

PROJECT INFORMATION DOCUMENT (PID)
APPRAISAL STAGE

Report No.: PIDA17265

Project Name	West Africa Regional Fisheries Program APL C1 (P126773)
Region	AFRICA
Country	Africa, specifically Mauritania and Guinea
GEF Focal Area	International waters
Sector(s)	General agriculture, fishing and forestry sector (40%), Public administration- Agriculture, fishing and forestry (50%) and Animal Production (10%)
Theme(s)	Environmental policies and institutions (60%), Infrastructure services for private sector development (15%), Other public sector governance (15%), Rural non-farm income generation (10%)
Lending Instrument	Investment Project Financing
Project ID	P126773, P131327
Borrower(s)	Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy, Ministry of Fisheries and Aquaculture
Implementing Agency	
Environmental Category	B-Partial Assessment
Date PID Prepared/Updated	12-Jan-2015
Estimated Date of Board Approval	16-Mar-2015
Decision	
Other Decision	

I. Project Context

Country Context

1. Coastal West Africa, from Mauritania to Ghana, is the westernmost region of the continent, and home to a growing population of almost 300 million. With the exception of Mauritania, all of these countries are members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The region includes a wide range of countries at varying stages of economic development: five of them have a per capita GDP below US\$1,000 (Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia and Sierra Leone), and several are emerging from conflicts within the last ten years. Poverty is widespread throughout this coastal region, and the economy of almost every country is heavily dependent on natural resources.

2. In recent years, Mauritania's medium growth potential has considerably improved. Following political instability with the overthrow of elected governments in 2005 and 2008, presidential elections in 2009 resulted in governmental consistency and created a necessary environment for World Bank re-engagement. Economically, Mauritania is also advancing – in 2006 the country began producing oil, which is now steady at a rate of nearly 6,500 barrels of crude per day. The combination of this

economic and political stability has enabled the government to focus on other areas of development, such as employment, expansion of the mining sector, and investment in coastal regions.

3. Guinea has made considerable progress in stabilizing over the past two years until the outbreak of Ebola in mid-2014. Emerging from political isolation, instability and military rule, Guinea has adopted a new constitution, elected a President, and has been fully re-integrated into the international community. Macro-economic stability was restored, and debt repayment capacity dramatically improved with the attainment of the enhanced Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) completion point in September 2012. Social, institutional and economic decline, which had been ongoing for years, was halted. Since mid-2014, the Ebola outbreak, the ongoing and growing regional epidemic, has affected the country, closing Guinea's terrestrial borders, disrupting air travel, and drawing on government resources. Declared a global public health emergency by the World Health Organization, the international community has become heavily involved in the on-going response at the time of project preparation.

Sectoral and institutional Context

3. Of the developing world, beneficiaries from fisheries investment programs, West African nations have disproportionately more at stake. Ocean waters off West Africa offer some of the richest fishing grounds in the world. A combination of westward winds over the Sahara depositing nutrients into the Atlantic, and a deepsea upwelling create unique conditions enabling abundant fish populations. More than 1.6 million tons of fish are legally captured in West African waters each year, with an estimated wholesale value of US\$2.5 billion, contributing greatly to regional and national economies. Unfortunately, this wealth of the ocean is not maintained at its maximum level that the region can achieve.

4. Mauritania's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ¹) is ranked among the most productive fishing waters in the world. The fisheries sector provides jobs to 36,100 people,² of which 88 percent is for activities related to the artisanal segment and approximately 30 percent are women. Employment in the fisheries sector accounts only for 3 percent of the national employment, but this figure masks wide local variations: for example, the fisheries sector accounts for 29 percent of total employment in Nouadhibou, the area of the Tax Free Zone that was established in 2013. The estimated value of primary production in 2011 was US\$179 million in marine artisanal fishing and US\$563 million in marine industrial fishing – a total of US\$742 million, contributing 3.4 percent to the overall GDP. Mauritania's fisheries sector is export oriented with 90 percent of production being exported. Fish exports importantly contribute to foreign exchange earnings: during the period of 2008-11, fish exports accounted for 20-27 percent of total exports in value (excluding oil).

5. According to the FAO report (de Graaf and Garibaldi, 2014), the marine fisheries sector in Guinea provided jobs to 31,685 (18,900 men and 12,785 women) in 2010 (the total population was 10 million). Fisheries employment is dominantly in the artisanal segment with its share exceeding 95 percent of the total employment in the marine fisheries sector. Fifty-eight percent of the marine fisheries jobs were in the fishing sector, while 42 percent were in the processing sector. Ninety-five percent of the marine fish processing jobs were occupied by women, while 99 percent of the marine fishing jobs were held by men. The value of primary production in 2010 was a total of US\$215 million (of which marine fisheries represent US\$186 million), with the bulk generated in marine artisanal fishing (US\$152 million). Taking into account the cost of fishing, the value added of this sector was US\$148 million (of which marine fisheries US\$124 million), contributing 3 percent to the overall GDP and representing 12 percent

¹ The EEZ is the area upon which a coastal State assumes jurisdiction over the exploration and exploitation of marine resources in its adjacent section of the continental shelf, taken to be a band extending 200 miles from the shore.

² 2010 IMROP Working Group.

of agriculture GDP. The value added of the post-harvest, fish processing sector in 2010 was US\$39 million, contributing 0.7 percent to the overall GDP and representing 3 percent of agriculture GDP.

II. Project Development Objective(s)/Global Environmental Objective(s)

A. Project Development Objective(s)

6. The development objective of the WARFP SOP-C1 (formerly APL-C1) is to strengthen governance and management of targeted fisheries and improve handling of landed fish at selected sites.

B. Global Environmental Objective(s)

7. The Global Environmental objective of the WARFP SOP-C1 (formerly APL-C1) is to strengthen governance and management of targeted fisheries and improve handling of landed fish at selected sites.

III. Project Description

8. Targeted fisheries for this phase include demersal (including cephalopod) and small pelagic fisheries by artisanal and industrial segments operating in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of the respective country. Achieving this will enable the fisheries sector to contribute to poverty alleviation and promotion of shared prosperity in these two countries that are heavily dependent on fisheries for their economies and livelihoods.

9. The overarching development objective of the WARFP is to sustainably increase the overall wealth generated by the exploitation of the marine fisheries resources of West Africa, and the proportion of that wealth captured by West African countries. The approach to achieving the objective is by: (i) strengthening the countries' capacity to sustainably govern and manage their fisheries; (ii) reducing IUU fishing; and (iii) increasing the net value generated by fish resources and the proportion of that value captured by the countries.

10. The SOP instrument is particularly well-suited to support the long-term reforms needed in the management and use of the region's fisheries, with logical sequencing of events and phasing of activities with agreed milestones, and flexibility needed in execution. The regional organization supporting the implementation of the WARFP is the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (CSRP), a regional fisheries body that includes the seven member states of Mauritania through Sierra Leone, with Ghana and Liberia participating as observers.

11. The first of the three overlapping SOPs in the series, SOP-A, was approved by the Board of Directors on October 20, 2009 for US\$55 million in IDA and GEF investments in the four countries of Cape Verde, Liberia, Senegal and Sierra Leone. The second SOP in the series, APL-B, was approved by the Board on March 31, 2011 for US\$8 million in IDA and GEF investments in Guinea-Bissau. Similarly, the West Africa Regional Fisheries Program in Ghana was approved as a specific investment loan (SIL) on July 14, 2011, for US\$53 million in IDA and GEF investments. This PAD describes the third SOP proposed in the series, SOP-C, for the country of Guinea and Mauritania. Taken together, this series of SOPs (i.e., the West Africa Regional Fisheries Program) is expected to span up to 15 years, at the end of which period it will have covered all nine eligible countries: i.e. the seven member countries of the CSRP (Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritania, Senegal and Sierra Leone) plus Liberia and Ghana.

Component 1: Strengthening Good Governance and Sustainable Management of the Fisheries

This component aims to build the capacity of the Government and stakeholders to develop and implement policies and systems that would ensure that the fish resources are used in a manner that is environmentally sustainable, socially equitable and economically profitable. The component contains four key subcomponents:

This will include:

- (i) Developing the legal and operational policy and strengthening the institutional capacity to enable sustainable management of fisheries resources (long-term agenda);
- (ii) Strengthening the vessel registration systems for accurate assessment and effective control of fishing capacity (short-term agenda);
- (iii) Introducing new fisheries management schemes in target fisheries, segments, or communities to align fishing capacity and effort to sustainable catch levels, which is pursued in parallel with development and implementation of fisheries management plans (medium-term agenda); and
- (iv) Strengthening the system of fisheries-related data collection, compilation and management, and dissemination and communication in a transparent manner (long-term agenda).

Comments (optional)

Component 2: Reducing Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing

This component aims to reduce IUU fishing activities that threaten the sustainable management of fish resources by strengthening fisheries Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) systems. Mauritania does not have this component as a fisheries surveillance program is already funded.

Comments (optional)

Component 3: Increasing Contribution of the Fish Resources to the Local Economy

This component aims to increase the benefits derived from fish caught in the EEZs of the countries in particular by investing in infrastructure and institutional capacity that enable improved handling of landed fish and reduction of post-harvest losses.

Comments (optional)

Component 4: Project Management, Monitoring and Evaluation, and Regional Coordination.

This component aims to support project implementation and regional coordination within the WARFP, ensuring that regular monitoring and evaluation is conducted and the results are fed back into decision making and project management..

Comments (optional)

IV. Financing (in USD Million)

Total Project Cost:	30.05	Total Bank Financing:	22.00
Financing Gap:	0.00		
Financing Source			Amount
BORROWER/RECIPIENT			1.05

International Development Association (IDA)	22.00
Global Environment Facility (GEF)	7.00
Total	30.05

V. Implementation

Implementing Agencies are the ministries in charge of fisheries in respective countries. In both Steering Committee will guide project implementation and facilitate inter-agency coordination. The Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission will be contracted by each country through a subsidiary agreement for a set of pre-defined services including mobilization of experts, integration of fisheries management data in the regional dashboard or support to negotiate international fisheries agreement.

VI. Safeguard Policies (including public consultation)

Safeguard Policies Triggered by the Project	Yes	No
Environmental Assessment OP/BP 4.01	X	
Natural Habitats OP/BP 4.04	X	
Forests OP/BP 4.36		X
Pest Management OP 4.09		X
Physical Cultural Resources OP/BP 4.11	X	
Indigenous Peoples OP/BP 4.10		X
Involuntary Resettlement OP/BP 4.12	X	
Safety of Dams OP/BP 4.37		X
Projects on International Waterways OP/BP 7.50		X
Projects in Disputed Areas OP/BP 7.60		X

Comments (optional)

VII. Contact point

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