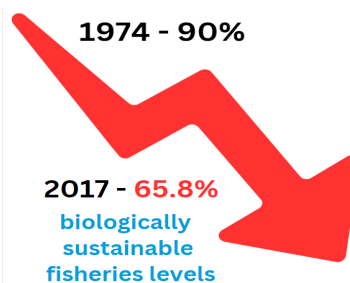


Project of assistance to strengthen participation in and implementation of the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement (UNFSA)

Urgency of Needs

The uneven progress in fisheries management highlights the differences between intensively managed fisheries versus less-developed management. The former have seen decreases in average fishing pressure and increases in stock biomass, while the latter is in poor shape with only 65.8% of fish stocks within biologically sustainable levels in 2017, down from 90% in 1974.



A series of recommendations have been made by the Review Conference on UNFSA that emphasize the need to ensure the full and effective implementation of the provisions of the UNFSA for the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks. Several Parties to UNFSA have also stressed that broader participation would contribute to increased implementation of the Agreement, the achievement of its objectives and to a strengthening of cooperation.

Project Objectives

1. Improving the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks and highly migratory fish stocks by building awareness of UNFSA and its central role as the framework for the management of these stocks;
2. Increasing participation by developing States Parties in the UNFSA; and
3. Strengthen the full and effective implementation of UNFSA by its States Parties.

Deliverables and Expected Results

Raised awareness of the benefits of participation in UNFSA

Awareness-raising materials on UNFSA aimed at policy-makers, ocean managers and the general public, including regarding the benefits of participation and the importance of full and effective implementation of UNFSA.

Key products:

- High-level policy briefs
- Informational webpage
- Informational toolkit
- Targeted outreach missions

Strengthened capacity of developing States Parties to implement UNFSA

Demand-driven technical assistance to developing States Parties on the implementation of the provisions of UNFSA as well as the recommendations from the Review Conference, including on the development of an appropriate national legal framework.

Key products:

- Needs assessment
- Legal and Policy Framework Review
- Analytical Report with Policy Recommendations

Improved understanding of the provisions and implementation requirements

Development and distribution of a detailed implementation guide for States Parties to UNFSA, as well as States considering becoming parties to UNFSA. The guide will seek to promote the full and effective implementation of UNFSA by furthering the understanding and awareness of its provisions, as well as the recommendations from the Review Conference.

Key products:

- Implementation guide to UNFSA

Strengthened implementation of UNFSA at tonal level

To ensure the UNFSA is responsive to new and emerging needs at the international level, the project will be monitoring developments leading up to the resumption of the Review Conference on UNFSA in May 2023, with a view to identifying potential areas on which to focus future work to strengthen implementation of UNFSA at the international level.

Key products:

- Review Conference monitoring

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