IMPROVING MANAGEMENT UNDER FISHERIES AGREEMENTS (SFPAs)





2ND JUNE 2021, 9h00 -12h15 (CEST)

SUMMARY report

Panel I. The value of SFPAs as an instrument of cooperation with third countries Chair: Raúl García (WWF)

Advantages

- SFPAs are positive instruments to act as contributors to sustainable fisheries, from the inclusion of relevant cooperation tools which brought beneficial results in terms of fisheries governance
- SFPAs are facilitating the dialogue to improve fisheries policy and specifically to support scientific collaboration and to promote transparency.
- SFAs are projected towards the generation of employment and the development of infrastructures to promote local fishing economies, supporting entrepreneurship diversity.
- The incorporation of a clear gender approach, which is expected to have positive results in the coming years, is fundamental to promote women empowerment, especially where women play key essential roles in Small Scale Fisheries (SSF), local fishing economy, household livelihoods and nutrition.
- SFPAs are encouraging a progressive job inspection in order to ensure the better labour conditions according to International Labour Organization (ILO) standards, including clauses on human rights. Also, SFPAs are incorporating conditions to strength transparency, essential rights and sustainability.
- SFPAs have contributed to the development of institutional capacity (financing of training, research and management) also at the level of public investment and National Treasury.
- Control and surveillance has been strengthen from the agreements, being an important instrument to fight against IUU, through the use of technology and human capacity.

Challenges

- Level playing field and the promotion of the principle of non-discrimination, adopting the same rules for all similar fleets (e.g. private agreements), in order to extend the conservation standards from Europe to other fishing areas
- Clear weakness when it comes to align SFPAs with the coastal states objectives stated into the national cooperation strategies.







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- Need to improve the agreements harmonisation with market-trade agreement policies
- Introduce the ecosystem approach and a holistic vision in data collection at different levels (local and national) and different fishing sectors.
- Low participation rates of civil society in the negotiation process and implementation of the agreements (lack of communication and information mechanisms, particularly at coastal state)
- Lack of training programs, specially for managers and technicians to support decision-making
- Redefine the access conditions of the agreements with a view to the contributions of the fishing operations
- Define surplus and management measures based on the best science-based knowledge (e.g. small pelagic)

Way forward

- Encourage an increased stakeholder participation in all implementation processes, supporting member states to initiate internal governance process to draw up national plans
- Incorporation of incentives to encourage the participation of the local fishing sector in the design and development of fishing policies, to be adapted to the local reality, evaluating the impact of their compliance.
- Development of information and communication mechanisms with civil society to strength the agreements
- Create specific scientific committees to promote dialogue between scientists, policy makers and NGOs to work on the SFPA strategic elements, strengthening scientific cooperation between EU and coastal states.
- Strengthen the clauses for monitoring and evaluating results; clauses are currently too divergent between the different agreements
- Increase the availability of socioeconomic data to create a better impact assessment.
- Improve an efficient use of financing by promoting transparency and strengthening capacities
- Networking with other DGs reinforcing and linking cooperation programs, promoting fund raising from different sources and endorsing dissemination
- Identification of training needs by coastal countries and reinforcement in agreements
- Keep promoting capacities to prevent IUU

Panel II. Round table – FarFish Case Studies

Chair: Mary Frances Davidson (GRO-FTP)

Advantages

- FarFish project was presented as a valuable Stakeholder Hub to strength scientific cooperation at coastal country level within the framework of the SFPAs.
- Capacity building and training is one of the most relevant actions to improve professional skills, competences and knowledge-transfer for a wide varied of groups and profiles within the field of fisheries management.
- The promotion of initiatives for partnership between science and fishing industry (e.g. implementation of a self-sampling pilot program for EU and national fleet in Senegalese and Mauritanian EEZ) is generating entrust, bringing science to fishers.
- Sectorial support management does appear as an appropriate mechanism to promote cooperation and development, particularly in those coastal states where fishing infrastructures still remain low developed.







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Challenges

- Understand fishers from data-provider to real players involve in science. Fisher's inclusion in the design and implementation of scientific activities is a must to get a better scientific knowledge.
- It is essential to connect sectoral support to real needs and interest to partner countries. It has to be planned and executed based on an efficient financial management plan. It is usual to see abandoned infrastructures ('White Elephants') due to deficient planning which does not adjust to the needs and possibilities of the coastal country.

Way forward

- There is an urgent necessity to improve flexibility on sectoral support execution, avoiding rigidity.
- Promote processes to strengthen transparency and local stakeholder engagement in all negation procedures
- Explore the design and implementation of regionalization processes as a relevant approach in strengthening regional cooperation
- Increase the technical and human capabilities to advance in regional approach, since institutions from different coastal countries do not count on the same resources.
- Promote a joint scientific research adapted to the reality of shared stocks, improving stock assessment and promoting transparency and accessibility on scientific data.

Participants

Welcome and closing.

* Rosa Chapela (chair), Centro Tecnológico del Mar - Fundación CETMAR

Panel I. The value of SFPAs as an instrument of cooperation with third countries.

- Raúl García (chair), World Wide Fund for Nature WWF
 - Enmanuel Berck, DGMARE B3 Unit
 - Izaskun Bilbao, <u>European Parliament</u>
 - Anaïd Panossian, Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements CFFA
 - Osvaldina Silva, <u>Universidade Técnica do Atlântico UTA</u>
 - Micheline Dion, Confédération Africaine des Organisations de Pêche Artisanale CAOPA

Panel II. Rou8nd table - FarFish Case Studies.

- ❖ Mary Frances Davidson (chair), GRO Fisheries Training Programme GROFTP
 - Benvindo Fonseca, Instituto do Mar Instituto do Mar IMar
 - Yannick Rouccou, <u>Seychelles Fishing Authority SFA</u>
 - Mamadou Diallo, Conservation and research of West African Mammals COREWAM
 - Lamine Camara, Direction de l'Aménagement des Ressources et des Etudes DARE

Wrap-up.

Juliana Arias (rapporteur), Sjókovin





