



Ivorian Surimi:

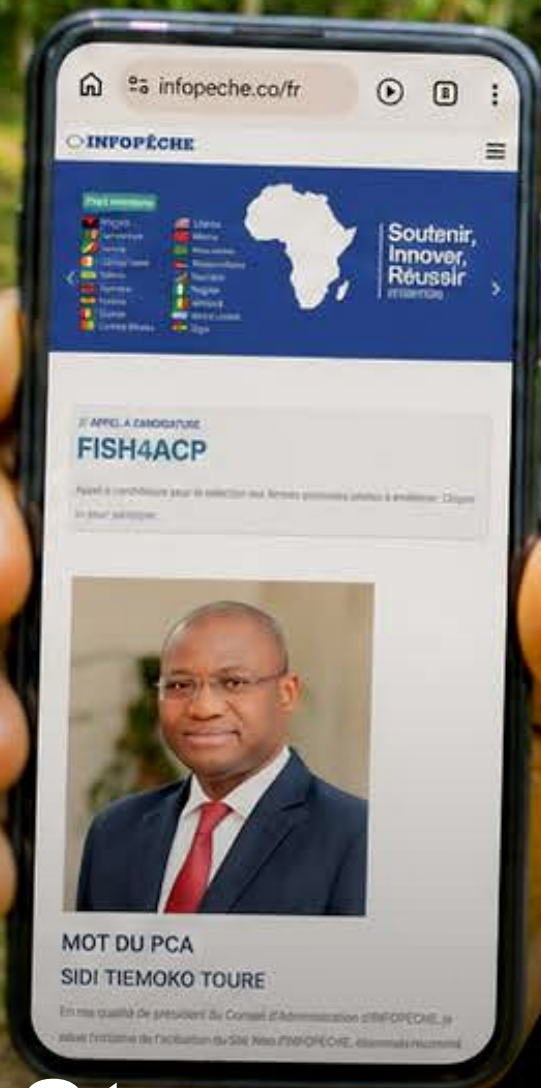
A promising product
for the fisheries sector



Illustration INFOPÊCHE

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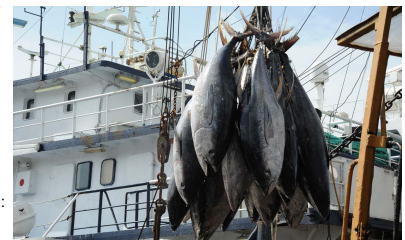
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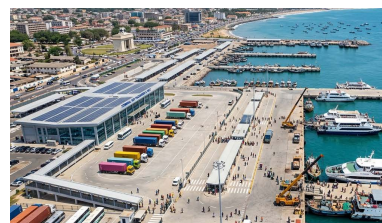
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Démonstration de la fabrication du Surimi

Surimi manufacturing demonstration

SURIMI : Fish processing: a strategic opportunity for Côte d'Ivoire

A context characterized by the modernization of fishery value chains and the research for innovative solutions to strengthen food security, the processing of fishery products is emerging as a major motor of economic development.

In the case of Côte d'Ivoire, where fisheries and aquaculture resources constitute a strategic asset, the development of a processing sector, such as that of surimi, a product derived from processed fish, could help reduce post-harvest losses, offer jobs opportunity, and stimulate the industrialization of the sector.

Beyond the economic aspect, the processing of fishery products also contributes to improving the incomes of actors in the value chain, particularly fishermen, fishmongers, and artisanal processing units.

Furthermore, it fosters the emergence of a more competitive sector, able to meet the requirements of modern markets in terms of quality, preservation, and traceability. In this dynamic, innovation, training for stakeholders, investment in processing infrastructure, and market access remain essential challenges.

(INFOPÊCHE)

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Latest news

Morovia - Libéria, March 2026

INFOPÊCHE at the core of discussions on the future of the Blue Economy in LIBERIA

On March 30 and 31, 2026, Liberia hosted the National Fisheries Investment Conference (NFIC 2026) at the Farming Margibi Country Hotel, under the theme **"Unlocking the Horizon of the Blue Economy: The Future of Fisheries and the Blue Economy."**

This important meeting, organized by the National Fisheries and Aquaculture Authority of Liberia (NaFAA), brought together policymakers, investors, experts, and stakeholders in the fisheries sector to discuss opportunities for the sustainable development of the blue economy.

Among the invited guests was Mr. Casimir Eric Akaffou, Director of INFOPÊCHE, the Intergovernmental Information and Cooperation Organization for the Marketing of Fisheries Products in Africa. Invited as a high-level panelist,

he shared his expertise on the theme: **« Access to regional and international markets, quality standards and certification »**.

During his highly acclaimed presentation, the Director of INFOPÊCHE provided an insight analysis of the conditions necessary to improve the competitiveness of African seafood products on international markets. He highlighted the regulatory and sanitary requirements imposed by the European Union and Asian markets, while emphasizing the importance of adhering to quality standards, product traceability, and globally recognized certification systems.

Mr. Casimir Eric Akaffou also explained the strategic role that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) can play in strengthening intra-African trade in seafood products. According to him, the



The INFOPÊCHE Director's Photo at NFIC 2026

harmonization of standards and the reduction of trade barriers are essential levers for stimulating regional trade and promoting the integration of African fisheries value chains.

In his presentation, the Director of INFOPÊCHE also emphasized the need to invest in storage, processing, and transportation infrastructure to reduce post-harvest losses, which still significantly impact the fisheries sector in Africa. He advocated for the development of the cold chain, the modernization of port infrastructure, and the promotion of public-private partnerships.

Addressing the issue of value creation, he encouraged Liberia to accelerate its transition from a raw materials export model to a more dynamic and competitive seafood processing industry. Such a shift would create more jobs, increase the incomes of sector stakeholders, and strengthen the contribution of fisheries to national economic

development. Finally, the Director of INFOPÊCHE presented several innovative financing mechanisms for biodiversity and the blue economy, including international funds, blue carbon credits, payments for ecosystem services, and sustainable finance instruments that can support conservation and development efforts in the sector.

Through the relevance of his analyses and the richness of his contributions, Mr. AKAFFOU Casimir Eric confirmed INFOPÊCHE's leading role in promoting trade in fisheries products, strengthening the capacities of African states, and supporting sustainable development policies for the blue economy on the continent.

This notable participation in NFIC 2026 further strengthens INFOPÊCHE's position as a strategic partner for African countries in their pursuit of sustainable, competitive, and wealth-generating fisheries that benefit their populations..

(INFOPÊCHE)



Latest News

Abidjan - Côte d'Ivoire, May 2026

Meeting to set up a pilot project for the digitalization of the Locodjro Landing Site

A context characterized by the need to modernize fisheries value chains in Africa, the digitalization of developed landing sites appears as a strategic lever. It aims in particular to improve product traceability, optimize data, facilitate flow management, and contribute to better governance of the fisheries sector.

In this vein, INFOPÊCHE organized a technical meeting on Tuesday, March 17, 2026, at its headquarters in Abidjan Plateau, dedicated to the pilot project for the digitalization of the Locodjro Developed Landing Site (DLS).

This meeting was attended by Mr. AKAFFOU Atsé Casimir Éric, Director of INFOPÊCHE, assisted by

four of his colleagues, and the Pro-Landing Coordinator, Dr. SOFFO Valentin, accompanied by two colleagues.

The discussions focused on analyzing the technical, organizational, and operational conditions necessary for the implementation of this digitalization project.

This initiative aligns with INFOPÊCHE's commitment to promoting innovative and sustainable solutions for the development of the fisheries sector, in line with contemporary challenges of modernization and competitiveness linked to the Blue Economy. To this end, a feasibility study is currently underway.

(INFOPÊCHE)

Lastest News

Abuja - Nigeria, April 2026

INFOPÊCHE's participation in the regional AfCFTA-ECOWAS workshop for West Africa



On April 28th and 29th, 2026 in Abuja, Nigeria, ECOWAS, in collaboration with the AfCFTA Secretariat, the Mastercard Foundation and TradeMark Africa, organised a regional workshop dedicated to women and youth in the fisheries and aquaculture value chain in West Africa.

Held under the theme "Leveraging Regional Opportunities: Building an Inclusive Value Chain for Small and Medium Enterprises in the Fisheries and Aquaculture Sector," the event's main objective was to provide women and youth with opportunities to participate in fish trading, the supply of aquaculture inputs, and distribution at the regional and continental levels.

Participants at the meeting included representatives of youth associations, women's cooperatives, and youth cooperatives; digital trade experts; economic operators from the ECOWAS region; fisheries and aquaculture regulatory authorities; Technical Development Partners; trade facilitation and logistics agencies; research institutions; universities; Regional Fisheries Management

Organisations; and the Intergovernmental Organization for Marketing Information and Cooperation Services for Fishery Products in Africa (INFOPÊCHE).

At this strategic meeting, the Director of INFOPÊCHE, Akaffou Casimir Eric, actively participated, contributing his expertise and vision for a more inclusive and competitive fisheries sector through his presentation on the digital platform dedicated to the marketing of fisheries and aquaculture products, called the African Market for the Marketing Fishery and Aquaculture Products (MACPPA).

Beyond its technical aspects, participants unanimously agreed that MACPPA embodies INFOPÊCHE's strong commitment to providing its 18 member states with a collective and dynamic tool able to deliver reliable, real-time data related to the fishery and aquaculture sector. It addresses the challenges related to the reliability of information on the availability of fishery products at the member state level and across the African continent.

(INFOPÊCHE)

Latest News

Abidjan - Côte d'Ivoire, May 2026

Official handover of access codes for the operationalization of MACPPA in Côte d'Ivoire By INFOPÊCHE

The headquarters of the Fisheries Directorate of the Ministry of Animal and Aquaculture Resources (MIRAH) in Côte d'Ivoire hosted the official ceremony on Tuesday, May 13, 2026, for the handover of administrator codes to the digital platform known as the African Market for the Marketing of Fisheries and Aquaculture Products (MACPPA).

This digital platform, dedicated to the promotion and marketing of fisheries products, aims not only to facilitate connections between stakeholders and promote trade in the fisheries sector, but also, and more importantly, to centralize information on the availability of fisheries and aquaculture products.

The meeting brought together the Director of Fisheries, Colonel Fofana Bina, with his staff, as well as a delegation from INFOPÊCHE led by its

director, Mr. AKAFFOU Atsé Casimir Éric.

Through the official handover of administrator codes to the Director of Fisheries, the two institutions reaffirmed their shared commitment to strengthening their cooperation in support of the sustainable development and modernization of the Ivorian fisheries sector.

Following the speech of the Director of INFOPÊCHE, Colonel Fofana Bina urged the staff of the Directorate of Fisheries to fully embrace this innovative tool, presented as a strategic lever for improving the efficiency of the fisheries administration's missions.

The ceremony concluded with a practical training session on the use of MACPPA. This training benefited staff from the Directorate of Fisheries as well as representatives from Pro-Valorisation.

(INFOPÊCHE)

Latest News

Abidjan - Côte d'Ivoire, June 2026

The Free Trade Administration Committee (FTAC) adopts the MACPPA: Presentation of the operating procedure to industries of the fishery sector in Côte d'Ivoire

On Tuesday, June 2, 2026, a presentation session for the digital platform, the African Market for Marketing Fishery and Aquaculture Products (MACPPA), was held at the headquarters of the Free Trade Administration Committee (CARF /FTAC).

The session was attended by the Executive Secretary of FTAC and his assistant, representatives from three fish processing and export companies Bertrand Produits Export (BPE), Global Fresh Product (GFP), and Société des Conserves de Côte d'Ivoire (SCODI) and a delegation from INFOPÊCHE, led by its Director, Mr. AKAFFOU Atsé Casimir Eric , accompanied by four of his colleagues.

This meeting allowed participants to learn about the platform's operating procedures and the

advantages of using it.

The interactive discussions permitted the representatives of these three organizations to better understand the tool and express their expectations in a spirit of collaboration and open communication.

The representatives from various industries welcomed this initiative and appreciated the robustness of this innovative tool, which they consider a true driver of performance and development for their activities.

Through this action, INFOPÊCHE reaffirms its commitment to supporting institutions and companies in the fisheries sector in adopting innovative solutions to achieve their objectives and strengthen their competitiveness.

(INFOPÊCHE)



Latest News

Agadir - Morocco, June 2026

AGADIR : MACPPA impresses stakeholders in the fisheries sector during a RAFEP's training workshop

The city of Agadir, Morocco, hosted a major training workshop on June 8th and 9th, 2026, organized by COMHAFAT for members of the African Network of Women in Fisheries (RAFEP). The workshop focused on the theme: "Project for the Preparation of Traditional Surimi for the Benefit of RAFEP Members."

This high-level meeting brought together decision-makers, experts, technicians, and stakeholders in the fisheries sector from several African countries to discuss opportunities for processing, adding value, and marketing fishery products, with a particular emphasis on the economic empowerment of women involved in artisanal fishing.

The workshop was structured around four main sessions. The first session focused on the presentation of the surimi training program and the nutritional value of fishery products.

The second session focused on communication and marketing strategies for surimi-based products. The third session, dedicated to sales platforms and the promotion of fishery products, was one of the highlights of the meeting. Finally, the fourth session provided an opportunity to review the progress made in promoting the empowerment of women within the RAFEP network in the promotion of fishery products. Speaking during the third session, INFOPÊCHE conducted a live online demonstration of MACPPA (African Market for the Marketing of Fisheries and Aquaculture Products), an innovative digital platform designed to facilitate trade between stakeholders in the African fisheries sector.

Speaking during the third session, INFOPÊCHE presented a live online demonstration of MACPPA (African Market for the Marketing of Fisheries and Aquaculture Products), an innovative digital platform designed to facilitate trade between stakeholders in the African fisheries sector.

Conceived as a true digital marketplace serving fisheries and aquaculture professionals, MACPPA offers a modern showcase for the promotion, marketing, and networking of producers, processors, traders, and buyers across the African continent.

The demonstration, conducted by INFOPÊCHE experts, particularly captured the attention of the participants. Through a dynamic and interactive presentation, the platform's various functionalities were highlighted: publishing product offers, finding business partners, adding value to processed products, increasing the visibility of economic operators, and accessing new markets.

Participants particularly praised MACPPA's ability to address the current marketing challenges faced by sector stakeholders, especially women involved in the artisanal processing of seafood products.

A tool adapted to the valorization of surimi and processed products

One of the most appreciated aspects of this presentation, was the demonstration of MACPPA's potential for promoting and marketing seafood products, as well as processed products like surimi, the product at the core of the training workshop.

The representatives of INFOPÊCHE showed how this platform can be a powerful lever for economic development for RAFEP members by allowing them to present their products to a wider market, increase their visibility, and develop new business opportunities beyond national borders.

Following this demonstration, many participants expressed their satisfaction with the quality of the presentation and the relevance of the tool presented. The ensuing discussions led to enthusiastic praise for INFOPÊCHE for this digital initiative, which is fully aligned with the sector's modernization efforts.



With this noteworthy presentation in Agadir, INFOPÊCHE confirms its role as a strategic partner in the digital transformation of the fishery sector in Africa and in promoting innovative solutions that enhance the value of fishery products, improve their quality, and increase the incomes of stakeholders in the industry.

This workshop highlighted the importance of training, innovation, and digital technology as essential drivers for the sustainable development of artisanal fishing and the economic empowerment of African women.

(INFOPÊCHE)



JSDO 2026: the ORC mobilizes stakeholders around the challenges of sustainable fishing in Côte d'Ivoire

The Oceanographic Research Center (CRO/ORC) hosted the third edition of the Departmental Scientific Day of Oceanography (JSDO) on Tuesday, June 9, 2026, under the theme: **“Sustainable Fisheries: Issues and Challenges.”**

This scientific meeting brought together representatives from public institutions, the private sector, researchers, and professionals from the fisheries industry at the Center's premises to discuss solutions for the sustainable management of lagoon and marine fisheries resources in Côte d'Ivoire.

In his welcoming address, Professor Ouattara Bafetigué, Director of the ORC, commended the participation of the various stakeholders and emphasized the importance of dialogue between scientific research and users of fisheries resources. He reiterated that sustainable fisheries are now a major issue for food security, the preservation of marine ecosystems, and the socio-economic development of coastal communities.

The opening address was delivered by Mr. Konan Angama, a consultant in fisheries and sustainable development. Speaking on the central theme of this year's conference, he highlighted the main challenges facing the Ivorian fisheries sector, including increasing pressure on resources, the need for collaborative governance, and the adoption of responsible fishing practices to ensure the sustainability of fish stocks.



The proceedings were then marked by four high-level scientific presentations addressing key issues in sustainable fishing:

- Dr. COULIBALY Bakari presented a paper on the rational management of industrial sardine fishing, highlighting the regulatory mechanisms necessary for stock preservation.
- Dr KOUADIO Frédéric addressed the issue of the rational management of beach seine fishing, an activity whose impacts on resources and ecosystems require particular attention;
- Dr EDOUKOU Abekan presented the results of his work on bio-ecology in sustainable tuna fishing, emphasizing the importance of scientific knowledge in developing appropriate management measures;
- Dr KONAN Olivier for his part, developed the theme of the value chain of small pelagic fish, highlighting their strategic role in food security and the national economy;

Beyond the scientific presentations, the day fostered fruitful exchanges between researchers, experts, and stakeholders in the fisheries sector.

Discussions focused on the challenges of sustainable marine resource exploitation, coastal fisheries management mechanisms, and strengthening collaboration between research institutions and industry stakeholders.

INFOPÊCHE's participation in this event aligns with its mission to disseminate fisheries information and raise awareness among stakeholders.

Through its presence, the institution contributed to promoting rational coastal fisheries management mechanisms and enhancing understanding of current sustainable fisheries issues in Côte d'Ivoire.

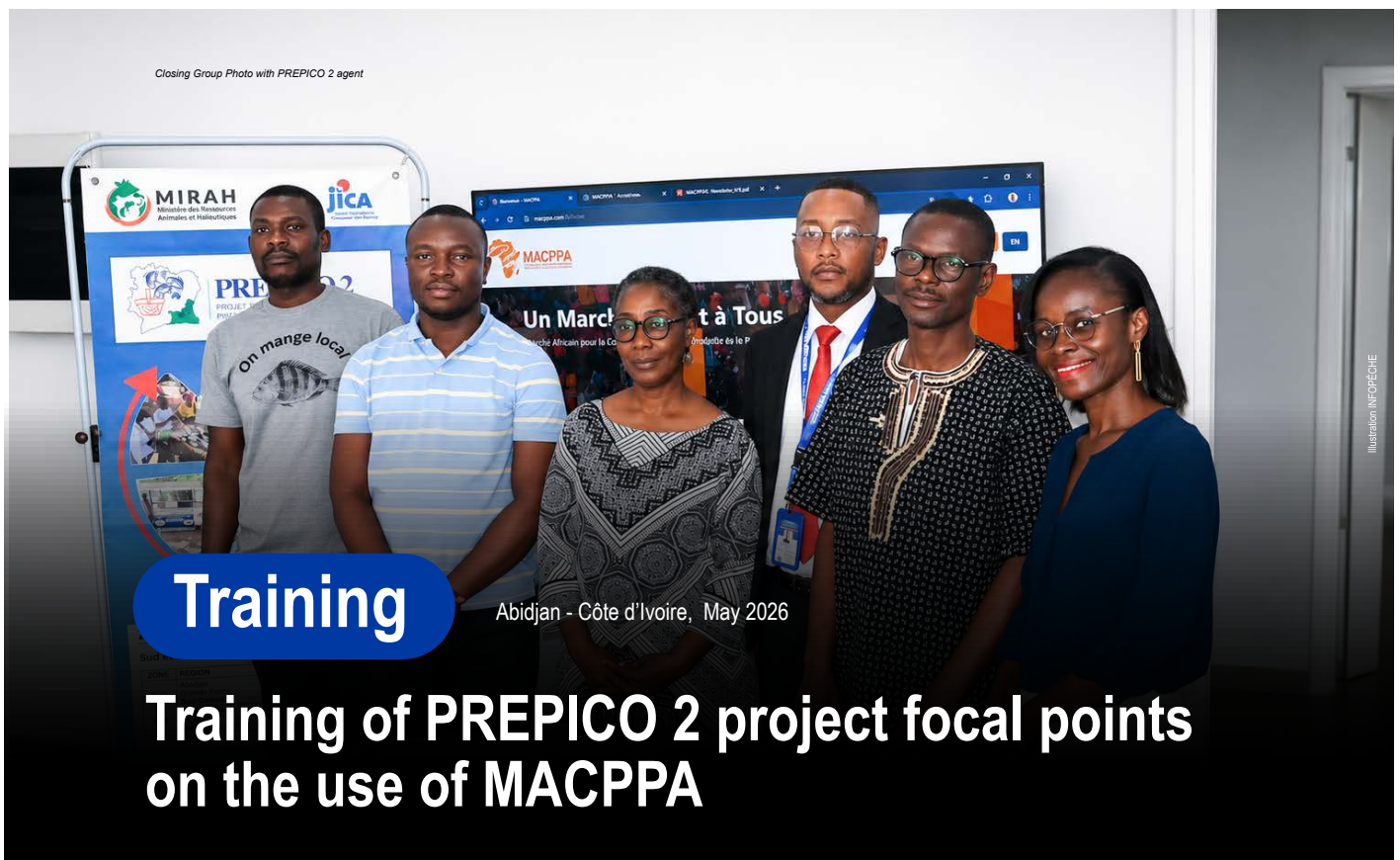
This third edition of the JSDO confirms the CRO's central role in the production and application of scientific knowledge to support the sustainable management of national fisheries resources.

(INFOPÊCHE)



Training

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Training

Training of PREPICO 2 project focal points on the use of MACPPA

As part of its mission to promote and enhance the value of fisheries products in Africa, INFOPÊCHE organized a training session on May 5, 2026, for the PREPICO 2 project focal points. This activity is part of an ongoing effort to strengthen the skills of stakeholders in the sector and improve marketing mechanisms for fishery and aquaculture products.

This training focused primarily on the use of the MACPPA (African Market for Marketing of Fishery and Aquaculture Products) digital platform, an innovative digital tool developed to facilitate trade, improve the visibility of operators, and promote the integration of fishery markets across Africa.

During this meeting, participants were introduced to the platform's various functionalities, including publishing product offers, searching for business partners, accessing market opportunities, and learning about mechanisms to increase the visibility of businesses and organizations in the sector.

Particular attention was paid to practical aspects to ensure optimal mastery of the tool and its effective

use within the PREPICO 2 project activities. Held in a professional yet friendly atmosphere, the session fostered constructive exchanges between the INFOPÊCHE's teams and project representatives. Discussions addressed the challenges related to marketing fishery products and explored the opportunities offered by digital technology to strengthen the competitiveness of fishing and aquaculture stakeholders.

Beyond skills transfer, this initiative reflects the shared commitment of both organizations to promote innovative solutions for the sustainable development of the fisheries sector. It also underscores the growing importance of digital technologies in modernizing fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa.

This training marks the beginning of a promising collaboration between INFOPÊCHE and the PREPICO 2 project. The two partners intend to continue their efforts to foster greater market integration, improve access to market information, and contribute to the creation of new economic opportunities for stakeholders in the sector.

(INFOPÊCHE)

Training

Abidjan - Côte d'Ivoire, May 2026

MACPPA takes a new step in its deployment with the training of PSTACI agents

On Tuesday, May 12, 2026, the headquarters of the Strategic Program for Aquaculture Transformation in Côte d'Ivoire (PSTACI) hosted an important working and training session dedicated to the African Market for Marketing of Fisheries and Aquaculture Products (MACPPA), an innovative digital platform developed by INFOPÊCHE to modernize the marketing channels for fishery products on the continent.

This meeting brought together several key players in fishery and aquaculture sector around a common objective: to strengthen the integration of African markets through digital tools and promote better pricing for African fishery products.

During the session, participants benefited from practical demonstrations allowing them to discover the platform's main functionalities. They were introduced to registration procedures and the publication of product offerings. Discussions highlighted the system's ease of use, its accessibility for different user profiles, and the diversity of products already listed.

Participants also appreciated the opportunities offered by the tool in terms of expanding business opportunities and improving the competitiveness of companies in the sector.

Through the progressive rollout of the MACPPA in the various member states, INFOPÊCHE reaffirms its commitment to innovation and the digitalization of the sector.

The organization intends to make digital technology a powerful catalyst for economic growth, regional integration, and value creation for communities dependent on fishing and aquaculture.

This session, held at PSTACI, thus marks a new step in promoting a modern, connected fisheries ecosystem resolutely focused on the opportunities offered by the digital economy.

It also demonstrates the commitment of institutional and professional stakeholders to building a more efficient sector, capable of meeting market demands while contributing to food security and the economic development of the African continent.

(INFOPÊCHE)



Training

Abidjan - Côte d'Ivoire, May 2026

INFOPÊCHE trains staff from the Fisheries Directorate, the Aquaculture Directorate, and the Pro-valorisation Directorate on the use of MACPPA

A new milestone has been reached in the digitalization of fishery marketing in Côte d'Ivoire. Following the official handover of administrator codes for the African Market for Marketing of Fishery and Aquaculture Products (MACPPA) to the Director of Fisheries, a major training session was held on May 13, 2026, at the Fisheries Directorate headquarters.

This training, provided by experts from INFOPÊCHE, brought together managers and technical staff from the Fisheries Directorate, the Aquaculture Directorate, and the Value Chain Development Directorate. Its aim was to enable participants to master the platform's functionalities and ensure the effective management of information related to fishery and aquaculture products.

During this session, participants were introduced to the various MACPPA modules, including platform administration, posting offers, and monitoring commercial data. This activity is part of the modernization of the Ivorian fisheries sector and the desire of the authorities to strengthen the competitiveness of fishery and aquaculture stakeholders through digital technologies.

INFOPÊCHE, thus, reaffirms its commitment to innovation and the digitalization of marketing for fisheries and aquaculture products. With the deployment of MACPPA, the institution continues its efforts to make markets more accessible, streamline trade, and strengthen the competitiveness of fisheries and aquaculture stakeholders in Africa.

(INFOPÊCHE)



Jacqueville: the Digitalisation for trading fishery products

As part of its mission to support stakeholders in the sector, INFOPÊCHE organized a training session on Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at the Jacquerville Aquaculture Station, dedicated to the use of MACPPA (African Market for Marketing of Fishery and Aquaculture Products), a digital platform.

This initiative is part of the ongoing effort to modernize marketing channels for fishery and aquaculture products, fostering better connections between the various links in the value chain through digital tools.

During this training session, participants were introduced to the platform's main functionalities. The modules presented covered topics such as creating user accounts, publishing product offers, accessing market opportunities, and mechanisms

that facilitate trade, transformation, and other interactions within the sector.

The session, characterized by strong participation and enriching discussions, allowed participants to express their concerns and receive practical answers on how to best use the tool.

This interactive approach helped strengthen their understanding of the platform and consolidate their user skills.

NFOPÊCHE, thus, reaffirms its commitment to innovation and the digitalization of marketing for fishery and aquaculture products. With the deployment of MACPPA, the institution continues its efforts to make markets more accessible, streamline trade, and strengthen the competitiveness of fishery and aquaculture stakeholders in Africa.

(INFOPÊCHE)

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Press Release

Deleavry of fishery closure

by the Minister of Animals Resources
and fisheries



REPUBLIQUE DE COTE D'IVOIRE



Union – Discipline – Travail

LE MINISTRE

**DECLARATION DE FERMETURE DES PECHEES 2026 DE MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE
DES RESSOURCES ANIMALES ET HALIEUTIQUES**

Ivoiriennes, Ivoiriens,
Chers acteurs du secteur de la pêche,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

Le **1er juillet 2026** marquera le début officiel du repos biologique ou fermeture saisonnière des pêches en Côte d'Ivoire. Au seuil de cette échéance importante pour la préservation de notre patrimoine halieutique, je m'adresse aux communautés de pêcheurs, aux mareyeuses, aux organisations professionnelles, à l'ensemble des acteurs de la filière et aux populations ivoirienne avec un sens élevé de responsabilité.

Le repos biologique n'est pas une simple mesure administrative. Il constitue un impératif écologique, économique et social. Suspendre ou encadrer temporairement certaines activités de pêche permet de favoriser la reproduction des espèces, la croissance des juvéniles et la reconstitution naturelle des stocks.

Depuis son introduction en 2023, cette mesure s'est progressivement étendue de la mer aux eaux lagunaires et continentales. Les efforts constants ces dernières années ont produit des résultats encourageants. En effet, de 2022 à 2025, les captures globales dans les eaux sous-juridictions ivoiriennes sont passées de **85 727 tonnes à 102 873 tonnes**, soit une progression d'environ 20 %. Ces résultats probants nous confortent dans la nécessité de poursuivre la mise en œuvre du repos biologique, tout en l'adaptant aux réalités techniques, sociales et économiques de chaque milieu.

Sous la haute autorité de Son Excellence Monsieur Alassane Ouattara, Président de la République, et sous la conduite du Premier Ministre, Monsieur Robert Beugré Mambé, le Gouvernement maintient le cap d'une gestion responsable et durable des ressources halieutiques, au bénéfice des générations présentes et futures.

Ainsi, pour l'année 2026, le repos biologique reposera sur deux approches complémentaires, à savoir :

- **un repos biologique intégral dans les eaux marines**, permettant d'assurer une période de tranquillité effective des zones de pêche, de réduire fortement l'effort de pêche pendant cette période critique et garantir une meilleure cohérence avec les efforts régionaux de gestion des stocks partagés ;
- **et un repos biologique sélectif dans les eaux lagunaires et continentales**, ciblant prioritairement les engins et pratiques les plus impactant sur les ressources, tout en maintenant une activité minimale encadrée pour les méthodes de pêche jugées moins destructrices et conformes à la réglementation.

Cette distinction traduit la volonté du Gouvernement de concilier l'exigence de conserver la ressource et les réalités sociales des communautés riveraines. Elle permet d'être plus efficace dans la protection des stocks, sans créer de rupture totale des activités de pêche et sans appliquer indistinctement les mêmes restrictions à des milieux et à des pêcheries qui ne présentent pas les mêmes caractéristiques.

Ainsi, le calendrier du repos biologique 2026 est fixé comme suit :

a) Repos biologique intégral dans les eaux marines

- *Pêche industrielle chalutière et pêcherie des petits pélagiques ou sardinières : fermeture totale du **1er juillet au 31 août 2026** ;*

- *Pêche semi-industrielle : interdiction de pêcher toutes les espèces autres que le thon et les espèces apparentées du 1er juillet au 31 août 2026 ;*
- *Pêche artisanale maritime : fermeture totale du 1er juillet au 31 juillet 2026.*

b) Repos biologique sélectif

- **Dans les eaux lagunaires**

Dans les lagunes Aby, Ébrié, Grand-Lahou, Fresco, Ébounou, Lauzoua, les lacs Ayamé et Faé, les engins suivants sont interdits pendant la période du 1er juillet au 31 août 2026 :

- *Les filets maillants et les Nassses ;*
- *Le filet Ay ou la senne tournante halée à bord du 1er juillet au 31 octobre 2026.*

- **Dans les eaux continentales**

Dans les lacs de Kossou, Buyo, Soubré, Taabo et les cours d'eau adjacents, les engins suivants sont interdits pendant la période du 1er septembre au 31 octobre 2026.

- *Les filets maillants et les nasses ;*

Chères communautés riveraines, chers pêcheurs,

J'appelle au civisme, à l'esprit républicain et à la responsabilité individuelle de chaque acteur de la filière. Respecter cette trêve, c'est préserver la Côte d'Ivoire. J'exhorte donc à une mobilisation nationale autour de cette mesure :

- **Aux pêcheurs**, je demande de respecter scrupuleusement les périodes de fermeture ;
- **Aux autorités administratives et locales**, je demande d'apporter un appui constant aux services techniques ;
- **Aux organisations professionnelles**, je demande de poursuivre activement la sensibilisation de leurs membres ;
- **Aux forces de défense et de sécurité**, je demande de continuer à sécuriser et accompagner les opérations de surveillance ;
- **Aux consommateurs**, je demande de prendre conscience que protéger la ressource aujourd'hui, c'est garantir notre approvisionnement de demain.

L'État veillera à l'application rigoureuse de la loi. Sous la coordination des services du Ministère, du Centre de Surveillance des Pêcheries, des forces de défense et de sécurité, ainsi que des autorités préfectorales, un contrôle strict sera déployé sur tout le territoire.

Le Gouvernement compte sur l'engagement collectif pour faire du repos biologique 2026 une pleine réussite. C'est guidé par ce devoir d'unité et de solidarité nationale que je déclare officiellement la fermeture des pêches 2026 conformément au calendrier établi.

Je vous remercie.



Sidi Tiémoko TOURE



HEADLINE

Value-added products in Côte d'Ivoire : The case of surimi

The National Policy for the Development of Livestock, Fisheries and Aquaculture (PONADEPA 2022-2026) has set itself the general objective of guaranteeing food security in terms of quality animal protein and job creation, in line with the ambition of the President of the Republic, H.E. Alassane Ouattara, to make Côte d'Ivoire a united country, based on robust growth...



At the core of the fish processing industry in Côte d'Ivoire : the context of Surimi production

The National Policy for the Development of Livestock, Fisheries, and Aquaculture (PONADEPA 2022-2026) has set itself the overall objective of guaranteeing food security in terms of quality animal protein and job creation, in line with the ambition of the President of the Republic, His Excellency Alassane Ouattara, to make Côte d'Ivoire a united country, based on strong, sustained, and inclusive growth.

The overall objective of PONADEPA has been broken down into three strategic objectives :

- (i) improving governance of the sector,
- (ii) improving the productivity and competitiveness of environmentally sound livestock and fisheries sectors, and
- (iii) improving the livelihoods of stakeholders.

To achieve the established objectives, key sectoral projects have been created, including:

PRO-SURVEILLANCE, PRO-BREED, PRO-PORK, PRO-PASTORAL, PRO-SHEEP, PRO-DISEASE, PRO-DAIRY, PRO-INTEGRATED, PRO-INFRASTRUCTURE, PRO-INFORMATION, PRO-EVALUATION, PRO-VALORISATION, PRO-CONSERVATION, PRO-AQUACULTURE, PRO-DIVERSIFICATION, PRO-SLAUGHTER HOUSE, PRO-FOOD, PRO-CATTLE and PRO-DEVELOPMENT.

As part of the implementation of the PRO-VALORISATION project, the Ministry of Animal Resources and Fisheries has established a

center dedicated to training in fish product processing, called the Center for Application and Specialization in Fish Products. This center, created by Decree No. 393/MIRAH/CAB of May 16, 2023, operates in the following areas:

- High-quality initial training in fish product processing techniques and surimi preparation, based on an approach combining theory and practice
- Skills training, through retraining or retraining of workers in the sector;
- Training and support for candidates seeking to establish themselves in the fish processing industry;
- Research and development aimed at improving food and nutritional practices, particularly in health centers and school canteens.

Furthermore, INFOPÊCHE, whose objective is to contribute to the development and modernization of the fisheries sector in its member states, wishes to gain a deeper understanding of the fish processing industry through Ivorian surimi production in order to promote it through its communication channels, notably its INFOPÊCHE newsletter.

To this end, an interview conducted by INFOPÊCHE was granted to the Coordinator of the PRO-VALORISATION project Colonel ALLECHI Yapo Ludovic, General Engineer of Water and Forestry.

(INFOPÊCHE)

Editorial Interview

*Exclusive Interview with Colonel ALLECHI Yapo Ludovic,
Coordinator of the PRO-VALORISATION project.*

By INFOPÊCHE



What are the main objectives of the project ?

As a project focused on processing fishery and aquaculture products, the main objectives are grouped into 7 points:

- 1- **Ensuring the processing of fishery products** by establishing processing units to convert fresh products into higher value-added products (smoked fish, surimi, etc.), diversifying products to meet the needs of local, regional, and international markets, and reducing post-harvest losses through modern preservation techniques.
2. **Improve the preservation and quality of fishery products** by introducing appropriate preservation techniques (cooling, improved smoking, drying, etc.), ensuring compliance with hygiene, food safety and traceability standards, and improving the handling and storage conditions of the products.
3. **Strengthening capacity building of stakeholders** through training fishermen, fishmongers, and processors on modern processing techniques, good hygiene practices, support for stakeholders in the management of processing units, and promotion of professionalization and organization of stakeholders in the sector.
4. **To ensure economic development and increasing job opportunity** in the fish processing sub-sector by creating direct and indirect jobs in fishing areas and coastal communities, increasing the incomes of stakeholders in the fish value chain, and encouraging entrepreneurship in processing and marketing.

Colonel ALLECHI Yapo Ludovic
Project Coordinator
PRO-VALORISATION Project



5. Improve the marketing of fishery and aquaculture products by facilitating access to markets (urban, regional, and export markets), developing more efficient distribution channels, and promoting processed fish products.

6. Supporting food sovereignty through: increasing the availability of quality fish protein for the population and reducing imports of fish products by promoting domestic production.

7. Participate in sustainable resource management by encouraging responsible use of fishery resources, by promoting the by-products (heads, bones, viscera) to limit the waste and integrating environmentally friendly practices.



What are the objectives for the implementation of the PRO-VALORISATION Project?

The overall objective of the PRO-VALORISATION project is to promote the consumption of fishery products and improve nutrition through the rational and sustainable use of fishery resources.

Specifically, this project aims to achieve three(3) objectives: to provide training to beneficiaries on fishery product processing techniques and any new relevant methodologies identified; to improve food and nutrition practices within health centers and school canteens; and to strengthen organizational and technical capacities.



What are the expected results ?

In terms of expected results:

- **1,400 young people and women** are trained in fish processing techniques;
- **Processed foods prepared** using the center's methods are integrated into 35 school canteens and health centers
- **10 women's processing** cooperatives are equipped with fish processing and marketing equipment; and
- **50 young entrepreneurs** are established

The project targets young people, women...



How is the project implemented?

The implementation of the PRO-VALORISATION project is based on four essential components.

First, the Fish Processing Application and Specialization Center is positioned as the main tool for implementing the project.

The second component concerns youth employability and integration. Youth integration is achieved through the establishment of small processing and marketing units for fishery products. **The third** component deals with product value addition and market access.

The fourth component is project management. The project targets young people, women, women's associations cooperatives, fishermen, fishmongers, artisanal processors, and restaurant owners as beneficiaries.

The project is being implemented across the entire national territory, particularly in areas of major fish production, with a base at the Surimi Training Centre located in Abidjan.



The issue of processing fishery products remains a major challenge today. What is being done in this area?

The processing of fishery products is now a major challenge for improving fish preservation, reducing post-capture losses, and increasing the added value of the sector. In this area, several actions have been carried out, notably:

The modernization of processing techniques; ; indeed, significant efforts are being made to improve traditional methods of Fish processing, particularly smoking and preservation techniques.



To this end, the Government has established Developed Landing Points (DLPs) in several production areas. These include Abidjan, Grand Lahou, Sassandra, and San-Pédro. Within these facilities, improved smoking ovens, including FTT ovens, as well as modern preservation equipment have been installed.

These improvements allow for better valuation of fishery products, by promoting the production of higher quality, safer, and more preservable products. They also contribute to significantly reducing post-harvest losses. Furthermore, the Government intends to continue and intensify these initiatives so that the main fishery production areas are progressively equipped with improved landing points. Among the areas concerned are Grand Bassam and Grand-Béréby, Béoumi, and Kossou.

Capacity building for stakeholders

Training programs are organized each year for fishermen, fishmongers, and processors to strengthen their capacities in several areas, particularly on good hygiene and processing practices, improved techniques for preserving fishery products, and on management and marketing methods. As such, 800 young people and women have already been trained. Furthermore, the Ministry of Animal and

Fisheries Resources (MIRAH), through the project, recently established a center dedicated to the processing of fishery products, called the Center for Application and Specialization in Fishery Products (CAS-VALORISATION). This center was created by decree No. 393/MIRAH/CAB of May 16, 2023.

Support for the creation of processing and marketing units for fish products:

The Ministry of Animal and Fisheries Resources (MIRAH), with the support of its technical and financial partners, is supporting the establishment of small and medium-sized processing units to better add value to local fish production. These units are located in the main production areas, particularly in Abidjan, Grand-Lahou, Sassandra, and Guessabo.

These infrastructures enable the production and marketing of various processed fish products, including smoked fish, produced using improved ovens, and surimi, made from local fish resources. Furthermore, other support measures are being implemented, notably the provision of tricycles and kiosks to cooperative societies of processors and fishmongers. This equipment helps strengthen the marketing of processed products, while facilitating their distribution and access to local markets.



Isn't the surimi production an opportunity for adding value to seafood products?

Surimi is a traditional Japanese food made from fish. It is rich in nutrients that the body needs, including vitamins and minerals. It was introduced in 2016 by the NGO UMINOKUNI. Indeed, surimi production can represent a real opportunity for adding value to seafood products in Côte d'Ivoire, where certain fish species with low commercial value, particularly small pelagic fish, fried fish, and sardinella, are undervalued or under-consumed. It contributes to:

Adding Value to Low-Market Species

Surimi is a fish paste made from deboned, washed, and stabilized fish flesh. Thus, fishery resources that would otherwise be unprofitable can be transformed into high-value products, such as surimi.

Reducing Losses and Waste

Surimi production helps to valorize by-catch and fish that do not meet fresh market standards by transforming them into value-added products, thereby reducing post-harvest losses. This contributes to the better utilization of fishery resources.

Creating High-Value Products

Surimi serves as a raw material for several highly demanded processed products (surimi sticks, fish balls, fish sausages, breaded products, and surimi burgers). These products have a long shelf life and are easy to distribute in markets.

The creation of economic and industrial opportunities

The development of a surimi sector can not only foster the creation of fish processing industries, generate jobs in processing and distribution, but also strengthen the competitiveness of the fishing sector.

Contribution to food sovereignty

Surimi-based products are rich in protein and can contribute to diversifying the food supply while making seafood more accessible to consumers.



Do you think surimi is appreciated by consumers?

Yes, surimi has been generally accepted by consumers in Côte d'Ivoire since its introduction in 2016, largely due to changing eating habits, information and communication campaigns conducted as part of the project, and its relatively affordable price. In Côte d'Ivoire, fish is already among the most consumed foods (fresh, smoked, grilled, fried, etc.).

This means that the population has a strong tradition of consuming seafood, which has facilitated the introduction of surimi. Surimi is sold in some high schools and colleges in Abidjan.

In conclusion, this fish processing project represents a strategic opportunity to sustainably enhance the value of fishery resources and ensure food sovereignty. It also creates jobs, improves the incomes of stakeholders, and boosts the local economy. With the support of partners and the commitment of industry stakeholders, this project makes a significant contribution to the sustainable development of the fisheries sector in Côte d'Ivoire.

Colonel ALLECHI Yapo Ludovic
Project Coordinator
PRO-VALORISATION Project

The Deciphering

by INFOPÊCHE

At the core of fish processing in Côte d'Ivoire: the context of Surimi production..

Côte d'Ivoire : Surimi: an opportunity to diversify diets and enhance the value of fishery resources

While fish consumption remains among the highest in West Africa, Côte d'Ivoire continues to face a significant gap between local supply and population needs. According to available data, national fish consumption is estimated at nearly 24.9 kilograms per capita per year, while local production covers only about 17% of demand, thus reinforcing the country's dependence on imports.

In this context, surimi, a product made from processed fish flesh, could represent an attractive alternative for Ivorian consumers and a new opportunity to add value to national fisheries resources.

A product still relatively unknown to consumers

Despite its recognized nutritional qualities, surimi remains relatively marginal in the diets of Côte d'Ivoire, where consumers primarily prefer fresh, smoked, dried, or grilled fish. Yet, this protein-rich product offers several advantages: it is convenient, quick to prepare, and can be made in various forms to suit the needs of modern households. To encourage its widespread adoption, experts believe that an ambitious marketing strategy tailored to local realities is necessary.

A consumer focused strategy

The first step would be to better understand the expectations of the Ivorian market. Urban households in Abidjan, Bouaké, San Pedro, Yamoussoukro, Daloa, Man, and Bondoukou would be among the main target markets, along with restaurants, maquis (local eateries), hotels, supermarkets, convenience stores, and school and university canteens.

Analyzing fish consumption habits, the purchasing power of the population, and competing products such as tuna, sardines, smoked fish, sausages, and meat would allow for an effective adaptation of the product offering.

A modern and accessible positioning

To attract consumers, surimi could be presented as a convenient alternative to fresh fish, a protein-rich product that's easy to prepare. Its image as a modern and accessible product would be an asset for conquering new markets. A slogan such as, "The taste of fish, ready in minutes," could support this awareness campaign.

A range adapted to Ivorian tastes

Product innovation appears to be a key driver for the success of surimi in Côte d'Ivoire. Several formats could be offered to the public, including sticks, balls, nuggets, surimi sausages, as well as smoked or spicy versions inspired by local flavors. Marketing small packages at affordable prices would also allow access to a wider customer base and encourage first-time purchases

A strengthened presence through all distribution channels

Product distribution should rely on a diversified network including supermarkets, hypermarkets, convenience stores, traditional markets, neighborhood shops, and food wholesalers. The restaurant sector also represents a strategic outlet, particularly street food stalls, fast-food outlets, university restaurants, hotels, and institutional catering facilities. In parallel, digital platforms, social media, and home delivery services could help increase product visibility among young urban consumers.

Focus on communication and customer experience

Experts recommend a strong social media presence through quick recipe videos, tasting sessions, and increased product awareness. Radio

and television campaigns, as well as outdoor advertising, could complement this strategy. Free tasting events in supermarkets, in-store promotions, and cooking competitions would also help familiarize consumers with surimi.

"Ivorian-style Surimi," a promising innovation

One of the most promising avenues lies in adapting the product to local eating habits. Professionals are already considering recipes inspired by Ivorian cuisine, such as attiéké with surimi, braised surimi, allocos with surimi, rice with surimi, surimi sandwiches, and spicy kebabs. This approach would facilitate the product's acceptance by naturally integrating it into the population's eating habits.

A contribution to the development of the fishing industry

Beyond its commercial appeal, the development of surimi could contribute to the valorization of local fisheries resources, reduce post-harvest losses, and create new economic opportunities for stakeholders in the fishing and seafood processing sectors.

Partnerships with culinary schools, regional university social services centers, and school nutrition programs could accelerate this momentum.

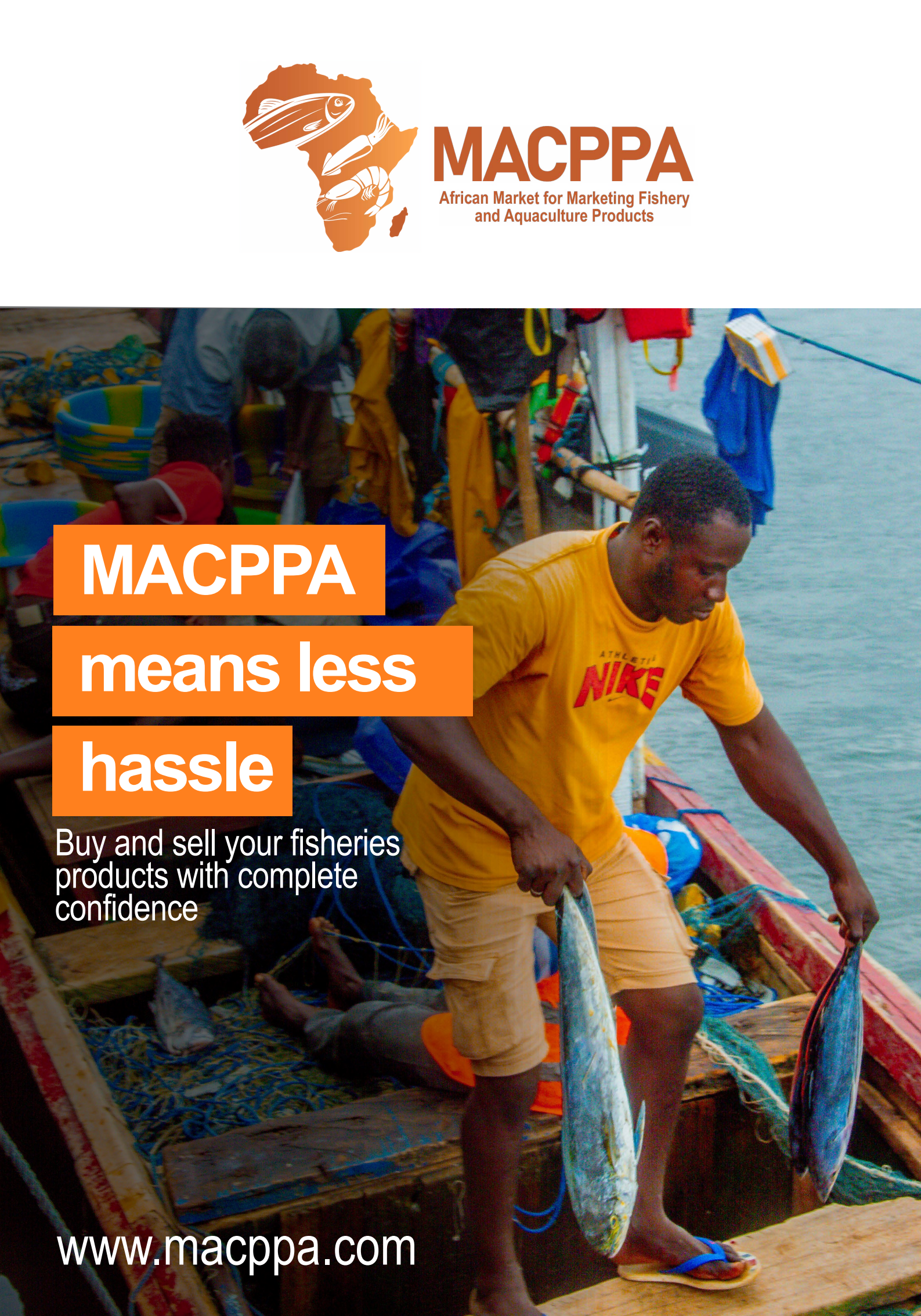
In the long term, a strategy combining awareness, innovation, accessibility and institutional partnerships could allow surimi to find its place in the daily diet of Ivorians and contribute to the sustainable development of the national fishing industry.

(INFOPÊCHE)



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FOCUS

Overview on fisheries Directorate

At the core of Côte d'Ivoire's aquatic resource management policy, the Directorate of Fisheries occupies a strategic position in ...

Photo of Colonel FOFANA Bina,
the Current Director of Fisheries



Illustration INFOPÊCHE

Directorate of Fisheries of Côte d'Ivoire: a pillar of sustainable fisheries resource management

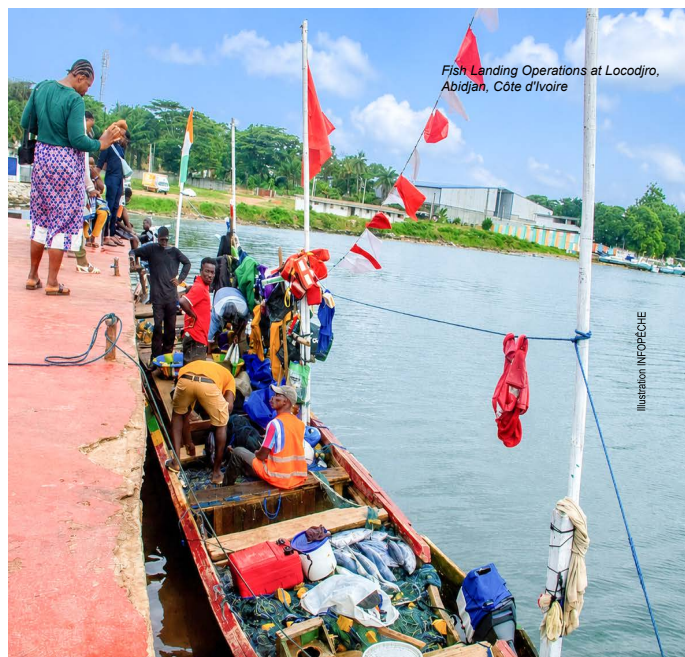
At the core of Côte d'Ivoire's aquatic resource management policy, the Directorate of Fisheries occupies a strategic position in the development of the national fisheries sector. Under the supervision of the Ministry of Animal and Fisheries Resources (MIRAH), this directorate is responsible for ensuring the implementation of public policies related to the exploitation, sustainable management, and monitoring of the country's fisheries resources.

An institution that helps develop the fishing sector

The Directorate of Fisheries is part of the Ivorian government's commitment to the sustainable management of marine, lagoon, and inland fishing activities. Its institutional evolution reflects the numerous reforms undertaken over the past several decades to modernize the sector and address the challenges of food security, resource

conservation, and combating illegal fishing. With over 500 kilometers of coastline, a vast lagoon network, and numerous inland waters, Côte d'Ivoire possesses significant fisheries potential, the management of which requires rigorous technical oversight.

The Directorate of Fisheries is entrusted with numerous missions covering the entire value chain of the fisheries sector. It coordinates public and private initiatives aimed at improving national fish production, develops regulatory proposals related to fishing, and ensures the application of existing legislation. It also participates in the design of development programs for marine, lagoon, and inland fisheries. The institution also plays a major role in the fight against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, a phenomenon that threatens the sustainability of fish stocks. It participates in fisheries monitoring operations, fisheries enforcement, and the control of fishing activities throughout the national territory.



Three main areas of expertise

The Fisheries Directorate's interventions are structured around three (3) main areas::

- Marine and lagoon fishing

This area concerns the management of resources exploited in the country's marine and lagoon waters. It includes monitoring artisanal and industrial fishing activities as well as implementing resource conservation measures.

- Inland fishing

This component focuses on the exploitation of fisheries resources in rivers, lakes, dams and other inland bodies of water. It contributes to improving the conditions of inland fishing communities.

- Fisheries monitoring

This mission aims to ensure compliance with national and international fishing regulations. It includes the monitoring, control and surveillance of fishing activities, the certification of catches, the safety of artisanal fishers and the collection of statistical data relating to fishing activities.

A structured organization

The Fisheries Directorate comprises three (3) sub-directorates:

- **The Sub-Directorate of Maritime Fisheries ;**
- **The Sub-Directorate of Inland Fisheries ;**
- **The Sub-Directorate of Lagoon Fisheries;**

These entities ensure the operational implementation of public policies in their respective areas. Deputy directors are appointed by ministerial decree and hold the rank of Deputy Director of Central Administration.

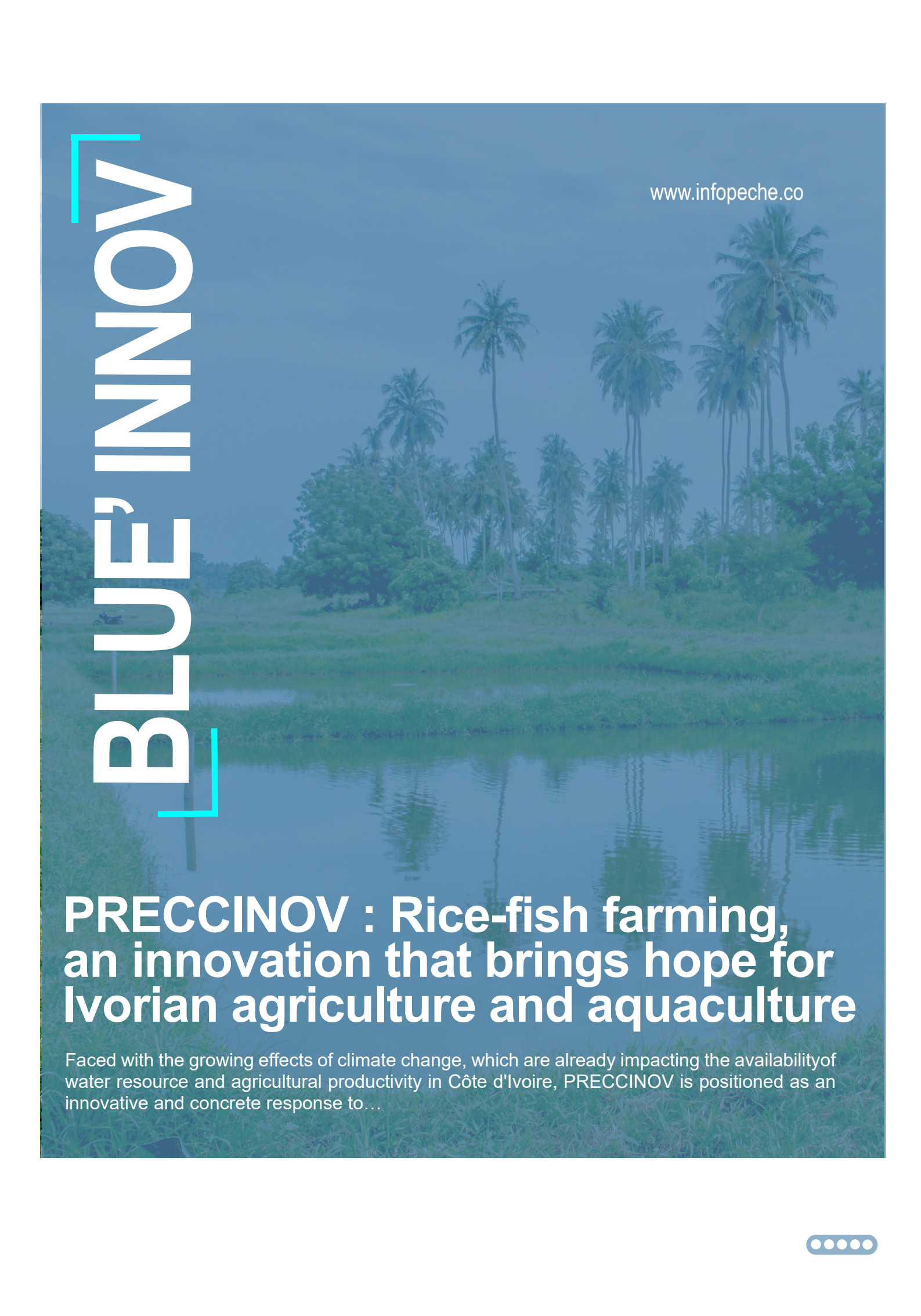
Beyond its core responsibilities, the Directorate of Fisheries contributes to the regular supply of fish products to the Ivorian market. It participates in the promotion of fish marketing and processing infrastructure, as well as in improving the quality of products intended for consumption. It also supports professional organizations, fisheries research programs, and participates in initiatives aimed at strengthening the sector's contribution to local economic development.

An institution focused on the future

Faced with growing national demand for fish, the need to preserve resources, and the challenges posed by illegal fishing, the Directorate of Fisheries is continuing its modernization. In recent years, under the leadership of Colonel Bina FOFANA, the current Director of Fisheries, it has contributed to the implementation of digital systems for collecting and processing fisheries data in order to improve resource management and decision-making.

Through its regulatory, monitoring, and development activities, the Directorate of Fisheries remains one of the Ivorian government's main instruments for ensuring the responsible exploitation of fisheries resources and guaranteeing the sustainability of the fisheries sector in Côte d'Ivoire.

(INFOPÊCHE)



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BLUE' INNOV

PRECCINOV : Rice-fish farming, an innovation that brings hope for Ivorian agriculture and aquaculture

Faced with the growing effects of climate change, which are already impacting the availability of water resource and agricultural productivity in Côte d'Ivoire, PRECCINOV is positioned as an innovative and concrete response to...





Photo of the TONLA NOMTIA Facility

Illustration INFOPÊCHE

PRECCINOV : Rice-fish farming, an innovation that brings hope for Ivorian agriculture and aquaculture

From May 5 to 9, 2026, a field monitoring mission conducted as part of the Project to Strengthen the Resilience of Smallholder Farmers to the Effects of Climate Change through the Adoption of Proven Innovative Technologies and Practices (PRECCINOV) observed encouraging progress in the pilot phase of rice-fish farming. INFOPÊCHE participated in visits to the various developed sites to document the results achieved.

Faced with the growing effects of climate change, which are already impacting water resource availability and agricultural productivity in Côte d'Ivoire, the PRECCINOV project is positioned as an innovative and concrete response to support the adaptation of rural producers.

Funded to the tune of 4 million US dollars by the Adaptation Fund, this project is implemented by FIRCA as the National Implementing Entity and executed by ANADER over the period 2023-2026.

The project's ambition is clear: to sustainably strengthen the resilience of smallholder farmers through the adoption of proven technologies that enable better water management, increased productivity, and income diversification.

Among the innovations promoted, rice-fish farming is generating particular interest among beneficiaries and is emerging as one of the most promising solutions for simultaneously addressing agricultural, food, and climate challenges.

Rice-fish farming: When rice and fish reinforce each other

Rice-fish farming is based on a simple yet effective principle: combining rice cultivation and fish farming in the same production area. This complementarity creates a virtuous circle where the fish naturally fertilize the rice paddies with their waste, while the rice plots provide them with a suitable habitat and part of their diet..



The fish feed the rice, and the rice feeds the fish”

According to ANADER technicians, “the fish feeds the rice and the rice feeds the fish”, a formula which perfectly sums up the spirit of this integrated technology.

Beyond its agronomic advantages, rice-fish farming responds to several major challenges facing Ivorian producers: the scarcity of water, the increase in production costs, the growing demand for rice and fish products as well as the need to diversify the income of rural households.

By allowing producers to harvest both rice and fish on the same site, this approach offers a seconde source of income that is particularly appreciated by beneficiaries. The sale of fish indeed constitutes an important financial supplement which strengthens the economic security of agricultural operations.

Encouraging results recorded the pilot sites

The field mission in which INFOPÊCHE participated allowed them to visit several pilot sites where initial results demonstrate the potential of this innovation.

In Oumé, beneficiaries are already convinced.

At the Tonla Nontia site, two direct beneficiaries, Ms. Sanogo Mariam and Mr. Traoré Nontia, are testing the technology with results deemed satisfactory. The site includes two 800 m² fish ponds and six rice paddies totaling 2,400 m². The development work and activities, supported by ANADER, are progressing well, and the beneficiaries, through Mr. Traoré Nontia, expressed their satisfaction with the technical support received within the framework of the project.

According to field observations, combining fish farming and rice farming already offers promising prospects for profitability and the efficient use of available resources.



Photo of the TONLA NONTIA Facility

In Yamoussoukro, a larger-scale pilot project is underway

in Petit Bouaké, in the Yamoussoukro region. Five beneficiaries are participating in this pilot phase. The project provided them with 6,500 fingerlings weighing approximately 5 grams each, several kilograms of fish feed, and appropriate production equipment. The site includes five fish ponds of 400 m² each, five 1,200 m² constructed plots, and four 1,200 m² cultivated rice paddies.

These facilities allow the farmers to familiarize themselves with integrated rice-fish management techniques while benefiting from ongoing support from the project's technical teams.

A technology appreciated despite the challenges

As any large-scale innovation, the pilot phase of rice-fish farming faced some technical and organizational challenges. However, observations made during the field mission revealed strong support from producers for this technology.

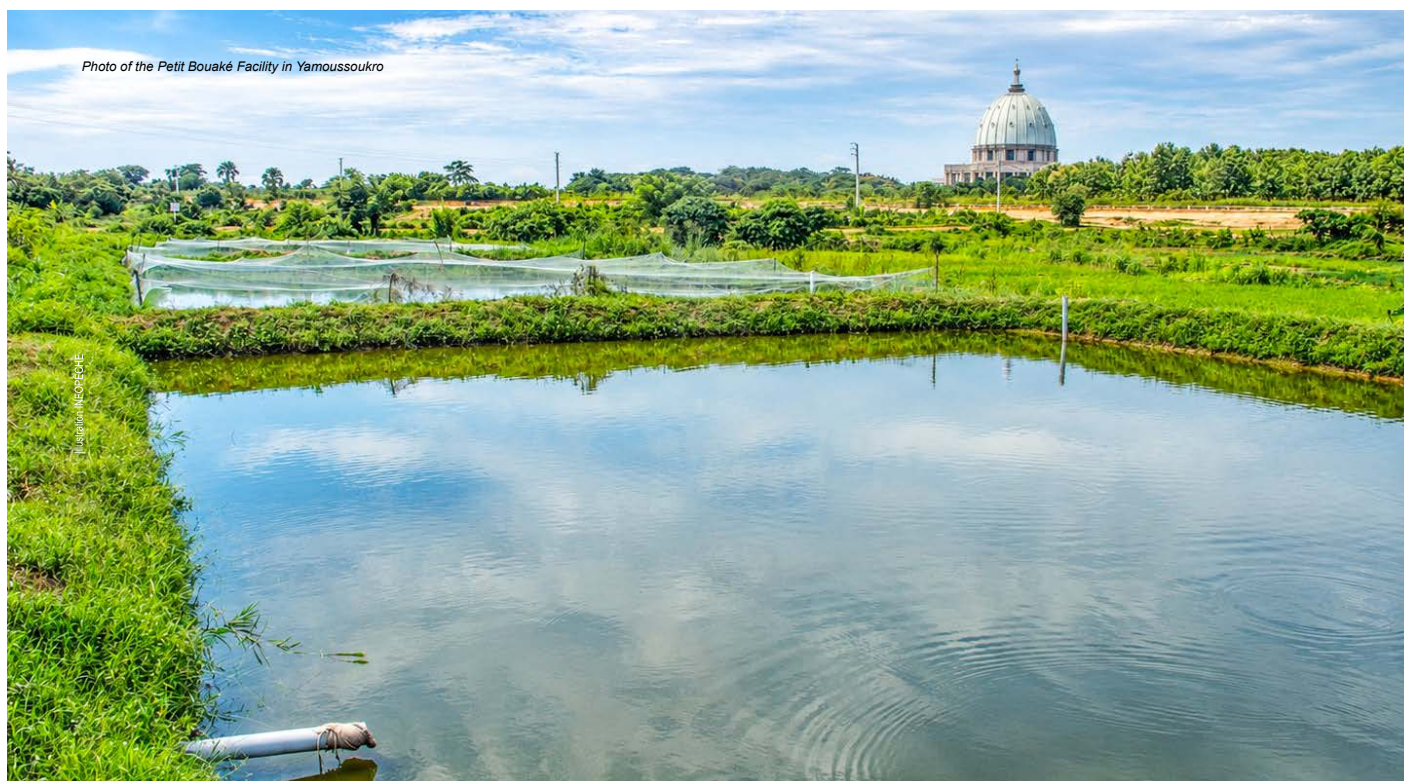


Photo of the Petit Bouaké Facility in Yamoussoukro

Beneficiaries particularly emphasized the opportunities it offers in terms of income diversification, optimized water use, and improved household food security. The ability to market rice and fish simultaneously is a major advantage in a context where farmers are seeking solutions to secure their incomes related to climate risks.

Towards a national expansion of rice-fish farming

At the end of this pilot phase, the outlook appears promising. PRECCINOV plans a gradual rollout of the technology in several other locations across the country to allow a greater number of producers to benefit from this innovation.

Through the creation of educational units, producer training, the development of rice-fish farming areas, support for agricultural professional organizations, and the implementation of appropriate microfinance mechanisms, the project aims to promote the sustainable adoption of this practice.

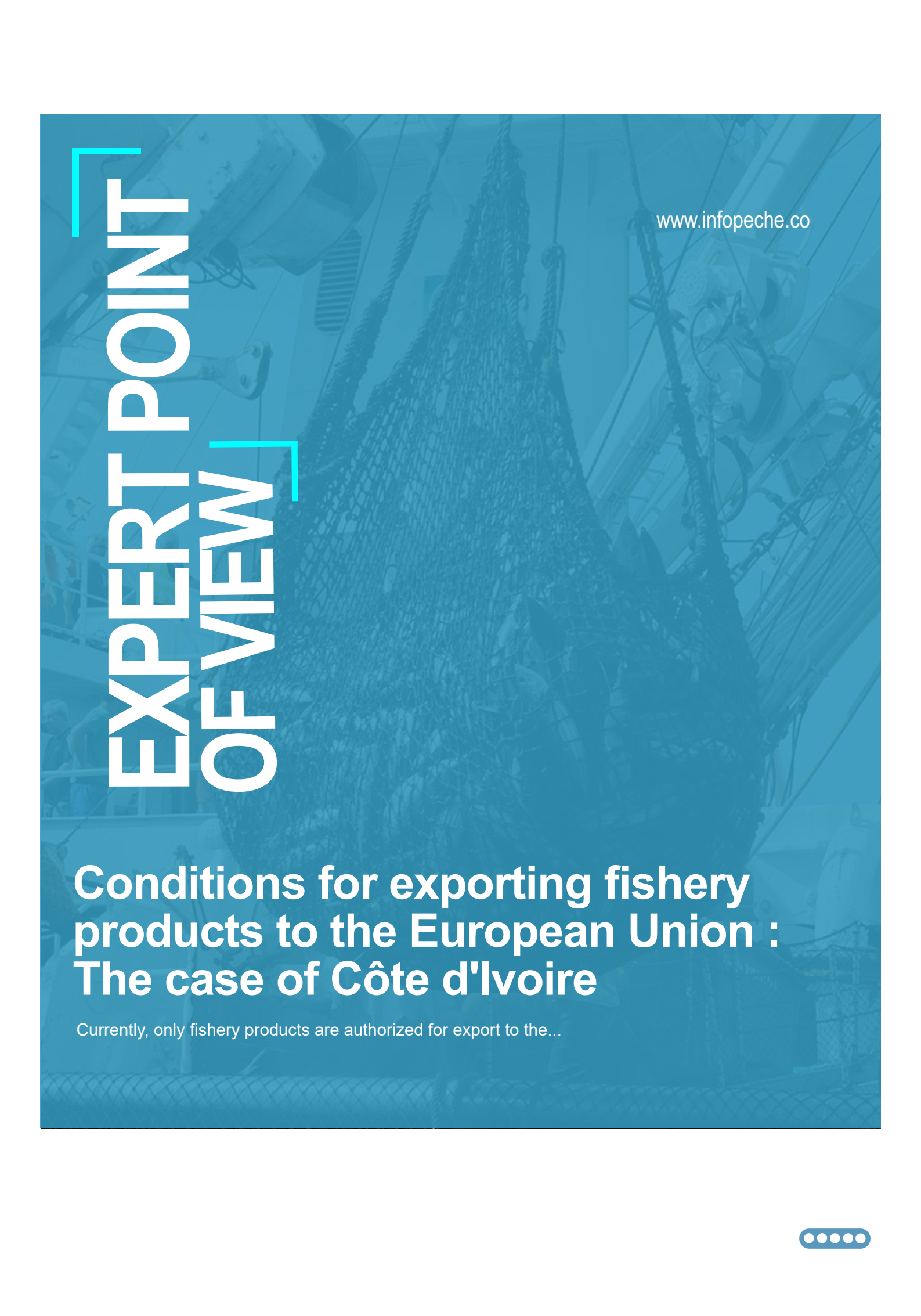
By targeting nearly 1,200 rice-fish farmers, the PRECCINOV project is contributing to building more resilient, more productive production systems better adapted to the climate challenges of tomorrow.

Rice-fish farming is now emerging as much more than a technical innovation: it represents a genuine development opportunity for rural communities in Côte d'Ivoire, reconciling food security, income generation, and the sustainable management of natural resources.

(INFOPÊCHE)



Mr. NOMTIA, Project Beneficiary



EXPERT POINT OF VIEW

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Conditions for exporting fishery products to the European Union : The case of Côte d'Ivoire

Currently, only fishery products are authorized for export to the...



Conditions for exporting fishery products to the European Union : The case of Côte d'Ivoire.

Currently, only fishery products are authorized for export to the European Union (EU). Any operator wishing to export their products to the EU must comply with the requirements below.

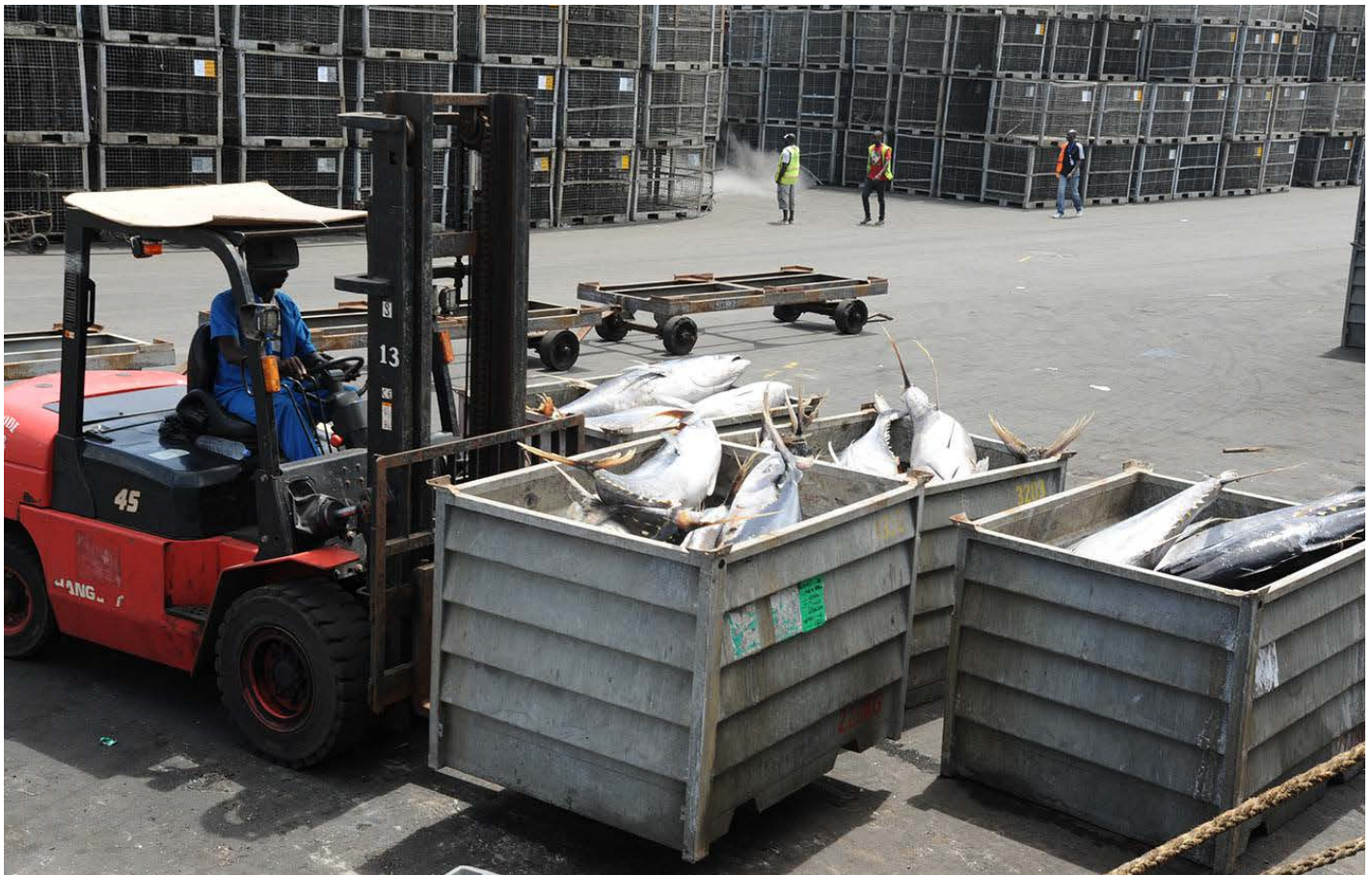
I. Legal and regulatory requirements

1. Be authorized to operate in the food service sector DAOA (Business Register, Tax Registration)
2. Be approved by the Competent Authority in accordance with applicable national regulations.
3. Comply with regulatory requirements (EU Hygiene Package) and the requirements of the target market (country, continent, etc.)

II. Sanitary requirements

A food safety management plan (FSMP) must be obtained, based on the template available from the Competent Authority. The information in the FSMP template covers, in particular, the following elements:

1. Premises and equipment must comply with the provisions of Decree No. 66/MIPARH of July 1, 2010, establishing the health regulations governing the production and marketing of fishery products intended for human consumption
2. Processed and/or transformed products must meet the hygiene and food safety principles and conditions set forth in Decree No. 66/MIPARH of July 1, 2010, establishing the health regulations governing the production and marketing fishery products intended for human consumption.



3. Ensure staff adhere to current health and safety requirements.
4. Implement an annual training plan.
5. Have a skill team to implement and execute a self-monitoring plan.
6. Have a skill team to implement and execute a HACCP plan.
7. Implement a traceability mechanism for products intended for export.
8. Implement operational procedures.
9. Establish a site plan of the facility and its immediate surroundings.
10. Implement an operational plan for managing non-conforming products.

Source : Veterinary Services Directorate (DSV/VSD)

Réseau FIN (Fish InfoNetwork)



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Page 49	INFOFISH unveils the theme and highlights of the TUNA2026 program

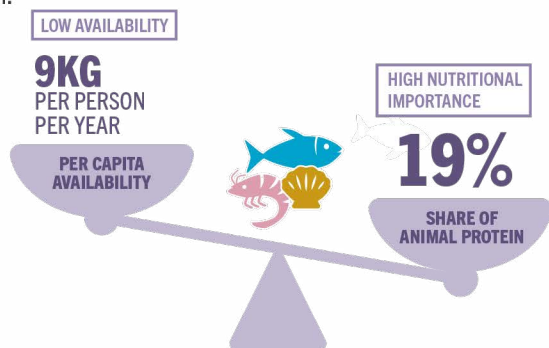


THE STATE OF WORLD FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

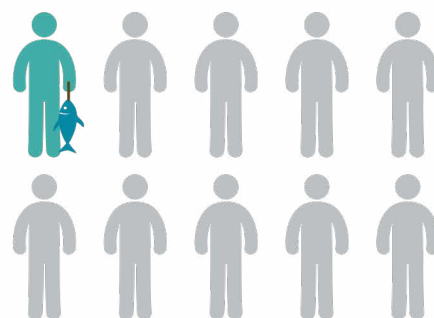
AFRICA

FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SUPPORT NUTRITION AND LIVELIHOODS IN AFRICA — 2024

Despite the world's lowest availability, aquatic animal foods are key for nutrition.

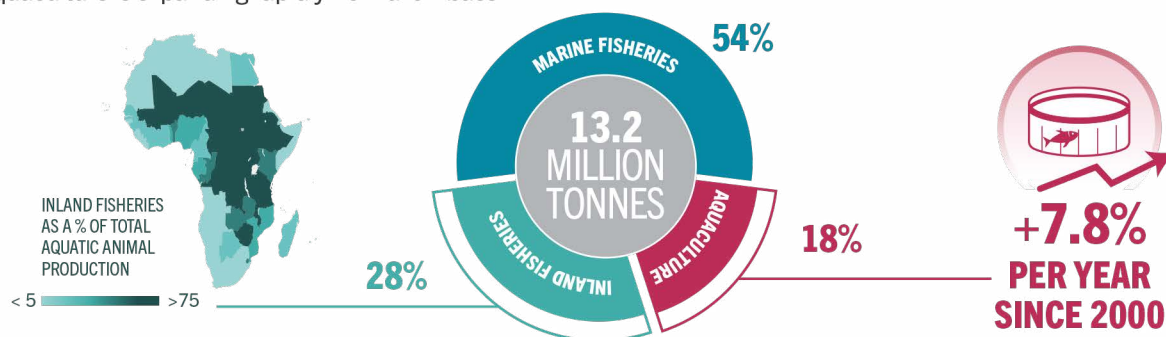


The sector supports one in ten livelihoods. Inland fisheries is the main employer in the primary sector.



MARINE FISHERIES LEAD, INLAND FISHERIES SUSTAIN, AQUACULTURE GROWS — 2024

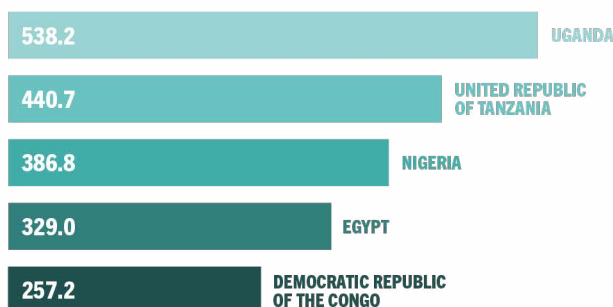
While marine fisheries drive production, inland fisheries support nutrition in landlocked and low-income countries, and aquaculture is expanding rapidly from a low base.



Refer to the disclaimer on the last page for the names and boundaries used in this map. Final boundary between the Republic of Sudan and the Republic of South Sudan has not yet been determined. Final status of the Abyei area is not yet determined.

PRODUCTION IS CONCENTRATED — 2024

INLAND FISHERIES (AQUATIC ANIMALS): production is spread across countries with major freshwater systems.



Unit: thousand tonnes (live weight equivalent).

AQUACULTURE (AQUATIC ANIMALS): the five top producers account for nearly 90 percent of production.



Unit: thousand tonnes (live weight equivalent).

Africa relies heavily on aquatic foods for nutrition and livelihoods, despite low availability. Fisheries play a central role, while aquaculture is expanding rapidly.

- AQUATIC ANIMAL FOODS PLAY A KEY ROLE IN DIETS**
Although per capita availability is the lowest in the world, aquatic animal foods provide 19 percent of animal protein across Africa, the second-highest share in the world.
- INLAND FISHERIES ARE A KEY SOURCE OF FOOD AND EMPLOYMENT**
Largely small-scale, inland fisheries are a major source of employment (54 percent of primary sector employment) and a key supplier of aquatic animal foods in many parts of Africa, especially in rural areas.
- AQUACULTURE IS EXPANDING RAPIDLY**
Aquaculture accounts for about 18 percent of total aquatic animal production in Africa. Though still a small share, it is expanding at the fastest rate globally and has the potential to play a larger role in meeting rising demand.
- RAPID POPULATION GROWTH LIMITS PER CAPITA AVAILABILITY**
Total availability of aquatic animal foods has increased over time, but rapid population growth keeps per capita availability the world's lowest.
- IMPORTS HELP CLOSE THE GAP IN FOOD AVAILABILITY**
A third of aquatic animal food availability comes from imports that supplement domestic availability and expand access to aquatic animal foods.
- SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES ARE CENTRAL TO THE SECTOR**
They sustain local food systems and drive employment across coastal and inland contexts.

OUTLOOK

- Despite increases in total availability from domestic production (+13 percent, of which 37 percent from aquaculture), rapid population growth in Africa is expected to limit gains in per capita availability, which is projected to decline by 2034.

AFRICA
THE SECTOR AT A GLANCE

AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCTION — 2024



13.3
MILLION TONNES



AQUATIC ANIMAL FOOD AVAILABILITY — 2023



13.4
MILLION TONNES

AQUATIC ANIMAL PRODUCT TRADE — 2024

Exports



3.0 MILLION TONNES
WORTH
USD **8.4** BILLION

Imports



4.0 MILLION TONNES
WORTH
USD **5.9** BILLION

PRIMARY SECTOR EMPLOYMENT — 2024



6.1
MILLION PEOPLE

FISHING FLEET — 2024



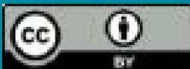
0.3 MILLION
(MOTORIZED)



0.5 MILLION
(NON-MOTORIZED)

The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture is the second most read FAO flagship report and the most cited and referenced global report on fisheries and aquaculture. It provides a comprehensive analysis of the global and regional status and trends in fisheries and aquaculture, with updates on the status and health of marine fishery resources.

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on these map(s) do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of FAO concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers and boundaries.



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**THE STATE OF WORLD
FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE
2026**



GLOBEFISH

FAO GLOBEFISH's contribution is included in the report of the CAPFISH West Africa Summer Academy

The World Maritime University (WMU) has published a report on the Capacity Building Project to Advance the Implementation of International Instruments to Combat IUU Fishing (CAPFISH) Academy for West Africa.

This report highlights the contribution of FAO's GLOBEFISH program to the third edition of the CAPFISH Regional Academy, leveraging its technical expertise on international and regional trade in fisheries products.

Global fisheries and aquaculture production reached a record 223.2 million tonnes in 2022, with an estimated first-sale value of approximately US\$472 billion. Aquatic products continue to be among the most traded food commodities globally. The sector is also undergoing significant structural changes, including the rapid expansion of aquaculture, Asia's central role in global production and exports, and the growing importance of low- and middle-income countries.

However, marine resources are under constant pressure, with 37.7% of assessed marine stocks classified as overexploited in 2021. IUU fishing is a complex and multifaceted problem affecting global fisheries and leading to significant environmental, social, and economic consequences. FAO combats IUU fishing through a range of international instruments that adopt a multidimensional approach, including improving understanding of the legal origin and provenance of fish.

These instruments include the Port State Measures Agreement (PSMA), the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries (CCRF), and the Voluntary Guidelines on Catch Documentation Systems and Transshipment.

The CAPFISH project was developed to address the capacity-building needs related to illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing, as highlighted in the recommendations of the fourth and fifth meetings of the Joint FAO/IMO/ILO Working Group on IUU Fishing and Related Issue.

Source : <https://www.fao.org/in-action/globefish/news-events/news-/news-detail/fao-globefish-contribution-featured-in-the-capfish-west-africa-summ>



INFOFISH

INFOFISH unveils the theme and highlights of the TUNA2026 program

INFOFISH is pleased to announce the highlights of the 19th edition of the INFOFISH World Tuna Show & Exhibition (TUNA 2026), which will be held from September 7-9, 2026, at the Shangri-La Hotel in Bangkok.

Under the theme **"Strengthening Value Chain Synergies, the Blue Economy, and Sustainability in the Global Tuna Industry,"** the conference will bring together global industry leaders and policymakers to foster strategic dialogue, enhance collaboration, and develop forward-looking solutions for a rapidly evolving sector. Building on the momentum of Tuna 2024, which focused on sustainability and regulatory harmonization, Tuna 2026 broadens the discussion by integrating

responsible practices with commercial competitiveness, value chain efficiency, and blue economy growth opportunities. The conference will highlight ways to strengthen coordination across the entire value chain, from harvesting and processing to logistics, trade, and consumer markets, ensuring that sustainability goes hand in hand with strong business performance.

Now in its 19th edition, "Tuna 2026" remains the leading global platform bringing together leaders from fishing, processing, trading, branding, and distribution companies, as well as policymakers, regional fisheries management organizations (RFMOs), technology providers, and financial institutions.

For more information, please enter the link dedicated to the conference: INFOFISH The Asia - Pacific Fishery Service Centre.

Source :* INFOFISH



Policy Brief: The Strategic Transformation of African Port Cooperation

By Dr Amadou Tall, Senior Governance and Blue Economy Expert

FILE

Policy Brief: The Strategic Transformation of African Port Cooperation

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Executive Summary

The Pan Africa Association for Port Cooperation (PAPC) has entered a critical phase of institutional evolution, shifting from a traditional infrastructure-focused body to a high-tech continental coordinator. As the umbrella organization for PMAWCA (West/Central), PMAESA (East/Southern), and UAPNA (North), the PAPC is now the primary vehicle for aligning Africa's maritime gateways with the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

The 2025–2026 policy cycle is defined by three non-negotiable imperatives: Digital Harmonization, Green Transition, and Operational Transparency. These imperatives are not merely aspirational; they are operational necessities in a context where Africa's annual infrastructure financing gap stands at \$68–108 billion, with transport and logistics infrastructure representing a disproportionate share of unmet demand. The African Development Bank estimates that closing this gap could increase continental GDP growth by 4.5 percentage points, potentially doubling economic output by 2040.

I. The Digital Mandate: The APC-PP Framework

1.1 From Silos to Systems

The central pillar of current policy is the African Ports Connectivity Portal Project (APC-PP), backed by the African Development Bank (AfDB) and a \$2 million MCDF grant. This initiative aims to eliminate the "information silos" that have historically hindered African trade by creating a single, harmonized data architecture across 38 port authorities.

In March 2026, the AfDB convened 104 port statisticians and maritime stakeholders in Abidjan for a five-day Data Validation and Capacity Building Workshop. Participants from 21 PMAWCA ports, 12 PMAESA ports, and 5 UAPNA ports worked to validate datasets and align performance measurement practices through a harmonized set of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).

1.2 The African Port Index: A Benchmarking Revolution

By standardizing KPIs through the African Port Index, the PAPC is creating a transparent benchmarking system that allows, for the first time, a data-driven comparison of port efficiency across the continent. Early demonstrations indicate the Index has strong potential as an analytical tool for investment decisions.

The methodology aligns with UNCTAD guidance and international standards, enhancing the comparability, reliability, and credibility of port data. As Marco Yamaguchi, Manager of the Transport and Logistics Division at the AfDB, noted: "Reliable and harmonized data plays a key role in improving competitiveness, attracting investment, and supporting informed policy discussions"

1.3 The African Port Data Book 2025

The workshop marked a key milestone in producing the African Port Data Book 2025 a flagship output designed to strengthen data-driven decision making. The Data Book will provide policymakers, port authorities, and investors with access to high quality, comparable data through a dedicated digital platform.

Investment Signal: The harmonization of port data reduces information asymmetry for international investors. Projects that previously failed at the feasibility stage estimated at 80% of African infrastructure projects now have a stronger evidence base for credit committee review.

II- Green Port Transition & Decarbonization

2.1 Aligning with IMO 2050 and EU Carbon Pricing

In alignment with IMO 2050 targets, the PAPC is spearheading the Africa Green Port Development Strategy. Policy has shifted toward "Smart and Sustainable" infrastructure, driven by the urgency of regulatory pressure: the IMO's global carbon pricing mechanism takes effect in 2028, while the EU's Emissions Trading System has already been applied to maritime transport since January 2024.

2.2 Priority Investment Areas

Quayside Electrification: Reducing the carbon footprint of berthed vessels through On-Shore

Power Supply (OPS) infrastructure.

Tanger Med has already installed OPS along 800 meters of quay at container terminal TC4, with an 8 MVA capacity capable of supporting one ultra large container vessel or two mid-sized ships simultaneously. This system avoids up to 100 tons of CO₂ emissions per stop.

Alternative Fuel Hubs: Positioning African ports as future bunkering stations for green hydrogen and e-fuels.

Tanger Med is actively preparing to integrate clean fuels into its operations, leveraging Morocco's favorable ecosystem for hydrogen production under the "Morocco H2 Offer" initiative. The port welcomed its first methanol-powered mega ship, the Ane Maersk, in March 2024 a milestone in green maritime logistics along the Asia-Africa-Europe corridor.

Climate Resilience: As highlighted in the 2025 Pointe-Noire meetings, reinventing port land management is now a priority to protect vital coastal assets from rising sea levels and extreme weather events. This includes coastal defense infrastructure, elevated cargo storage, and flood-resilient quay walls.

Tangier Med: The Benchmark Case: Tangier Med, ranked 17th globally by Alphaliner and 3rd globally for efficiency by the World Bank and S&P, has launched an ambitious \$200 million decarbonization program aiming for carbon neutrality across all direct activities by 2030.

Since December 2024, the port complex operates entirely on green electricity and is building a 13 MW floating solar plant on the Oued Ramel dam, expected online by Q4 2025.

III- Institutional Reform & Connectivity

3.1 The Landlord Port Model

The PAPC is actively promoting the "Landlord Port" model, encouraging a clear separation between regulatory oversight and private-sector operations. This reform is designed to boost competitiveness and attract global terminal operators.

Tangier Med's institutional design exemplifies this approach: the Tangier Med Port Authority (TMPA) operates as an autonomous body on commercial principles, managing concession agreements with private terminal operators including APM Terminals and CMA CGM. This model has enabled the port to grow from a modest fishing area in 2002 to handling

over 10 million TEUs annually by 2026 making it the largest port in Africa and the Mediterranean.

3.2 Multimodal Corridor Development

Ports are no longer viewed as terminal points but as essential nodes in a continental network. Key corridors include:

Table

Corridor	Route	Investment	Strategic Role
Abidjan-Lagos Coastal Motorway	Côte d'Ivoire → Ghana → Togo → Benin → Nigeria	\$15.6 billion	Primary West African trade artery connecting dynamic coastal cities
Central Corridor	Tanzania → Burundi → DRC → Malawi → Rwanda → Uganda → Zambia	Multi-billion	Facilitates trade across seven nations via road, rail, and waterways
North-South Corridor	Durban, RSA → DRC/Zambia copper belts	3,900 km	Lifeline for landlocked Southern African countries
Lobito Corridor	DRC/Zambia → Atlantic via Angola	US/EU backed	Critical minerals logistics corridor

These corridors are vital for Africa's 16 landlocked nations, reducing transit times and logistics costs that currently inflate the price of goods by up to 75% due to poor infrastructure.

3.3 East and Southern Africa: The Integration Frontier

PMAESA's Strategic Plan 2024-2028 outlines a comprehensive modernization agenda, including the Toolkit for Green Port Development, the African Ports Connectivity Portal, and a Pool of Experts Portal to streamline operations. The Port of Mombasa, East Africa's largest maritime gateway handling over 25 million tonnes of cargo annually, has reduced average cargo dwell time from over 10 days in 2018 to approximately 4–5 days by 2025 through digital transformation and JICA/AfDB-supported infrastructure expansion.

However, this remains well above the 2–3-day benchmarks of East Asian ports, indicating substantial room for further investment.

IV Challenges and the 2026 Action Plan: The Digital Divide

Despite significant progress, the gap between Tier-1 hubs (Tangier Med, Durban, Mombasa) and smaller regional ports remains acute. Many ports still use ageing infrastructure with limited berth space and cargo handling facilities, resulting in high congestion, waiting times, and costs.

Dwell time disparities illustrate this divide: while leading ports approach global benchmarks, cargo can sit for 15–20 days in some African ports compared to 3–4 days in Asia—often due to "soft" infrastructure failures: customs corruption, lack of digitization, and bureaucratic red tape.

4.1 The Financing Paradox

Africa holds an estimated \$4 trillion in capital across banks, pension funds, insurers, and sovereign institutions, yet this financial base fails to translate into infrastructure and industrial projects. The challenge is not lack of capital but the continent's limited ability to channel it into productive investments.

While China allocates about 14% of GDP to infrastructure, Africa invests only around 4%.

Around 80% of infrastructure projects fail at the feasibility stage, rarely due to lack of economic viability but rather poor project preparation.

4.2 2026 Roadmap Priorities

The 2026 roadmap focuses on:

Cyber Resilience: Ensuring port digital infrastructure is secure against growing cyber threats to maritime supply chains.

Human Capital Development: Ensuring port staff across all member states are trained in the latest maritime technologies. The March 2026 Abidjan workshop included practical training sessions to strengthen skills in data collection, analysis, and reporting.

South-South Cooperation: The landmark 2026 agreements between Morocco's ANP and regional partners are fostering a culture of shared expertise, replicating successful models like Tanger Med's across the continent.

V. Specific Investment Opportunities

Based on the African Port Data Book 2025 pipeline and current sector dynamics, the following opportunities offer the highest risk-adjusted returns:

5.1 Tier-1 : Digital & Green Retrofit (\$50M–\$200M per port)

- Target: Tier-2/3 ports in PMAWCA and PMAESA networks
- Components: Port Community Systems, IoT sensor networks, shore power infrastructure, solar PV integration
- Instruments: AfDB sovereign loans + MCDF technical assistance grants + private concession capital
- Expected Impact: 40–60% reduction in dwell times; compliance with IMO 2028 carbon pricing

5.2 Tier-2: Multimodal Corridor Nodes (\$200M–\$1B per corridor segment)

- Target: Abidjan-Lagos Corridor, Central Corridor (Tanzania), Lobito Corridor
- Components: Rail inland terminals, dry ports, customs modernization, last-mile road links
- Instruments : Blended finance (AFC + AfDB + EU/US DFI + private infrastructure funds)
- Expected Impact: Unlock AfCFTA trade potential; reduce landlocked country transit costs by 30–50%

5.3 Tier-3: Alternative Fuel Bunkering Hubs (\$500M+)

- Target : Tanger Med (expansion), Djibouti, Walvis Bay, Port Louis
- Components: Green hydrogen production, ammonia/methanol storage, bunkering infrastructure
- Instruments: Sovereign wealth funds, green bonds, hydrogen partnerships (EU Green Deal alignment)

- Expected Impact: First-mover advantage in Mediterranean/Indian Ocean green shipping lanes

5.4 Tier-4 : Climate Resilience Infrastructure (\$100M–\$500M)

- Target: Coastal ports vulnerable to sea-level rise (Pointe-Noire, Cotonou, Beira)
- Components: Elevated quays, flood barriers, resilient cargo storage, ecosystem-based coastal defense
- Instruments: Green Climate Fund, AfDB climate finance, catastrophe bonds
- Expected Impact: Protect \$50B+ in port assets; ensure trade continuity under climate scenarios

Conclusion

The PAPC is successfully repositioning African ports as integrated, efficient, and sustainable logistics hubs. with 38 port authorities now aligned on harmonized KPIs and the African Port Index demonstrating early analytical value.

For policymakers and investors, the message is clear: the future of African trade depends on The evidence from the March 2026 Abidjan workshop confirms that the APC-PP framework is moving from concept

- to operational reality,
- the continued transition to Smart Ports that are digitally connected, environmentally responsible, and regionally integrated.

The infrastructure financing gap while formidable at \$68–108 billion annually represents not just a challenge but an unprecedented opportunity for patient capital. Also, with long time horizons: pension funds, sovereign wealth funds, and development finance institutions that can match their return expectations to the genuine pace of port system transformation.

The ports that succeed will be those that treat digital infrastructure, green transition, and institutional reform not as separate initiatives but as an integrated value proposition One that de-risks investment, accelerates AfCFTA implementation, and positions Africa's maritime gateways as competitive nodes in the global supply chain.



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