

Partnership for Africa's Fisheries (PAF)

An overview of the programme

Dr. Sloans Chimatiro
Senior Fisheries Advisor
NEPAD Secretariat
Midrand, South Africa
<http://www.nepad.org>

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Where does the programme come from?

- The project builds on a successful first year of activities culminating with the 4th July 2008 SADC Ministerial Statement of Commitment (SoC) covering regional cooperation on fisheries policy aimed, primarily, at the problem of illegal fishing.
- The process leading up to the SoC responded to a bilateral in 2006 between Hon. Thomas (DFID) and the Hon. Dr Iyambo (Namibia) under the auspices of the High Seas Task Force, at which Iyambo requested UK support for a regional push on fisheries.



How does the programme fit into the NEPAD objectives?

Contribution of fisheries to the NEPAD key objectives

- Good governance (to ensure optimal benefits for fish-dependent Africans);
 - Sustained high economic growth and development (using fish as a vehicle of growth);
 - Increased sub-regional and continental, political and economic integration (around fisheries resources);
 - Improving Africa's competitiveness and strengthening Africa's participation in multilateral global institutions (including WTO, COFI)
- ***Therefore, Africa needs to fast-track the implementation of the NEPAD Action Plan for the Development of African Fisheries & Aquaculture through Partnership***



Why does African need the Partnership for Africa's Fisheries?

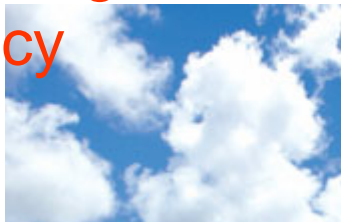
- Africa has extensive fish resources that are capable of contributing far more significantly to national and regional economic growth, pro-poor growth and sustainable resource use than is currently the case.
- The policy behind African fisheries is largely failing.
- However, the Abuja Fish For All Summit Declaration (25th August 2005) underscores African political commitment towards the key development objective in fisheries (*“safeguarding the future of Africa’s fish sector to poverty alleviation and regional economic development”*).
- Therefore, this objective would be achieved through addressing **improved management of the African fisheries** and **better access to markets of African fish and fishery products**.
- PAF responds to this and builds on the excellent political capital gained during the SADC- Stop Illegal Fishing Programme (SIF)



How will PAF work?

The main thrust of the Programme is to strengthen Africa's ability to devise and implement policies for growth in the fisheries sector.

- This will be done through a **Think-Tank** approach
- The Think-Tank approach will **enable transparent and home-grown advice** to be generated and championed by a wide range of actors based on continent-wide multi-stakeholder partnerships.
- The Think-Tank approach will allow a more coherent approaches for reform in fisheries to be elaborated through an inclusive process that **promotes change through communication, learning and advocacy**



What will the Partnership achieve?

1. Coherent approaches for reform in fisheries will be elaborated through an inclusive think-tank process that promotes change through communication, learning and advocacy
2. Better understanding of the potential benefits that the African fishery sector has to promote pro-poor economic and social growth
3. A shared (and common) vision to encourage re-alignment of policies and fishery management systems towards pro-poor strategies



What will the Partnership Achieve?

4. Deepened and shared understanding and experience of tools, systems and policy requirements to tackle illegal fisheries production and trade
5. Innovative and equitable approaches to investment and trade in African fishery products explored and exchanged



Implementation of PAF

The programme will be implemented over Four phases as follows:

1. **The Pre- Implementation Phase: Nov. 2008 – 30th March 2009.**
2. **The First Implementation Phase: April 2009 – March 2010, during which both preparatory work (inception) and pilot activities will be undertaken.**
3. **The Second Implementation Phase: 2010 – 2012. This phase will further build up partnership activities, develop learning networks and to start the process of identifying and involving other financial partners**
4. **The Third Implementation Phase: 2012 – 2014. This phase will establish the PAF as a financially independent African Fisheries Trust Fund, where financial support is received from a variety of sponsors from public and private sectors.**

➤ **Funding: approximately £ 7 million**



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Next Steps

1. Support the establishment/strengthening of sub-regional fisheries Task Forces (through RECs e.g. SADC, ECOWAS)
2. Support the establishment of Networks (e.g. MCS; aquaculture; trade) which will support the Think-Tank process;
3. Establish the Fisheries Policy Think-Tank process (e.g. Chatham House-type) (planning for May/June)
4. The “African Voice” on critical issues of global importance (e.g. during COFI) must be supported by global expertise;



Next Steps

5. African member states are being urged to support the programme and commit towards policy and governance reform in fisheries;
6. African member states are urged to fully support (including pledge to host) the first meeting of the African Ministers of Fisheries Task Force being planned by African Union Commission and NEPAD for 25-28th August 2009.

