

FISHERMAN – Capacity building for sustainable fisheries management in the southwest Indian ocean



Fishermen in Mozambique.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION PERIOD

October 2013 – October 2016

CONSORTIUM

- Universidad de Alicante, Spain
- University of Algarve, Portugal
- University of Seychelles, Seychelles
- University of the Comoros, Comoros
- University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
- University of Eduardo Mondlane, Mozambique
- University of Toliara, Madagascar

Associated partners:

- Southwest Indian Ocean Fisheries Commission (SWIOFC)

PROJECT CONTACT

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PROJECT WEBSITE

www.fisherman-project.eu

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

Competence in sustainable fisheries management was built at partner Higher Education Institutions (Comoros, Madagascar, Mozambique, The Seychelles and Tanzania). The development, accreditation and implementation of five study programmes in Sustainable Fisheries Management in line with national and international standards was achieved. The HEIs have increased their ability to deliver quality education and research in the fisheries sector.

BACKGROUND

The current coastal and marine resources in the South-Western Indian Ocean (SWIO) region are under increasing pressure, exacerbated by weak expertise in fisheries management, inadequate coordination and a weak resource exploitation strategy. Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) from Madagascar, Mozambique, Tanzania, Comoros and The Seychelles lack the expertise and suffer from poor infrastructure for research in fisheries management. To ensure the effective management of coastal and marine resources, the HEIs have a key responsibility to provide well-trained and well-equipped practitioners and professionals in the field.

The need for training and qualifications in the fisheries sector is evident across all areas, from outdated and inappropriate legislation to weaknesses in governance structures. The challenge of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing takes advantage of the lack of effective monitoring, control and surveillance and undermines conservation and management of fish stocks.

The project aimed to support the partner HEIs in preparing a new generation of skilled professionals in sustainable fisheries management, address institutional capacities and improve the quality and relevance of the academic offering.



METHODOLOGY

Assessment

Analysis of the existing fisheries management educational provision in the HEI landscape and evaluation of the existing data, including the legal frameworks and national/regional strategies and policies in management of marine resources.

Capacity building on curriculum development

Curriculum development trainings for academic staff introduced to contents, delivery methodologies, tools and requirements for a proper curriculum development.

Development of basic curriculum

Basic curriculum developed that serves as a blueprint for the five programmes in fisheries management.

Development of master courses

Courses within the master programmes fully developed (accession, contents, teaching and assessment methods, calendar, bibliography, etc.).

Implementation of master programmes

New programmes delivered at partner HEIs.

Regional online platform on fisheries management

Online platform established to combine the presentation of the project and consortium with a research database for students, researchers and teaching staff.

Establishment of IT repository of reference material

Training of IT administrators and teaching staff in the operation and use of the repository.

RESULTS

→ Outputs

Capacity building

- 5 study programmes in the field of fisheries at partner HEIs developed, accredited and implemented:
 - Specialisation in Marine Biology (Comoros).
 - Master in Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture (Madagascar).
 - Master in Sustainable Fisheries (Mozambique).
 - Specialisation in Marine and Fisheries Science (Seychelles).
 - Master in Sustainable Fisheries and

- Management (Tanzania).
- 60 student applications received and more than 50 students enrolled.
- 150 teaching and IT staff trained in concepts related to curriculum development, international standards, innovative teaching methodology and IT tools.

Databases

- FISHERMAN Online Repository of teaching/ learning/ research materials.

Networking

- Support gained and solid synergies set up with South West Indian Ocean national authorities (Ministries of Higher Education and Fisheries and International Organisations).
- 2 regional conferences on 'Sustainable Fisheries in the South-Western Indian Ocean: the importance of the Education, Management and Governance' attracted educational and non-educational professionals in the field, as well as other complementary initiatives.

↑ Outcomes

- HEIs trained to develop and implement master level programmes in line with international quality standards.
- HEI staff with IT skills and abilities to deliver quality teaching with emphasis on data analysis.
- FISHERMAN study programmes accreditation.

🎯 Impacts

Usage

- The official recognition of the course and quality in the development of curricula to international standards has led to a high demand from prospective students to subscribe to the courses.
- Some partner universities are defining the next level of Sustainable Fisheries Education (master or PhD).

importance of further education within sustainable fisheries management. Higher Education and Fisheries authorities of the partner countries have been working with universities towards this common goal. This will have a long term impact on the improvement of policies related to Fisheries Management in the SWIO region.

Policy implications

- The FISHERMAN project was widely disseminated to raise awareness on the

Sustainability

- By being fully endorsed by the HEIs and national authorities, teaching staff are on

the payroll of partner universities.

- Partner universities are exploring additional funding mechanisms for student grants and other funding sources to continue cooperation.



Typical fishing boat, Qualimane, Mozambique.



Fishnet, Qualimane - Mozambique.

TESTIMONIAL



Kelly Hoareau, Director, Blue Economy Research Institute, University of Seychelles, Seychelles

“The project has assisted us with the development of our Year 3 specialisation in Marine and Fisheries Science. The project has provided equipment and staff have benefited from trainings. Our specialisation would not have been possible without this project that has increased our capacity to offer the course as a degree specialisation as well as a short course for external development.”

ACP-EU Co-Operation Programmes in the fields of Higher Education and Science, Technology and Research

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