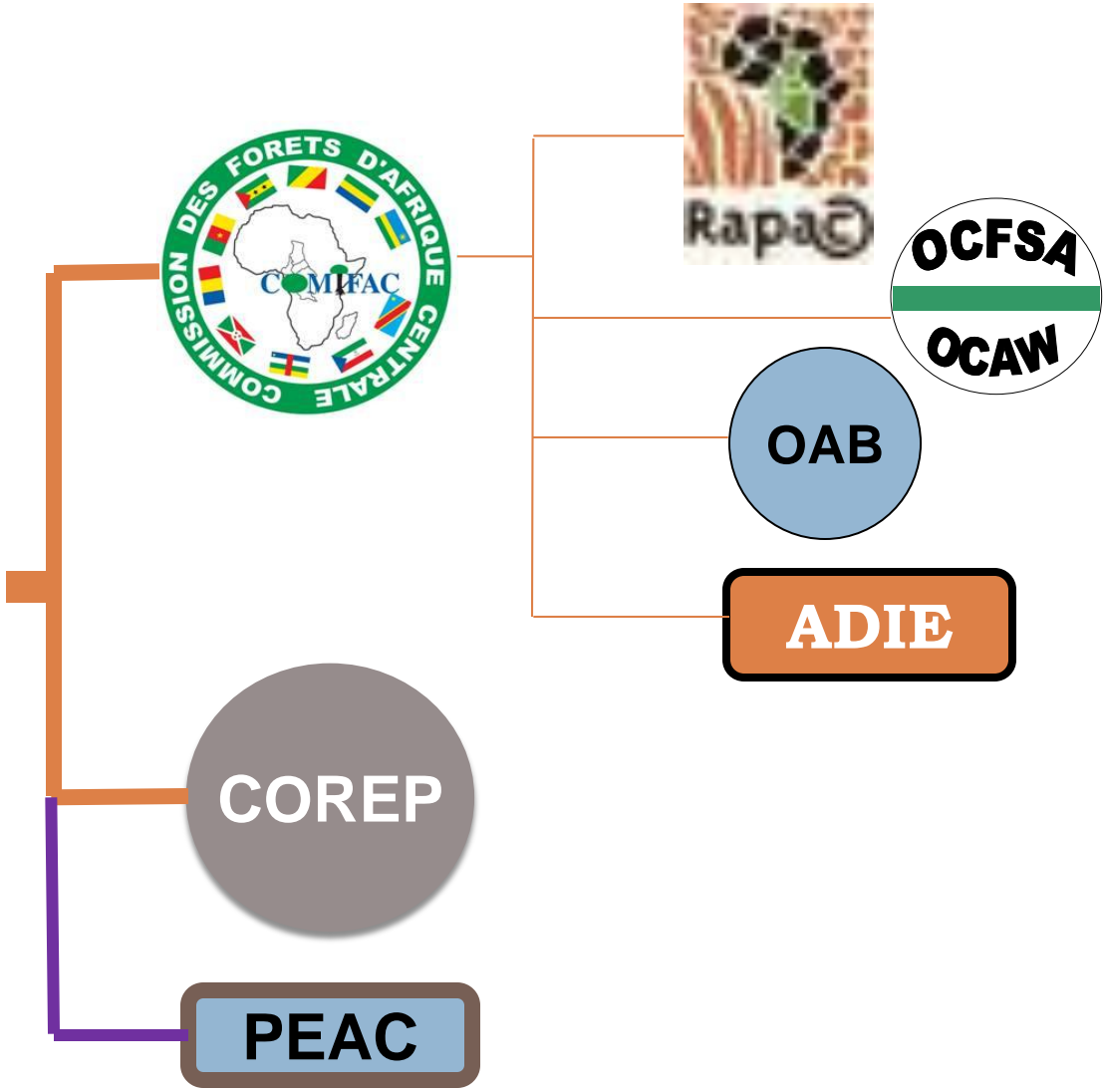


**Environnement and
Natural Resources**





Institutional framework of ECCAS : Technical specialized bodies





The Regional Fisheries Commission of Gulf of Guinea (COREP)

Established : 1984

Headquater : Libreville – Gabon

**Members
States :**



Observers countries:



Total coastline length : 2 100 Km (3 600 Km)

EEZ area : 528 000 Km² (1 057 000 Km²)

**Fish (marine & inland) and aquaculture Production : around
360 000 t (including Angola)**

Marine fishery potential : 1 000 000 t

Background of the african fisheries common vision

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- Since the adoption of the NEPAD Action Plan for the Development of African Fisheries & Aquaculture in 2005 at the Abuja Fish For All Summit, African Heads of State and Government have taken additional and complementary decisions to reaffirm their commitment to use fish as a vehicle for wealth creation and reduce hunger, poverty and malnutrition on the Continent within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP)

Background (cont...)

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- In 2006, the Abuja Food Security Summit adopted fisheries as one of the Africa's strategic commodities (among others as rice, maize, cassava, etc.)
- Further acknowledging the importance of fisheries, the first Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries & Aquaculture (CAMFA) was held in Banjul, The Gambia in September 2010
- CAMFA recommended that African member States should put in place fisheries governance reforms necessary to realise the wealth-generation potential of the fisheries sector

The PAF program at NPCA

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Aim : addressing priorities identified at regional level which are in line with continental objectives

within the CAADP framework, help fishery sector to foster the objective of 6% annual growth whole agriculture sector

Structure beside the PAF coordination at NPCA :

Five working groups : Governance, Trade, Stop Illegal Fishing, Aquaculture, Finance and Investment

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Some actions engaged in (re)forming fisheries and aquaculture sector within the COREP's region

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- Evaluating the rent/real value of fisheries sector
- Develop a regional vision on acces to fisheries grounds (link to fisheries agreement with distant fleet)
- Develop a network of surveillance (MCS) by connecting national VMS into a regional center at COREP
- Develop a data base on fishery research knowledge and fishery statistics

Some actions engaged in (re)forming fisheries and aquaculture sector within the COREP's region (cont...)

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- Develop management plan for valuable fisheries resources
- Establish a regional network for MCS including piracy issues
- Develop a common position on major issues prior to high level and strategic fora
- Develop intra regional trade on fisheries products

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Some key Partners involved actively involved

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- African Union
- FAO
- NEPAD Planning and Coordination Agency (NPCA) : PAF program
- European Union : ACP Fish II Program
- World Bank
- African Development Bank
- UICN, WWF, WCS

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The PAF/NEPAD program support to COREP

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In responding to a request submitted in 2010, the NPCA have decided to allocate approximately the sum of £600,000 (US\$960,000) to ECCAS for the Regional Fisheries Strategy through its program called the Partnership for African Fisheries Governance and Trade (PAF) funded by DFID (UK)

A MoU between NPCA and ECCAS have been signed in late June 2011 aside to the African Head of States and Government Summit held in SIPOPO (Malabo) in Equatorial Guinea

The PAF/NEPAD program support to COREP (cont...)

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This support assist ECCAS to achieve the following objectives :

- a) Contribution of fisheries to economic growth and other socio-economic objectives and strengthening the role of fisheries in national and regional CAADP Plans
- b) expedite integration of fisheries policy into the regional economic integration agenda and processes, with COREP becoming a strong fisheries technical arm of ECCAS;

The PAF/NEPAD program support to COREP (cont...)

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This support assist ECCAS to achieve the following objectives (cont...) :

- c) developing and implementing the Regional Plans of Action to reduce illegal fishing
- d) developing the capacity of ECCAS member states to improve access to international fish markets

The PAF/NEPAD program to support COREP (conclusion)

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- Finally the NEPAD support will result in strengthening :
 - human,
 - institutional and
 - professional capacities in the sub-region

The aim is to enable ECCAS Member States to achieve the wealth-generation potential of their rich fisheries resources

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African expectations from the EU's CFP

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- The reformed EU's CFP must take into account the necessity of more transparency in the management of fisheries agreement by :
 - ▣ Publicing licenses of fishing boat operating in Africa under or not a agreement and their reported captures
 - ▣ Publicing fish products imports entering the EU market under the port states mesures
 - ▣ Applying tracability of fish products and the commercial rule of origine
 - ▣ Publicing demobilized fishing boat in the european industry as to combat IUU fishing

African expectations from the EU's CFP (Cont...)

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- The collaboration through fisheries agreement which is due to become a partnership should lead to fair relationship instead of strong (the big UE) among a weak (african State)
- The recent Gabon's case : negotiation of a new agreement have failed because of a clause on human right to add into the protocole

The gabonese agreement case study

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- Gabonese officials have feel unfair as for exemple they have been publishing regularly their fishing licenses since 2004 and are now known as on the top of best practices countries while their still facing lack of transparency from fishing boat and EU Commission on fisheries statistics
- Under the ongoing agreement signed in 2005 (end in december 2011) the gabonese VMS have been able to follow up the EU fishing boat only from late 2009

The gabonese agreement case study (cont...)

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- The gabonese VMS statistics on EU fishing activities shown that among the 34 boat licensed:
 - 13 (38 %) have been fully traceable
 - **2 (6 %) partially traceable (intermitent switch off of the remote sensing)**
 - **14 (41 %) not traceable (no signal at all)**
 - **5 (15 %) are not even in the WMS data base**
 - Several are not applying the entry/out declaration rules
 - Numerous boats declare their captures long time after the 45 days delay expire

Some actions to address fisheries development in COREP's region

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- Increase regional cooperation on research, fisheries management, MCS and private sector
- Increase the link with PAF program and NEPAD comprehensive strategy for fisheries and aquaculture
- Develop awareness of politics on the issues of fisheries and aquaculture sector in term of potential to income, employment and poverty alleviation

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Some actions to address fisheries development in COREP's region (cont...)

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- Set up infrastructures, investments chart, and others institutional prerequisites specific to the sector
- Promote south south cooperation among countries, farmers, scientists, fisherfolks, traders, industry, etc.

Way forward

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□ **Scientific Forum in 2012 :**

- First global conference on the status of fisheries & aquaculture knowledge of the Central African region
- **Purpose** : drain key people (scientists, fishersfolks, farmers, development partners and governments from Africa, France, Spain, Norway, Portugal, Japan, Belgium, etc.) and information generated on the region by several marine fisheries surveys, inland fisheries and aquaculture studies ; assemble key information for aquaculture and fisheries strategies to be developed including marketing
- Date and venue : **2012 in Angola**
- **Sponsors and partners needed**

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Way forward (conclusion)

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- **Convention on minimal condition to access fishing grounds in Central African EEZ**
 - Country consultations and dialogues on the legal text
 - Adoption of the convention by Heads of States
- **Regional surveillance network :**
 - fishing boat registry
 - interconnection of VMS (Gabon, Cameroun, Congo and Sao Tome & Principe)
- **Regional management plan on shrimp and small pelagic fisheries**

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Dankeschon
Thank you
Merci
Obrigado
Gracias

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The NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA) : a African Union technical body

- The african fisheries agenda is under the NPCA program through the CAADP process

Aquaculture in Central Africa region

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Main characteristics :

- Good potential link to both the density of the hydrographic system (rivers, lakes, floodplain and other small water bodies) and the coastal ecosystem (gulf, bays, lagoons, etc.)
- Active private sector
- Lack of research programs and human capacities
- Weakness of institutional framework

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