



## KNOWLEDGE FAIR : LOGFRAME AND PROCESS

*Knowledge Fair  
State of World & African Fisheries*

Mombasa, Kenya  
June 13-16, 2023

Promoted and Funded by



Implementing partners



# KNOWLEDGE FAIR: BLUE ECONOMY – SUSTAINABLE SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES – AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION HOSTED JOINTLY BY ECOFISH, AU-IBAR AND IGAD FOR THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

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## EVENT LOGICS AND PROCESSES

### 1.0 Background

The *Knowledge Fair has been promoted by the ECOFISH programme in partnership with AU-IBAR and IGAD in Mombasa on 13-16 June 2023*. The main objective of the forum is to harness their wealth of knowledge and innovations, policy guidance, experiential learnings and best practices in the field of the *Blue Economy, Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries Aquaculture and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation* to contribute to the political, socio-economic and ecological aspirations of Africa Agenda 2063.

*Empowering Change through Effective Implementation!* The event is an outcome of the seamless collaboration between EU-funded ECOFISH and FISHGOV 2 and the SIDA-funded Blue Economy and Aquatic Biodiversity projects to echo the *Team-Up Europe Initiative* into a strong *African Alliance to operationalise Sustainable and Inclusive Development* of the continent from the Green and Blue Economy perspectives.

The partners have convened about 160 interdisciplinary experts, champions and delegates to this four-day brainstorming workshop, including representatives of public agencies, professional associations, business communities, research, science and academia, funding and donor agencies, non-state actions, project leaders and foot-soldiers, etc.

The purpose of the Knowledge Exchange is to create a neutral platform for constructive discussion and farsightedness on the outcomes, learning investments and best practices of the current programmes as a learning and adaptation process. It aims to brainstorm the challenges and opportunities for sustainable improvement of the socio-economic and ecological well-being of the African population.

The basic thinking of global sustainability is *that anything is connected to everything on our Planet. Therefore, every individual must* understand the causalities: effects and feedback loops. It calls for a new thinking or paradigm shift to transition from *business-as-usual, working in silos, one-size-fits-all and top-down* to more inclusive, integrated and circular approaches. The multistakeholder forum enables examining policy intricacies and experiential learnings on the three interconnected thematic areas as a test bench for mainstreaming the guiding principles of sustainable development in aquatic resources sectors.

The paper describes the *logical framework: Inputs – Process - Output Matrix and methodological approaches* of the forum following its provisional agenda. It also explains the *concept, scope and value chains of knowledge and information*

**management** as a strategic tool for constant learning and adaptation of the principles of sustainable development.

## 2.0 Knowledge Exchange

The terminology refers to **sharing and transferring knowledge between individuals, organisations, or communities**. It involves the exchange of **ideas, information, expertise, experiences, and best practices** to foster **learning (de-learning and re-learning), collaboration, and innovation**. Generally, it occurs through various methods such as **discussions, presentations, workshops, conferences, publications, online platforms, and interpersonal interactions**.

This IGAD-ECOFISH-AU IBAR Knowledge Fair aims to consolidate and disseminate the best available knowledge, experiences and best practices contributing to **improved decision-making, problem-solving and capacity-building**. It is a two-way process where both providers and recipients of knowledge benefit. Those imparting knowledge and strategic intelligence can gain insights, perspectives and feedback from others, while the recipients can enhance their understanding, skills and capabilities to address challenges or seize opportunities.

The critical elements of effective knowledge exchange include **clear communication, active listening, mutual respect, openness to diverse viewpoints**, and a supportive environment that encourages collaboration, learning and adaptation. It can take place in formal or informal/non-formal settings. The forum provides a neutral space for stakeholders to explore each other perspectives to build consensus and **recognise constructive disagreements as a new frontier of possibilities**. There is no instant solution to all multidimensional problems, and some questions do not answer. In the words of Einstein, the energy needed to understand a problem is the same for solving it. Quick fixes or short ones often create bigger problems in the long term.

## 3.0 EVENT HIGH-LEVEL Logical Framework

The Knowledge Fair leverages **effective collaboration and cooperation in sharing knowledge, experiential learning and best practices to improve decision-making, management decisions and problem-solving in the Blue Economy, Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries, African Fisheries Reform Mechanisms Architecture and Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation**.

The forum emphasises the outcomes of the EU-funded ECOFISH and FISHGOV 2 and the IGAD and AU-IBAR Aquatic Biodiversity projects supported by SIDA. It includes the contribution of the regional economic, fisheries and environmental organisations, development partners and non-state actors. The high-level logical framework is as follows:

### 4.1 Objectives

- i) *Sharing and brainstorming **outcomes, lessons learned and best practices** among stakeholders in Blue Economy, Small-scale fisheries and Aquatic Biodiversity.*
- ii) *Showcase achievements and best practices – [Exhibition/Demonstration Hall]*
- iii) *Networking, communication and interaction among practitioners, policy-makers, researchers, practitioners, and communities involved. [Regional Coordination Platform]*
- iv) *Fostering **cross-sectoral, interdisciplinary and integrative (Top-Down and Bottom-Up) Dialogue** to enhance effective collaboration and cooperation.*
- v) *Promoting partnerships and synergies among key stakeholders to achieve greater outcomes and effectiveness. [Result and performance-oriented]*

## 4.2 Expected Results

- i) Increased awareness and understanding of key concepts and best practices;
- ii) Strengthened collaboration and networking among stakeholders;
- iii) Enhanced capacity for knowledge sharing and utilisation;
- iv) Main **challenges and opportunities** in target areas addressed;
- v) Proper **exit strategies**, including replicating and up-scaling of shared knowledge;
- vi) Improve efficacy of development programmes and projects;
- vii) Streamline development cooperation approaches

## 4.3 Activities

- i) Organise **plenary and panel discussions** where experts, practitioners, and community members can share their experiences, challenges and success stories. **[Learning Investments]**
- ii) Facilitate **structured discussions and dialogues** to promote understanding and cooperation among stakeholders with different perspectives and interests.
- iii) Facilitate networking sessions to encourage continued knowledge exchange and collaboration among participants. **[Exhibition Centre]**
- iv) Organise **plenary and panel discussions** where experts, practitioners, and community members can share their experiences and success stories.
- v) Organise **thematic breakout sessions** to promote interactions and knowledge sharing among target stakeholders.
- vi) Compile, **document and disseminate** knowledge and best practice to contribute to improving future project outcomes; **[Project Tracking System]**

## 4.4 Key Indicators

- i) Number and Profile of participants attending the Knowledge Fair.
- ii) Number of presentations, **case studies, policy briefs, technical papers**, and communication materials shared during the event;
- iii) Availability and utilisation of online resources and publications
- iv) Number of collaborations and partnerships initiated;
- v) Participant satisfaction with the event, as measured through surveys and feedback;
- v) Evidence of knowledge application in decision-making processes and project formulation;

## 4.5 Assumptions

- i) Participants are motivated and committed to Knowledge and Experience Sharing – Ready to brainstorm with honesty and an open mind.
- ii) The expertise and experiences of thematic experts and participants are relevant and highly quality.
- iii) The shared knowledge is accessible and understandable to a wide range of stakeholders.
- iv) Participants will have the necessary skills and capacity to apply the shared knowledge in real-world contexts.
- v) Effective networking and stakeholder collaboration will lead to sustained knowledge exchange beyond the event.
- vi) The shared knowledge will be considered and incorporated into decision-making processes and project implementation by relevant stakeholders.

## 5.0 Structure of the Knowledge Fair

Based on the *Provision Agenda*, the layout of the event is as follows:

AGENDA ITEMS	DAY 1		DAY 2		DAY 3		DAY 4	
	I	II	I	II	I	II	I	II
Opening ceremony								
Event Logframe								
IGAD								
ECOFISH								
AU-IBAR								
BREAKOUT SESSIONS								
BLUE ECONOMY								
SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES								
AQUATIC BIODIVERSITY								
FISHERIES POLICY & GOV								
PLENARY SESs/ PANEL DIS.								
ITEM 1 - BLUE ECONOMY								
ITEM 2 - SSF & AQ								
ITEM 3 - FISH POL & GOV								
ITEM 4 - AQUATIC BD								
POLICY DIALOGUE								
INTEGRATION & RECOM.								
CLOSING								
EXHIBITION & NETWORKING								

## 5.0 Key Thematic Areas

### Theme 1 - Support the Blue Economy development

#### Activities [Non-exhaustive]

- i) Identify and promote economic opportunities in sectors related to the blue economy, such as marine tourism, coastal development, renewable energy, and marine biotechnology
- ii) Explore strategies for integrating small-scale fisheries into the Blue Economy and AfCFTA frameworks, considering social inclusiveness, equitable distribution of benefits, and sustainable resource use.
- iii) Facilitate partnerships and investments to foster Blue Economy initiatives, including access to finance, technology transfer, and market development.
- iv) Integrate the Blue Economy into national and regional Development Strategies to ensure accelerated sustainable, resilient and inclusive economic growth.
- v) Cross-cutting issues such as Innovative Financing, Science-Technology-Innovations, Capacity-building, Multilateral Cooperation, etc.,

### Theme 2 - Enhance Sustainable Small-scale fisheries

#### Objectives /Activities

- i) Invite representatives from projects and programmes to present their experiences and outcomes during dedicated sessions. [Ecofish Result 3 – Demonstration Projects]

- ii) Showcase **innovative approaches, technologies, and tools** contributing to sustainable fishing practices, including low-impact fishing gear, ecosystem-based management, and responsible aquaculture.
- iii) Promote sustainable fishing practices through knowledge dissemination, capacity building, and awareness raising.
- iv) Highlight successful case studies and initiatives that have improved the ecological, social, and economic sustainability of small-scale fisheries and aquaculture.
- v) Distribute educational materials, including brochures, pamphlets, and online resources, to raise awareness about sustainable fishing and fish farming practices.
- vi) Disseminate case study compendiums, policy briefs and success stories to inspire and inform other stakeholders.

### **Theme 3 - Strengthen conservation and management of aquatic biodiversity**

#### **Objectives/Activities**

- i) Present the outcomes of the SIDA-funded Aquatic Biodiversity projects implemented by AU-IBAR and IGAD;
- ii) Raise awareness about the importance of aquatic biodiversity and its role in supporting ecosystem health, resilience, and human well-being.
- iii) Share scientific research, monitoring approaches, and conservation strategies that contribute to protecting and restoring aquatic biodiversity.
- iv) Promote integrating traditional ecological knowledge and local community engagement in conserving and managing aquatic biodiversity.

### **Theme 4 - Policy and governance enhancement**

#### **Objectives/Activities**

- i) Facilitate discussions on policy frameworks, legal instruments, and governance mechanisms that support sustainable small-scale fisheries, blue economy development, and aquatic biodiversity conservation.
- ii) Identify gaps, challenges, and opportunities in existing policies and governance arrangements, and propose recommendations for improvement.
- iii) Foster dialogue between policy-makers, researchers, and stakeholders to promote evidence-based decision-making, policy coherence, and adaptive governance in these sectors.
- iv) Present the mandate and scope of the Africa Fisheries Reform Mechanisms Architecture as part of the AU Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for the African Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector.

## **6.0 Technical Sessions**

After the opening ceremony, a plenary session will be organised to brief the participants on the logical framework of the event. It will be followed by a presentation of the key partners and their programmes before the official inauguration of the Exhibition Centre. As per the Provisional Agenda, there will be four breakouts covering the thematic areas as follows:

- i) *Blue Economy - IGAD*
- ii) *Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries Best Practices – ECOFISH*
- iii) *Aquatic Biodiversity Conservation – IGAD and AU-IBAR*
- iv) *Fisheries Policy and Governance: AU-IBAR*

The Thematic leader will plan and coordinate their respective breakout sessions and collectively develop an agenda for final plenary discussion, policy dialogue, integration and conclusion of the event.