

Report of activities IYAFA 2022



African Confederation of des Professionnal Organizations of Artisanal Fisheries (CAOPA)

DECEMBER 2022

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CAOPA



INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF
**ARTISANAL FISHERIES
AND AQUACULTURE**
2022



TABLE OF CONTENT

Presentation of CAOPA

Conclusion

Mission and Vision

Objective

Activities

CALL TO ACTION OF SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES



PRESENTATION OF CAOPA

CAOPA was created in 2010 and brings together professional organizations from 27 African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Chad, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Morocco, Mali, Madagascar, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, and Reunion Island, as an observer member

Its main **objective** is to promote a pan-African dynamic for the development of sustainable small-scale fisheries for the well-being of coastal communities, and to contribute to the food security of populations. Since 2017, CAOPA has been committed to promoting the development, in a transparent, participatory and gender-sensitive manner, of national and even regional action plans to implement FAO's Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries. CAOPA is a member of FITI's Board of Directors, of the CAPE Steering Committee, and chairs the West African Platform of Non-State Actors in Fisheries, set up by the African Union. The organization has the status of observer in COFI (FAO).



MISSION AND VISION

Mission

- Promote and support gender mainstreaming in decision making;
- Support small-scale fisheries communities to develop through the respect of good management conditions and responsible exploitation of the resource;
- Strengthen their capacities to effectively develop the resources;

Vision

- To impulse an African dynamic of development of small-scale fishing;
- To enhance the resource for the well-being of small-scale fishing communities;
- To be involved in the implementation of sustainable fisheries policies;
- To promote good governance, democracy and transparency within member organizations;
- To take into account the challenges faced by women in small-scale fisheries; to defend their involvement in decision-making processes, etc.



Photos: Aliou DIALLO /CAOPA

INTRODUCTION

In Africa, small-scale fishing mobilizes more than ten million men and women, and feeds more than 200 million Africans.

African fishing, 75% of which is small-scale, is the largest sector of the blue economy in Africa, whether in its contribution to food security, jobs created or income generated for the household.

It plays an important role in the social stability of these communities.

Thousands of men and women who work in this sector rely on it for their livelihoods and to provide for their families..

The year 2022 has been declared by the United Nations as the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAFA). This is an opportunity for all actors in the sector to consider the ways and means of sustainable management and governance of the sector, including the organizations that bring together the main actors active in the field, namely the professionals, whose livelihoods depend on small-scale fishing.

They make an important contribution to the livelihoods, jobs and food security of their countries.

However, the future is full of challenges for African fishing communities, especially with the impact of climate change already being felt on activities: more difficult navigation conditions at sea, coastal erosion, movement of resources further offshore, etc. But the main challenge for the future of our communities is to give young women and men the opportunity to find decent living and working conditions in small-scale fishing, to avoid, as is too often the situation today, that they fall into drug and crime, or go to illegal migration.

To address these challenges, CAOPA has a compass: the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries in the Context of Food Security and Poverty Eradication and the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector in Africa. Since 2018, CAOPA has been advocating for the development of national action plans in a transparent, participatory and gender-sensitive manner for their implementation.



MAIN PROGRAMS



- Capacity building of members of African small-scale fisheries Professional Organizations;
- Support for the setting-up of good governance practices, democracy, transparency and accountability within the member organizations;
- Promotion of the role of women through policies for the development of their activities;
- Launch of a programme for the existence of a single Federation of professionals in the small-scale fisheries sector per member country.
- Promotion of the implementation of the Voluntary Guidelines for Sustainable Small-scale Fisheries;
- Promotion of the implementation of the Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for Fisheries and Aquaculture in Africa;
- Promotion of the Small-scale Fisheries Call to Action...



That is why, in its approach, CAOPA is inspired by the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations in 2015, in particular Goal 14b, to "Ensure access to fisheries resources and markets for small-scale fisheries".

Achieving this goal must be done through concrete actions.

In line with CAOPA's objectives, there were many and diverse activities during IYAFA 2022.

In this section, we summarize the activities we carried out.

These activities focused on the following points:

- **Information and awareness raising;**
- **Capacity building.**

ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT

INFORMATION AWARENESS-RAISING

CAOPA organized on February 10th 2022 a webinar on "How the EU-AU partnership can support sustainable African small-scale fisheries? An African Civil Society Point of View. The objective was to exchange on how partnership between Africa and Europe can contribute to support sustainable small-scale fisheries in Africa.

On this occasion, [CAOPA presented its priorities for #IYAFA2022](#)

On March 10th and 31st 2022- CAOPA published a study on the issues related to the regulation of small-scale fisheries reserved zones in [Sierra Leone](#) and [Senegal](#) respectively.

The aim is to contribute to IYAFA 2022.

The 7th Meeting of Ministers of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) was held in Accra, Ghana, from 5-8 April 2022. CAOPA and LMMA presented the [priorities of small-scale fisheries](#) at this meeting.



CALL TO ACTION OF SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

In this International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, CAOPA together with fisheries organizations from the Pacific, Central and South America, Asia and Europe, have identified five areas of action for governments to take in dialogue with the small-scale fishing communities in their countries to deliver a sustainable future for these communities by 2030.



Call to Action available in English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Arabic, Swahili and Wolof.



For small-scale and sustainable aquaculture complementary to African artisanal fisheries

CAOPA organized on 26 and 27 October 2022 at the Hotel "Les Flamboyants" in Saly, a workshop entitled: "**For a sustainable small-scale aquaculture**, complementary to African artisanal fishing". This activity is in line with the activities of the IYAFA 2022 celebration.

CAOPA advocates for a decree on the status of the supervisor fisherman

CAOPA organized on October 17th and 18th, 2022, at the hotel "Les Flamboyants" in Saly, an advocacy workshop on the **status of the Supervisory Fisherman**. This activity, among many others conducted by CAOPA, is part of IYAFA 2022.



WORLD FISHERIES DAY 2022



CAOPA in partnership with Community Action for Nature Conservation (CANCO) celebrated World Fisheries Day on November 21st 2022 at **Shimoni Fishing Port, Kwale County, Mombasa Region, Kenya.** The theme was "Investing in social protection to ensure equitable blue transformation in the fisheries sector".

Mombasa: Celebration of World Fisheries Day and awareness raising on the Call to Action



Training of presenters and journalists from Senegal's community radio stations on the dissemination of the content of the Call to Action

From 10 to 11 November 2022, in Thiès, CAOPA organized an **information and awareness-raising workshop on the Small-scale Fisheries Call to Action** and a practical training on radio animation techniques for the benefit of the Association of Fishing Communicators of Community Radio and Generalists (ACPRCG) of Senegal. CAOPA, in organizing this workshop with the support of OAK foundation, is acting in the framework of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture (IYAF 2022).



CAPACITY BUILDING

SAFETY AT SEA



Training on ILO Convention 188 on decent work in fisheries

CAOPA organized from Wednesday 21 to Saturday 23 July 2022, at the hotel "Les Bougainvilliers" in Saly, a sharing workshop on **Convention 188 on decent work in fisheries**: an issue of the future for African small-scale fishing. This activity is in line with the celebration of IYAFA 2022.



Training of canoe captains on maritime and continental safety

The objective was to train the captains of small-scale fishing canoes of the safety issues, the need to conserve fisheries resources in a context of **increasing scarcity of resources** and a commitment to action, taking into account the celebration of the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture 2022 (IYAFA).



CAOPA is working for an adapted funding system for small-scale fisheries

CAOPA organized a workshop on November 8th and 9th, 2022 in Thiès. November 2022, in Thiès, a workshop for sharing experiences on **alternative funding systems for small-scale fishing and reflection on a model adapted to women's activities**.

The general objective of this workshop was to: "strengthen the capacities of women active in small-scale fishing on alternative funding systems for their activities".



Conclusion



IYAFA has been a very eventful year for small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.

BUT, CAOPA noticed a lack of coordination of all activities carried out especially at the African level. Each organization did what it wanted according to its own ways and means.

Also, a lack of visibility of small-scale fisheries at the African and international level has been noted, during major events, etc.

Recommendations

In light of the above, we have developed a call to action on five priority areas:

We believe it is time for action!

Thus, we call on states to take the following actions by 2030:

1. Urgently secure preferential access and co-manage 100% of coastal areas;
2. Ensure women's participation and support their role in innovation;
3. Protect small-scale fisheries from competing sectors of the blue economy;
4. Be transparent and accountable in fisheries management;
5. Build resilient communities to cope with climate change and provide opportunities for youth.



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