

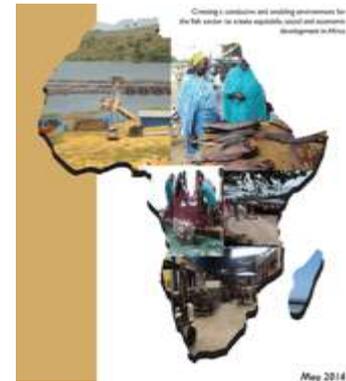


AFRICAN UNION  
INTERAFRICAN BUREAU  
FOR ANIMAL RESOURCES

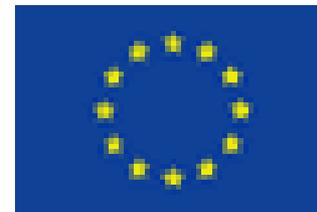
# TOWARDS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HARMONIZED REGIONAL PORT INSPECTION PROGRAM IN THE ATLAFCO ZONE



AN OVERVIEW OF  
THE CURRENT WORK OF AU-IBAR IN THE FIELD OF  
STRENGTHENING  
MONITORING CONTROL AND SURVEILLANCE  
ACROSS THE CONTINENT



12-13 March  
**RABAT MOROCCO**

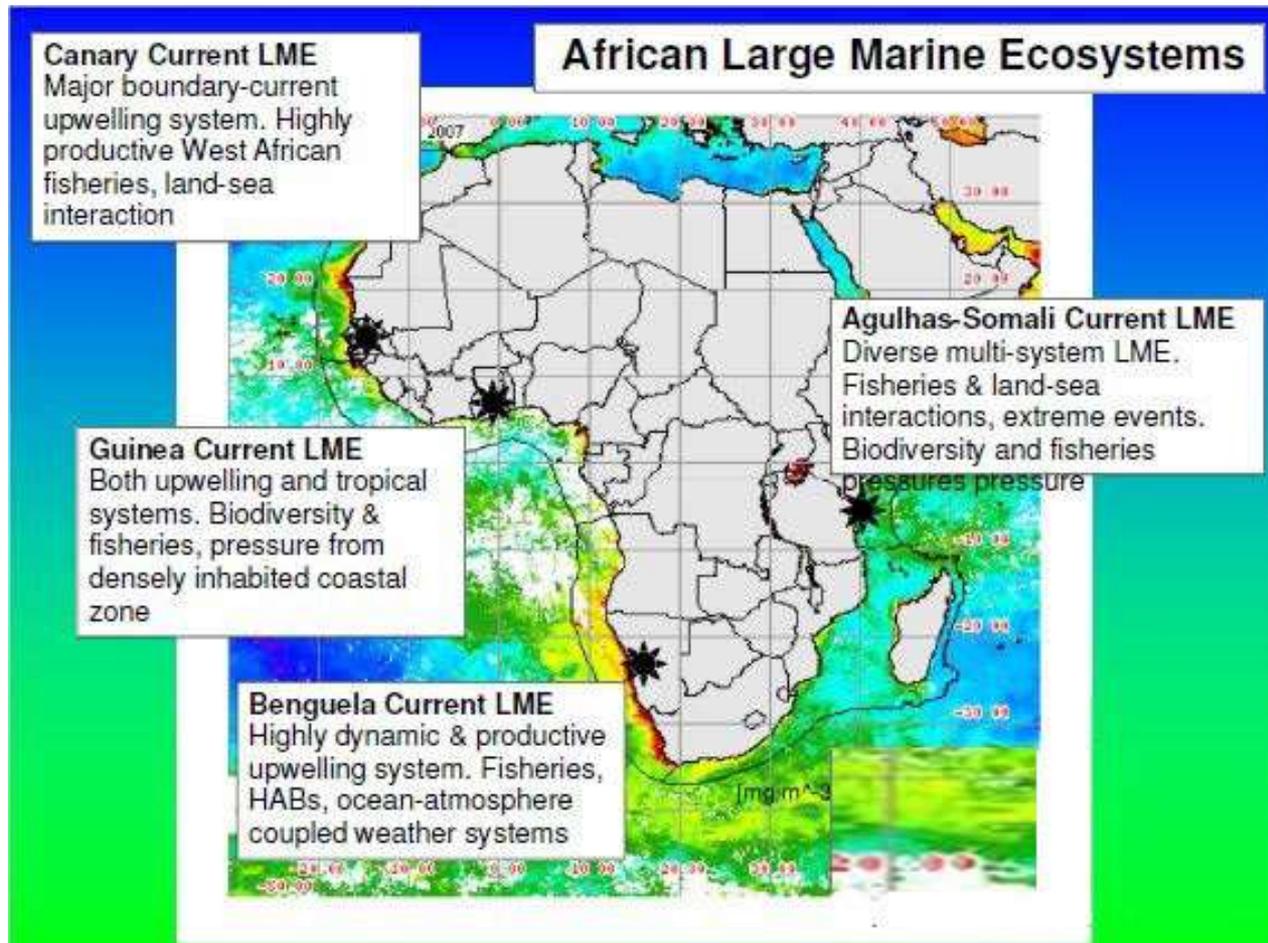




# Africa's fisheries resources under IUU threat

- Africa is surrounded by some of the most productive waters on earth with a number of the world's large marine ecosystems (LMEs).
- Marine resources in Africa provide food, nutrition and livelihoods for millions of people.
- The marine resources are rich in valuable fish species that attract a variety of fleets and operators (foreign fishing fleets; domestic industrial fleets; millions of artisan fishers using a variety of gears and boats)
- Marine fisheries in Africa provides direct employment to about 2.8 million persons and indirectly to over 14 million people. In collaboration with other sectors there are abundant opportunities for blue economy growth across the continent
- However these opportunities and benefits are under serious threats. A recent review by AU-IBAR shows that there are major ecological and socio-economic impacts of IUU in the different regions of the continent - the situation is gloomy to say the least.
- Africa's share of the global IUU catch is estimated at 4.7 million tons of fish at a conservatively estimated value of \$10 billion
- Eliminating IUU and realizing the benefits of IUU catches could make a significant contribution to GDP, increase job opportunities, support livelihoods, increase social protection and reduce food insecurity and poverty in many of Africa's poorest countries

# Africa LMEs





# The IUU threat

- The world's fisheries are in crisis. Experts (FAO) report that 75% are significantly depleted, overexploited or fully exploited
- Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing is global phenomenon and requires an international and coordinated response
- Illegal fishing is putting the livelihoods and nutrition of millions of people on the continent at risk. It destroys communities, who lose opportunities to catch, process and trade fish
- IUU fishing also has the capacity to damage fragile marine ecosystems and vulnerable species such as coral reefs, turtles and seabirds
- Apart from draining countries of much needed revenue, IUU fishing reduces populations of fish stocks, lowers local catches and harms the marine environment
- Ultimately, this carries serious consequences for the rest of the world in terms of a sustainable supply of fish



# Combating IUU in Africa – the challenges

- A major challenge in addressing IUU fishing in Africa is the limited capacity to manage vast expanse of waters under national jurisdiction
- Weak or non-existent collaborative functional regional arrangements are another constraint leading to the the absence of a coherent approach to fisheries management matters at regional and subregional levels
- Weak enforcement capabilities are another problem together with poor implementation of relevant international fisheries instruments even though they have often been ratified
- At national level there is also a lack of collaboration between the various sectors with mandates or stakes in the fisheries sector - Judiciary, Naval, Immigration, Customs etc
- The lack of functional MCS tools e.g. *Regional observer programs, offshore fisheries surveillance, regional vessel registration and licensing, information sharing mechanism, Minimum Terms of Conditions for Access* further aggravates the situation

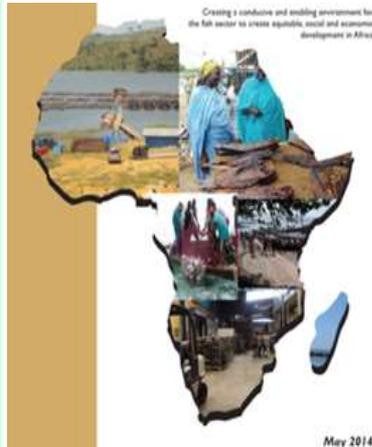


# The work of AU-IBAR that can be built upon

Under the EU funded Project '**Strengthening Institutional capacity to enhance governance of the fisheries sector in Africa**', AU-IBAR, in collaboration with the NEPAD Agency has accomplished a large number of MCS –related activities at regional and national level over the period 2014 to 2018. Highlights are:

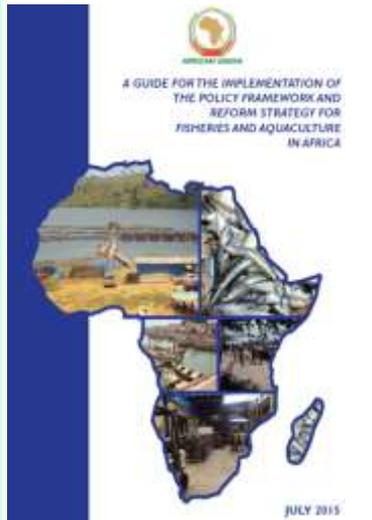
- Review and determination of the status of MCs in the 5 regions of the continent (West, Central, Eastern, Southern and Northern Africa)
- Development of framework proposals for regional cooperation on MCS matters in the five regions of the continent
- Review of the status of fisheries observer and fishing vessel register programmes in the five regions and their further development, **including production of a manual for at seas fisheries observers**
- Development of regional fisheries and fishing vessel register arrangements, **including methodologies and a database for implementing a harmonized fishing vessel register and establishing a central fishing vessel register**
- Development of institutional and human resources through training covering key topics: at sea boarding procedures and arrangements, MCS and enforcement and prosecution for fisheries crimes – regional level training has targeted personnel from the Fisheries Departments, Judiciaries, Navy from each AU-MS with over 100 people trained
- Enhanced awareness of the effect of IUU on Africa economies and the threat posed to food security and social welfare
- A basis has thus been provided to support continent-wide for implementation of Port State Inspection under the FAO Port State Measures Agreement 2016

# The Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa (PFRS)



The overall purpose of the PFRS is to catalyze the transformation of Africa's fisheries and aquaculture for food, livelihoods and wealth.

The overall purpose of this guide is to strengthen and fast track coherent PFRS implementation at national and regional levels



- Conservation and sustainable resource use
- Small scale fisheries development
- Sustainable aquaculture management
- Responsible and equitable fish trade and marketing
- Regional and sub-regional cooperation
- Awareness enhancing and human capacity development
- High seas fisheries
- **CROSS-cutting**
  - *Strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerabilities to climate change in African fisheries and aquaculture*
  - *Gender and Youth*
  - *Private Sector Investments & Financing Mechanisms for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa*

# Thank You



**AU-IBAR: Providing leadership in the development of animal resources for Africa**