CAOPA brings together 26 national artisanal and continental fisheries organizations from Africa: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Côte d’Ivoire, The Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mali, Nigeria, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Senegal, Ghana, Uganda, Tanzania (Madagascar, Seychelles, Comoros, Mauritius, Reunion (Observer))

Stimulating an African dynamic for the development of sustainable artisanal fisheries for the well-being of artisanal fisheries communities, and contribute to the food security of populations.

AFRICAN CONFEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF ARTISANAL FISHERIES
CAOPA

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MEMBERS
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CAOPA was created in 2010 in Banjul following annual meetings since 2000. Despite its economic, social and cultural importance in Africa, artisanal fisheries remain the poor relation of development policies. The plundering of resources, particularly through uncontrolled and unregulated illegal fishing, is currently threatening the survival of fishing communities and is one of the greatest threats to the future of generations. Thus, aware of the issues in the sector and the urgency of the solutions and the urgency to be brought, a group was set up and took the initiative to move towards an African Confederation of Professional Organizations of Artisanal Fisheries.

VISION
- Stimulating an African dynamic development of artisanal fisheries
- Enhancing the value of the resource for the well-being of artisanal fisheries communities
- Get involved in the implementation of sustainable fisheries policies.

MISSION
Promoting and supporting gender mainstreaming in decision-making;
Supporting artisanal fishing communities to develop through the respect of good management conditions and responsible exploitation of the resource;
Strengthening their capacity to effectively achieve resource enhancement;

"Our main mission is to promote good governance in the African artisanal fisheries sector, through governance of the African artisanal fisheries sector, through awareness-raising, training and advocacy".

MAIN PROGRAMMES
- Capacity building of Professional Organizations of the artisanal fisheries sector;
- Support for the implementation of good governance practices, democracy, transparency and accountability within member organizations;
- Promotion of women’s role through policies for the development of their activities;
- Launching of a program for the existence of a single Federation of Professionals of the artisanal fisheries sector by member country.
- Promotion of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable artisanal fisheries;
- Promotion of the implementation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa.