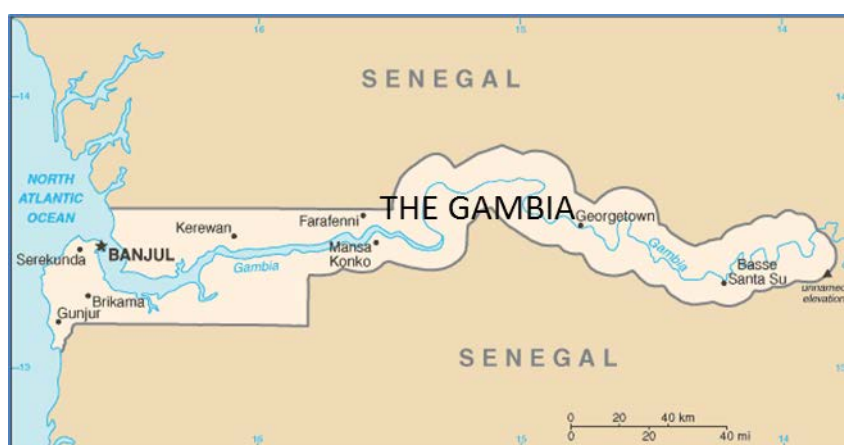


Gambia-Senegal Sustainable Fisheries Project

Semi-annual Report
October 1, 2009 – March 30, 2010

(LWA Associate Award No. 624-A-00-09-00033-00)



A partnership of:

United States Agency for International Development / West Africa
Coastal Resources Center, University of Rhode Island
World Wide Fund, West Africa Regional Office
Department of Fisheries
Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters, The
Gambia



Contact Information

Ousman Drammeh
Project Manager
Gambia-Senegal Sustainable Fisheries Program (Ba Nafaa)
Tel: 220-779-68-11
Email: o_drammeh@yahoo.com

Mat Dia
Director
World Wide Fund, The Gambia
Tel: 220-986-69-31
Email: matdia55@yahoo.fr

Brian Crawford
Director, International Programs
Coastal Resources Center
University of Rhode Island
Tel: 1-401-874-6225
Fax: 1-401-874-6920
Email: brian@crc.uri.edu

Kim Kaine
Global Program Coordinator
Coastal Resources Center
University of Rhode Island
Tel: 401-874-6823
Fax: 401-874-6920
Email: kkaine@crc.uri.edu

Ron F. Ruybal
Regional Environmental Advisor
U.S. Agency for International Development / West Africa
Tel: 233-21-741-113
Email: rroybal@usaid.gov

Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
1. Introduction	2
1.1 Background.....	2
1.2 Program Goal and Key Results.....	3
2. Progress on Year 1 Workplan Elements	5
2.1 Completion of Administrative Start-up Activities.....	5
2.2 Sole	5
2.3 Oysters	14
2.4 Shrimp.....	20
2.5 Sardinella	21
2.6 Export and Trade Promotion.....	23
2.7 Biodiversity Conservation	24
2.8 Capacity Building, Communications, Outreach and Coordination	26
3. Project Management	29
Appendix A. Performance Management Report	33
Results Framework	34
Life-of-Project (LOP) Targets per Indicator.....	35
Results to Date	37

Executive Summary

The *Ba Nafaa* project is a five-year regional initiative that promotes sustainable fisheries in the Senegal-Gambian marine ecosystems. This semi-annual report covers the first 6 month implementation period from October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2010. Project priorities during this time concentrate on the sole and oyster fisheries. Two other specific fisheries are part of the *Ba Nafaa* project – sardinella and shrimp. As planned, the only activities initiated in this initial reporting period for these fisheries were a shrimp value chain assessment and outreach and awareness raising meetings with sardinella Community Fishing Centers.

In both the sole and oyster fishery, a major goal is the development of comprehensive co-management plans that ensure the sustainable development of the fisheries and enhanced benefits to fishery sector participants. The oyster fishery is critical to the livelihood of more than 500 women gatherers, processors and sellers, and the sole fishery involves some 20,000 fishers, traders, and primary and secondary processors. Sole is one of the commercially important fish species that supplies the industrial fish processing and export companies in The Gambia.

Multi-day workshops were conducted with participants from the Fisheries Department and the fishing industry on sole stock assessment and co-management planning. These workshops provided the training to enable the Fisheries Department to begin sole by-catch assessment and sole stock assessment. With improved stock assessment capabilities, the sole fishery is on a path to becoming the first fishery in Africa internationally certified as sustainable by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC). In addition, a value chain assessment was conducted of the sole fishery to identify entry points for improving wealth creation and effectiveness in the value chain from fishing to processing to final sale. Priorities for the next period are to set up co-management committees in seven (7) Community Fishing Centers and to begin preparation of a single comprehensive co-management plan for the sole fishery. Vessel registration will also begin in the 3rd and 4th quarter.

In the oyster fishery, an extensive participatory rapid appraisal was conducted in partnership with the local foundation called TRY and the Fisheries Department. In cooperation with the Wula-Nafaa project, a study tour to the Saloum on oyster aquaculture was organized for 26 cockle and oyster harvesters and Fisheries Department field staff. Further peer to peer training is planned to bring new techniques to The Gambia on processing and packing of oyster and clams. Meetings were held with oyster harvesting communities and all relevant government agencies to achieve understanding and agreement on establishing a special management area, and development of a community-based management plan for oysters. A two day co-management workshop was held in February with over 50 participants. Training was also provided on oyster culture methods. Finally, a shrimp value chain was conducted and is under review that makes recommendations for interventions that add value and increase the effectiveness of the small scale oyster and cockle fishery. Support for micro credit, development of co-management plans, water quality studies, and institutional strengthening of the TRY non-profit foundation are activities with partners that the project will support over the next two quarters.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

The *Ba Nafaa* project is a five-year regional initiative supported by the American people through the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)/West Africa Regional Mission. It is implemented through the University of Rhode Island (URI)-USAID cooperative agreement on Sustainable Coastal Communities and Ecosystems (SUCCESS). The World Wide Fund West Africa Marine EcoRegional Program is the regional implementing partner. Project activities are carried out in partnership with the Department of Fisheries (DoFish) and stakeholders in the fisheries sector in The Gambia and in Senegal. The focus is on sustainable fisheries management including the shared marine and coastal resources between The Gambia and Senegal. However, most field activities are in The Gambia.

Period of Project:

The Cooperative agreement effective dates extend from May1, 2009 to April 30, 2014.

Planned Life of Project Value:

The total estimated cost of the project over the five year period is US\$ 2.5 million.

Principal Target Beneficiaries:

Direct: The direct beneficiaries of the project are the fisher folk (fishers, fish processors, fish traders, boat builders, fisheries mechanics, premixed fuel vendors, fishing communities and the economic operators involved in the market value chain), the fishing industry, government institutions (Fisheries Department and Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation), non-governmental organizations (GAMFIDA , NAAFO and TRY) are also direct beneficiaries. The oyster and cockle harvesters are also directly benefiting from the project.

Indirect: The indirect beneficiaries include the consumers, non-fishing businesses such as canteens, retail shops and restaurants established in Community Fisheries Centers, community-based organizations, and other local government agencies not mentioned above.

Structure of this Report:

This document describes the activities and accomplishments made in the first six months (Oct 2009 – March 2010) of the planned Year 1 work activities of the *Gambia-Senegal Sustainable Fisheries Project (Ba Nafaa)*. Most of the project start-up activities including staff hiring, office set-up, WWF sub-agreement development, local banking and stakeholder consultations to formulate the Year 1 workplan were undertaken from April, - September, 2009. The document is organized into several components. First, background information as well as Project goals and key results expected over the life-of-the-project are described. This is followed by a summary of Project accomplishments to date, and a detailed description of Project activities and accomplishments during this reporting period. Appendix 1 provides a summary of the

performance management plan framework, indicators and Life-of-Project targets and the results achieved for each performance indicator to date.

1.2 Program Goal and Key Results

The goal of the **Ba Nafaa** Project is to support the Government of The Gambia in achieving its fisheries development objectives by contributing to the following vision:

Artisanal fisheries and coastal ecosystems in The Gambia and selected stocks shared with Senegal are being managed more sustainably, incorporating significant participation of fisherfolk in decision-making, and attaining improved economic benefits for both men and women involved in the market value chain.

Ba Nafaa builds on the on-going efforts of the Department of Fisheries in The Gambia, working with several community fisheries centers and their management committees to improve fisherfolk involvement in the management of fisheries resources. More specifically, to further the development and implementation of the draft fisheries management plan for sole, sardinella, and shrimp. Shrimp and sole are important export commodities so this involves partnerships with export processing businesses as well. As gender equity is another important aspect of the project, **Ba Nafaa** is benefiting both men and women in the fisheries sector by also working with oyster harvesters—a women-dominated fishery whose importance is often under-recognized.

Key Results for the **Ba Nafaa** Project are to:

- Contribute to government objectives of sustained and increased social and economic benefits for artisanal fishing communities including food security, increased income and employment.
- Institutional capacity at all levels of governance to implement a fisheries co-management approach is strengthened in order to sustain socio-economic benefits for fisherfolk and other beneficiaries in the market value chain.
- Unsustainable and destructive marine resource use practices, including bycatch of marine turtles and juvenile fishes, are reduced.
- Key habitats and marine areas important in the life stages of commercially important fish as well as threatened and protected species of marine turtles and mammals are protected.

Project Strategies

- A participatory co-management approach that engages fisherfolk in decision-making.
- An ecosystem-based approach that looks not only at the fish, but protection of critical habitats and reduction of fishery impacts on threatened marine species
- Mainstreaming gender dimensions that provide opportunities for both men and women to benefit economically and participate in decision-making.
- A threats-based approach to coastal and marine biodiversity conservation.

Within The Gambia, specific objectives are to:

- Strengthen the capacity of community fisheries centers to manage fisheries and engage in more effective enforcement of rules through training and learning-by-doing.

- Strengthen the capacity of the DoFish and community management committees to conduct fisheries stock assessments and implement community-based management plans.
- Identify and then implement opportunities for improvements in the value chain of the key species of economic importance, including export opportunities that provide socio-economic benefits to Gambians.
- Establish community-based protected areas to serve as critical habitats for marine turtles and mammals and as spawning and nursery grounds for commercially important fish.

Regionally, the Project aims to:

- Strengthen regional management of shared stocks by addressing licensing and registration issues for domestic and foreign fishermen.
- Improve international trade competitiveness through harmonized policies.
- Increase regional cooperation for conservation of marine turtles and mammals.
- Promote bilateral exchanges of communities and government officials to share lessons and experience in improved management of fisheries.

Geographic Scope. The Project concentrates its activities on the marine and coastal resources and fisheries stocks shared among the Casamance, the Gambia River and Saloum Delta region—an area of regional biodiversity significance (see Figure 1). The majority of on-the-ground activities occur in The Gambia, where *Ba Nafaa* focuses on the artisanal nearshore fisheries along the Atlantic coastline as well as the estuarine- and mangrove-dominated portions of The Gambia River (see Figure 1 below). A sister project in Senegal, called the Wula Nafaa project, is working on fisheries management in the Saloum Delta and Casamance River. Together, these two USAID-supported initiatives are expected to have a significant impact on improved management of this biodiversity-rich area.



Figure 1. Areas of Biodiversity Significance in the WAMER and The Gambia River Estuary and Atlantic Coast

2. Progress on Year 1 Workplan Elements

The work priorities for Year 1 concentrate on the sole and oyster fisheries in The Gambia and regional exchanges with Senegal. The planned to engage in only a few limited activities this year in the shrimp fishery which is a bit more dispersed in terms of landings and more complicated in terms of the management issues. While part of the original plan was to work with the sardinella fishery, this was reconsidered as the *Ba Nafaa* Project will not have the capacity to develop a comprehensive regional management plan at the scale necessary for this fishery. The Project will still make a few contributions to moving towards sustainable management of this fishery at the local scale—e.g., addressing bycatch issues and fish smoking impacts on the fuel wood supply and local forests. The choice of additional emphasis and species focus other than sole and oysters will be deferred until there have been additional consultations regarding priorities and based on rate progress with the oyster and sole fisheries.

2.1 Completion of Administrative Start-up Activities

Staffing and Office Set-up

The project staff recruiting process is complete for the main program staff. During this reporting period, two fisheries extension staff were recruited and started work in October 2009; one staff is assigned to work under the oyster program and the other staff is assigned to the sole program. An additional Secretary/Administrative Assistant position will be recruited shortly. Three vehicles (one Toyota Land Cruiser and two Toyota 4x4 pick-ups) and two motorcycles have been purchased for use in the field activities. The office now has internet, telephone and fax connections and computers for all staff.

Biodiversity Threats and Governance Assessment Reports

Biodiversity threats and governance assessments were completed. Both of these reports are available on line at: <http://www.crc.uri.edu/index.php?actid=375>.

Environmental Review

The initial environmental examination and a request for categorical exclusion were submitted to the USAID/West Africa Mission in the first quarter of Year One.

2.2 Sole

Background

Sole is one of the commercially important species and export earners in The Gambia, but is harvested primarily by artisanal fishermen. Total landings in The Gambia in 2006 were 1370MT, mainly caught by artisanal fishermen along the Atlantic coast. In addition, a portion of the catch is taken in deeper waters by the industrial trawl fisheries that operate in Senegal and Gambian waters. None of this fish, however, is landed in The Gambia for lack of port facilities. DoFish estimates that the industrial fleets when in Gambian waters harvest 371 MT from The Gambia.

The Government and sole fishery stakeholders are supporting international certification of the fishery. A pre-audit was conducted by MSC (Marine Stewardship Council), so a clear road map of sustainability issues has been formulated. The DoFish drafted a management plan for sole, but with very little participatory engagement of stakeholders. The majority of the catch is landed at only a few sites, making it relatively easy—as compared to other fisheries that are much more geographically dispersed—to engage with fishermen in developing a management plan and management measures necessary to achieve MSC certification as a sustainable fishery.

The *Ba Nafaa* goal in terms of the sole fishery is to assist the fishing industry associations—The Gambia Artisanal Fisheries Development Agency (GAMFIDA) and the National Association of Artisanal Fisheries Operators (NAAFO)—and the DoFish to meet the sustainability criteria required to be eligible for MSC certification. The MSC audit report identified very specific areas for improvement in order to meet the sustainability criteria. Landings need to be more consistently monitored, stock assessments periodically conducted, among other measures. The Program is assisting DoFish in implementing the recommendations in the sole pre-audit report. The geographic focal areas are the primary sole landing sites along the Atlantic Coast.

Report Period Accomplishments

Undertake a training workshop on stock assessment

The Stock Assessment Training Course is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 was held at the Atlantic Hotel in Banjul from Monday 15 March 2010 to Monday 22 March 2010. The instructors were Dr. Joseph DeAlteris, Professor of Fisheries at the University of Rhode Island (URI), and Ms. Barbara Somers, Research Associate in Fisheries at the URI Fisheries Center. The instructors were assisted by Mr. Asberr Mendy, Principal Fisheries Officer at the Fisheries Department of The Gambia.

The topics of the training course included the following: history and concepts of fisheries stock assessment; fisheries and research surveys; the effects of fishing on fish populations; maximum sustainable yield(MSY); mathematics and biostatistics; estimation of growth parameters; recruitment to the fishery and size selection by harvesting gear; yield and spawning stock biomass; and management advice including reference points, projections, uncertainty and the precautionary approach. The discussion sessions focused on the pre-audit assessment of the sole fishery conducted by the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) and the methods used by MSC to conduct the assessment.

A total of 18 participants from the Fisheries Department and the fishing industry benefitted from the course. 16 participants completed the course and 2 participants were unable to stay for the entire time due to work constraints.

A Training Evaluation Form was completed by the participants at the end of the course. The Form covered 3 main issues: the Venue (convenience, suitability and course schedule); Course methodology (pace of delivery of material, usefulness of background materials and handouts, impression (s) /opinion of the instructor); Course content (basic EXCEL skills, Advanced EXCEL skills, Growth models, Mortality models, Maths and Statistics overview, Gear

Selectivity, Yield per recruit); and the confidence level of participants to apply the knowledge acquired in their jobs. Here below are some of the comments of the participants:

- Preferably longer
- It was a very important training program but the duration was somehow short
- The training was really good and useful for my work. Requires more training
- Thanks to the project for providing such training program. It will go a long way by improving our knowledge and understanding
- Need for opportunity for stock assessment study course within the Department of Fisheries
- Thanking Professor Joe and his entire team for training me in the field of EXCEL which is necessary for my job and wish to continue having more training so that I would be able to independently do and train there
- Overall the training has been very interesting. This makes me learn important things I never knew of

The second part (Part 2) of the training course will be held by the end of the 4th quarter, in September 2010.

Co-management workshops for developing a sole management plan

Two co-management workshops on the sole fishery have been organized. The first workshop was held on 25-26 January 2010 at the Conference Hall of the Independence Stadium Hostel in Bakau. The workshop was attended by 40 participants comprising representatives of coastal fisher folk communities, government agencies, local government authorities, and fisheries non-governmental organizations. The objectives of the workshop were: education on co-management; begin discussions among stakeholders about a new approach to fisheries management with focus on the sole fishery; team building; and develop an action plan to move ahead towards a co-management regime. The workshop was officially opened by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters, on behalf of the Honourable Minister.

Day 1 of the workshop involved lectures on fisheries management and its evolution from the top-down approach (Government to fishers) and its failure, to the co-management approach in which Government works in partnership with fishers, stakeholders and external change agents, and the positive results of the approach in sustainable fisheries management. Through co-management, partners actively contribute and work together on fisheries management, share costs and benefits, successes and failures. It is a participatory process that provides and maintains a forum or structure for action on participation, rule making, conflict management, power sharing, social learning, dialogue and communication among partners.

Dr. Paul Seigel of WWF-WAMER presented a case study of an effective co-management regime in Cayar, a major coastal fishing village in Senegal (50 km north of Dakar). Cayar has developed a local level management for the inshore fishery. There are several organizations operating in Cayar including the purse seine union, The Commercial Fisheries Center, the Fisheries Service, the Cayar Fisheries Council, and the police force. The Federation of National Fisheries

Associations of Senegal considers Cayar to be an example of successful community level fisheries management. Over time, there have been several conflicts that have arisen between fishing groups, and gears. These conflicts have been resolved slowly by the local groups. However, the Cayar experience clearly outlines the advantages and disadvantages to co-management over the long term. The planned study tour to Cayar will be a good learning experience.

Day 2 involved Small Group Discussions and Report Out. Participants were asked to explain their expectations for the workshop. The goal of the discussions was how to move forward to achieve sustainable fishery for sole. Four groups were formed with mixed stakeholders. Each group was asked to consider the following questions:

1. What does co-management mean to you?
2. What are parts of co-management plan?
3. Who plays what role for each part?
4. What role/s do you choose?



Small Group discussions during the co-management workshop on the sole fishery

In order to move forward with the most pressing issues, the whole group was asked to comment on the most pressing issues that can be addressed in the short term (2 months). There were five items listed below. They were then asked to prioritize which their top two items. Votes are listed in parentheses:

- Communities awareness meetings to explain fisheries legislation (26)
- Gather information from fisher communities about solefish (reproduction, habitat, seasonality, migration, etc.) (10)
- Begin collection of catch data (2)
- Public awareness on Co-management/ training (8)
- Begin establishing committees at sites (4)

The next steps for the development of co-management for sole will be to:

1. Conduct communication visits to fishing areas to discuss new fisheries legislation and regulations
2. Conduct local knowledge surveys at the fishing areas.
3. Convene follow up meeting in March to discuss result of the surveys
4. Invite additional participants to the next workshop as identified in the workshop:

From the community meetings between the project manager and fisherfolk communities prior to the workshop, it was decided to set-up sole management committees in the sole fish landing sites. At the time of the workshop, a sole fish management committee was already established in Gunjur; others were in the process of being set-up. For the sole management committees to be effective, they must work closely with the already established and functioning management committees of the Community Fisheries Centers, and should be represented in the management committees of Community Fisheries Centers.

The 2nd co-management workshop on the sole fishery was held on 23-24 March 2010 at the Atlantic Hotel in Banjul and was attended by 56 participants on the first day and 69 participants on the second day. The participants comprised sole fishers and management committee members of the sole fish landing sites in the coastal and inland areas, Ministries of Finance and Local Government, Gambia Navy, Gambia Maritime Authority, fisheries non-governmental organizations (GAMFIDA, NAAFO), fishing industry representatives and Fisheries Department officials. The workshop was opened by the Director of Fisheries Department. The objectives of the workshop were: to put together a better picture of current knowledge and gaps in knowledge needed to manage the sole fishery (data and research needs); and to form a working interim co-management committee. The plenary session included a presentation by the project manager on the local knowledge of the sole fish gathered from discussions with fishers in all the coastal fishing sites; a presentation on the value chain assessment of the sole fishery by the local consultant; the benefits of and requirements for an eco-label for the Gambian sole; and the functions of a co-management committee. The working groups discussed perceptions/views on the setting-up of a national co-management committee for the sole fishery and its expected roles/responsibilities; decision-making; power sharing; relationship of the committee to other management organizations; and communication with other stakeholders. At the end of the workshop, each of the 5 working groups selected a representative to serve in an interim co-management committee that has been assigned the following tasks:

- Define committee membership and structure
- Develop constitution and bylaws
- Set up sub-committees
- Develop Vision and Mission
- Continue research on the sole fish (start data collection on landings and by-catch on a daily basis)

It is possible that a management plan for the sole fishery can be drafted and discussed with stakeholders, amended and validated, and submitted for consideration by Government (Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters) before the end of 4th quarter. However, the approval of the management plan and its coming into force may likely extend to Year 2 of the project.

Sole bycatch assessment

During the exercise to gather local knowledge on the sole fishery, the fishers were able to give account of the sole by-catch, however, the quantities and weights of the by catch species could not be ascertained because such data is not being collected. However, there are no discards in the fishery, all the by-catch is consumed. The issue of capture of turtles and ETP species in sole fish nets was discussed in all the fishing sites but the overwhelming view is that it is very uncommon occurrence. Starting in the 3rd. Quarter, the project will involve fishers in a participatory research activity to obtain a true account of the sole by-catch, species and weights will be recorded.

Sole stock assessment

The MSC (Marine Stewardship Council) pre-audit report assessed the sole stocks and concluded that they are unlikely to be overfished. However, this report also concluded that data for conducting an adequate stock assessment is not available at present and better information collection systems need to be put in place as one of the conditions for obtaining MSC certification. The first stock assessment training workshop previously described has started to identify the priorities for an improved information collection system. Following the stock assessment training course, it was agreed that DoFish should assume the responsibility to lead the stock assessment program. It was recommended that Mr. Asberr Mendy, Principal Fisheries Officer should continue training the workshop participants on a periodic basis so that knowledge gained from the course will not be lost. Another recommendation from the training course is that Mr. Asberr Mendy should conduct training of trainers to increase the number of people knowledgeable in fish stock assessment.

Vessel registration/licensing

The registration and licensing of artisanal fishing boats is scheduled to be conducted during the 3rd and 4th Quarters. The project will support this activity through the management committees of the Community Fisheries Centers. The Gambia Maritime Authority is interested in this activity and the Managing Director has had discussions with the project manager during which he explained that the registration of fishing boats is an IMO (International Maritime Organization) requirement. The Wula-Nafaa project in Senegal has also expressed interest to collaborate with Ba-Nafaa in the conduct of the exercise; this came to light during the coordination mission to Senegal undertaken by Dr. Jim Tobey and the project manager in November 2009 and meeting with the Team Leader of the Wula-Nafaa project.

Coordinate with West Africa Trade Hub on exploring new markets for sole, shrimp or other possible export products

A coordination mission was undertaken by Dr. Jim Tobey of URI and the project manager in November 2009. Discussions centered on export ready products for the US market and the possibility of securing markets for the Gambian seafood products particularly the sole fish. The high electrical costs in Gambia were an expressed concern because this may affect the competitiveness of Gambian seafood products in the global market vis-à-vis Senegal that target and process the same fish species, and have lower electrical costs. However, with the likelihood

of the Gambian sole fish getting an eco-label from the Marine Stewardship Council, the product may attract buyers in the US.

Assess more carefully the Senegalese trawler/seine fishery

This activity was planned to be undertaken during the 2nd Quarter but has been delayed to the 3rd Quarter.

Value chain assessment

In December 2009, a contract was awarded to a local consultant to conduct a Value Chain Assessment of the sole fishery that will provide a clear picture of the structure and functioning of the fishery, identify and understand the opportunities and constraints to market growth, The consultant submitted a first draft on 27 January 2010 which was reviewed and commented upon; the comments were incorporated in a final draft report submitted in March 2010. Following validation of the revised version, a final report will be published in the 3rd Quarter.

Study tour to Kayar Senegal. Individuals from selected landing sites along the Atlantic South Coast will visit the landing site of Kayar Senegal

The study tour to Cayar will be undertaken during the 3rd Quarter as originally planned and will be facilitated by Dr. Paul Seigel of WWF-WAMER. The interim sole management committee selected during the second co-management workshop on the sole fishery (23-24 March 2010) will work with the sole management committees at the fish landing sites to select the individuals to go on the study tour. The main purpose of the study tour is to study the Cayar experience in fisheries co-management, and also get exposure to improved fish processing methods and technologies including the use of fuel efficient stoves for fish smoking.

Outputs

Table of Expected Year 1 outputs vs Actual

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
25 persons trained	18 persons trained in stock assessment (16 persons fully trained, 2 partially trained)
Action plan developed for achieving sustainable sole fisheries	Action plan developed during 2 nd . Co-management Workshop (23-24 March 2010)
500 persons/stakeholders engaged in sole management plan development and adoption	109 persons have participated in formal co-management workshop events and hundreds more have participated through informal meetings and discussions at the fish landing centers. Sole management committees already set-up in the principal sole landing sites: Kartong, Gunjur, Sanyang, and Brufut. Sole management

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
	committees also set-up in Bakau, Tanji, and Batokunku/Tujereng. 2 fisheries non-governmental organizations (GAMFIDA and NAAFO) are also engaged. Actual number of persons engaged not yet quantified.
Sole management plan drafted and adopted by DoFish and stakeholders	Not yet.
Report produced on the issues of sole fishing gear bycatch	Report on LK (Local Knowledge) produced. Scientific research not yet started.
Report produced on value chain for sole	Value Chain Assessment Report currently under review.
One small-scale (CFC?) facility improved, location to be determined during the community participation processes	Facility for improvement not yet determined.

Key Results

No.	Indicator	Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
2	# receiving assistance packages	1 facility improved and benefitting all sole fishermen	TBD
4	# of agencies or management bodies strengthened or created	4 (3 centers & DoFish)	Sole co-management committees informally established in 7 CFCs (Community Fisheries Centers) and will be formalized as part of the final management plan.. DoFish capacity for conducting stock assessment strengthened through stock assessment training. NAAFO also benefitted from the training but representative did not attend the whole period.
5	# of personnel trained in resources management	60	127 (18-stock assess., 109-co-mgt workshops)
6	Improvements on a governance scorecard	# is increasing	Sole baseline not scored yet
8	# individuals participating in regional meetings and/or exchanges	25 (Kayar)	3 rd quarter expected
9	# of regional workshops/meetings on		

No.	Indicator	Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
	policy reform		
10	No of reports documenting transboundary issues	1 (electric pricing)	2 (Shrimp and sole value chain assessments have incorporated the 25% reduction in electricity charges.)
12	Hectares in areas under improved management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares covered by fisheries management plans 	20,000 hectares	While a management planning process is underway, we will count the hectares under improved management when the mgt. plan is formally adopted. This is unlikely to occur this workplan year.
13	# of technological innovations adopted: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sole nets set at 8cm mesh size 	1 mesh size regulation	0
16	# of vessels registered/licensed	475 fishers (# of unregistered boats estimated at 50)	0
17	Hectares under effective mgt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sole 28.5-25 tot length 	Baseline established (20,000 hectares)	0

Changes in Program Activities

The sole stock assessment and the sole by catch assessment were scheduled to start in the 2nd. Quarter but will now start in the 3rd. Quarter.

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

The main priority for the next reporting period is the inauguration of the interim management committee to undertake the following assigned tasks:

- Define committee membership and structure
- Develop constitution and bylaws
- Set-up sole management sub-committees
- Develop Vision and Mission
- Drafting of the sole management plan
- Preparation for consolidated workshop in August 2010 during which to elect/select a Sole Management Committee

Other priority activities are:

- Undertake study tour to Cayar during the 3rd. Quarter.
- Start scientific research on sole (data collection on a daily basis at main landing sites: Kartong, Gunjur, Sanyang and Brufut)
- Continue the mapping of hot spots and spawning grounds of sole. This exercise will cover the entire south Atlantic coast from Kartong to Bakau.

2.3 Oysters

Background

The oyster fishery is somewhat unique as it is dominated by women gatherers. Women also dominate the processing and marketing of oysters. There is very little information on this fishery and official fisheries survey data do not even include it in the annual landing statistics. There is very little management of the growing areas other than a traditional seasonal closure during the rainy season as it is believed eating oysters during this season is harmful even though most oysters are shucked and boiled before sale. There have been no studies on whether there are public health risks from contamination of the harvesting areas (e.g. contamination from *E. coli* bacteria in the water where the oysters are grown). Local knowledge from the gatherers suggests that size is declining and abundance less, especially in the Banjul area. Meanwhile, there is limited knowledge about the biology of the local oyster in terms of growth rates and spawning periods (other than linked to the rainy season).

From a marketing perspective, there is no adequate physical market point for the oyster gatherers so almost all of it is sold in the open along the road leaving Banjul. In addition, there is one small area of the central market used as a point of sale. Neither the size nor the sanitation conditions of either of these locations is adequate. Currently, both the markets and the products are limited as compared, for instance, to the industry in the Saloum Delta.

A key strategy for the oyster fishery was team up with the local foundation called TRY, and build on what this organization is already doing with the oyster gatherers. Priority focal areas so far have been in nine communities within the protected Tanbi wetland, a RAMSAR Site. The membership of TRY Association has increased to nearly 500 members in 15 communities, and as a result of these developments, the activities of the project have also increased. The Project is taking a comprehensive approach that will be able to demonstrate an ecosystems-based approach at a small scale and include ecological sustainability as well as improved income generating opportunities for women oyster harvesters.

Report Period Accomplishments

Conduct participatory rapid appraisals (PRAs) to compile local

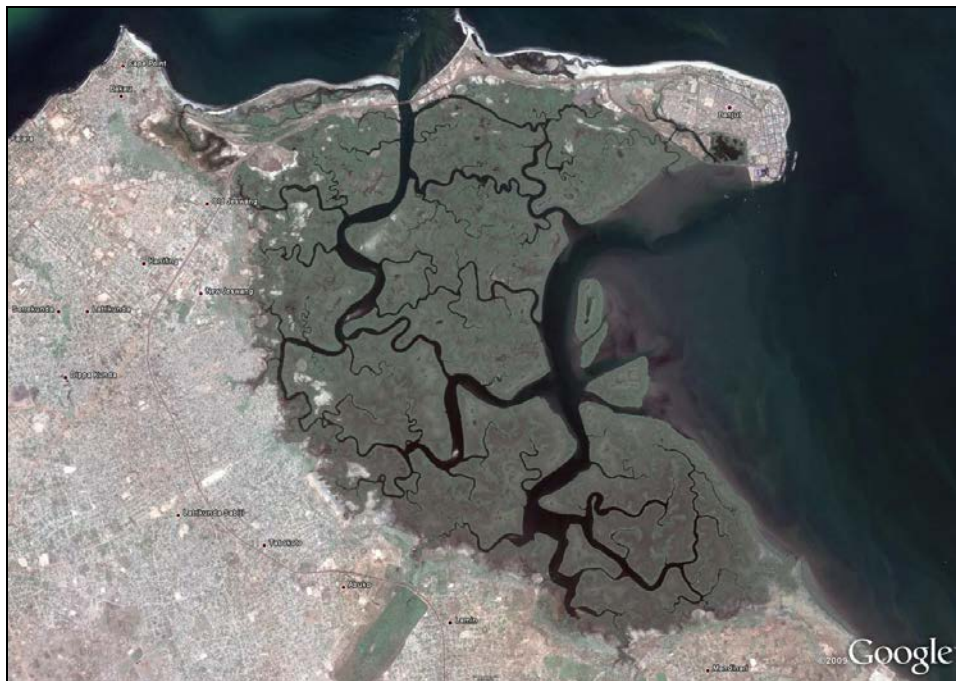
The PRAs are important to compile local knowledge of the biology of the species, harvest practices, local spawning period, and growth to determine the best harvesting size and if and

when closed season should be put in place, including technically sound management measures. The PRA exercises included community mapping of the harvesting areas, and obtaining information on number of harvesters, harvesting practices and effort, calendar of activities, assessment of status of resources, positive and negative impacts of activities, constraints and solutions, livelihood alternatives, relationships with neighboring communities, identification of spatial overlaps that can create conflicts, their views on the elements of a conservation and management plan for the oyster fishery.

The PRAs started on 15 February 2010 and ended on 18 March 2010. The PRAs were conducted in 7 individual communities and 4 cluster communities. The individual communities are: Wencho, Karmalloh, Jeshwang, FajiKunda, Abuko, Lamin, and Kartong. The cluster communities are: IboTown (IboTown, New Jeshwang and Tallinding); Mandinary (Mandinary, Kerewan and Daranka); Kubuneh (Kubuneh, Galoya, Kembujeh and Bafuloto); Kuloro (Kuloro and Mandinaba). A total of 11 reports (one for each community) have been prepared.



Members of TRY Association collecting oysters in the Tanbi wetland



Satellite image of the Tanbi wetland area with Banjul located in the upper right hand corner of the image

Meetings and workshops to establish special area community management plans for oysters

The goal is to establish a management plan for the nine oyster harvesting communities within the Tanbi wetland complex as a pilot and then gradually expand to other harvesting areas in the country. The Tanbi wetlands complex was designated as a RAMSAR site on World Wetlands Day in 2007. The Government of The Gambia decided that the 6000 hectare mangrove system was important because of high biodiversity, and diverse and rare ecosystem with valuable marine resources. It is important to keep the ecosystem healthy, promote sustainable livelihoods and not use destructive means of harvesting. The 1st. Phase of the ICAM (Integrated Coastal Area Management) project made effort to allocate certain areas/tributaries to the 9 communities within Tanbi complex, closed certain areas and introduced oyster culture (the hanging method). Not all the communities are happy or satisfied with the allocations and there are on-going conflicts between communities that the Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation has been trying to resolve with support provided by the project.

The convening of meetings by TRY Association and supported by the project are helping to bring together communities to address issues of concern, resolve inter community conflicts and build consensus on management measures. The oyster harvesting season always ends at the onset of the rainy season in June and a closed season is observed until the 1st of December. For the first time ever, the communities agreed to extend the closure of the harvesting season by 3 months to allow the oysters to grow to full maturity, the oyster harvesting season opened on 1 March 2010.

The study tour to Sine Saloum, the convening of the co-management workshop in February 2010, the elections of the Executive Committee of TRY Association, the clustering of communities, the conduct of PRAs are important activities in the planning process to put in place a management regime. During the PRAs, the communities listed the elements to constitute a management plan. The next steps are: to convene a consolidation workshop at which 6 representatives of each community will be invited to review the PRAs; share ideas, harmonize positions and develop consensus as to management measures to adopt. Coordination between DoFish, Forestry Department, Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation and the project, and the involvement of Local Government Authorities are required. The legal basis to establish/designate special management areas is provided in the Fisheries Act 2007. The Tanbi Wetlands can be designated as a Special Management Area. The oyster harvesters have already been organized into a community based organization called TRY Association that can be responsible for the management of the fishery. Section 11 of the Act allows for the allocation of property rights and catch share allocation, so it can be said that the legal conditions for community-based management regime is in place.

Study tour to the Saloum and local extension on oyster aquaculture

The study tour was held from Tuesday 15 December to Friday 18 December 2009. The Gambian delegation comprised 24 cockle and oyster harvesters from TRY Association (23 females and 1 male), 2 officials of the Department of Fisheries, and 2 officials of the Ba-Nafaa project (the Project Manager and the Fisheries Field staff assigned to the Oyster program).

The main purpose of the tour was to promote bilateral exchanges of communities and fisheries stakeholders to share lessons and experiences in improved management of artisanal fisheries for increased and sustained social and economic benefits. The tour was also meant to expose the Gambian delegation to improved production and processing methods and techniques for cockles and oysters; and also the functioning of the management structures that have been established in the communities with the support of the Wula-Nafaa project. The ultimate objective of the exchange visit is to establish strong cooperation between the Wula-Nafaa and Ba-Nafaa projects.

The study tour was an eye opener for the members of TRY Association. The tour was very useful because the TRY Association members were exposed to improved technologies which, if adapted, can help improve their work and bring them additional social and economic benefits. They were also exposed to the fair/transparent system of allocation of duties and responsibilities to trusted and dedicated members of the Group(s). Trusted leadership can bring about increased confidence of all members; this was an important lesson for the TRY Association members.

Another issue that was of concern to the TRY Association members is the lack of earnings during the closed season. The representatives of Group BOKA YIFF advised them to engage in other revenue generating activities to sustain them during this period such as: the rearing of ducks and chickens, farming: cultivating watermelons and maize, which are sold to earn people that will sustain them during the closed season. They also suggested that the TRY Association members should endeavor to harvest oysters in excess of existing demand which can be stored and sold during the closed season; however, this implies the need to acquire freezers given the fact that preference in Gambia is fresh oysters. A detailed report on the study tour has been prepared by the project and widely circulated.

Co-management workshop on the oyster fishery (1-2 February 2010)

The workshop was held on 1-2 February 2010 at the Independence stadium hostel in Bakau. The workshop was opened by the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Fisheries, Water Resources and National Assembly Matters on behalf of the Honorable Minister. To maximize the number of participants, it was decided to conduct the workshop into 2 one day sessions: there were 36 participants on the first day and 53 participants on the second day

The project manager gave an overview of the fisheries legislation of The Gambia which provides the legal basis for co-management of the oyster fishery. Section 11 of the Fisheries Act 2007 allows for the allocation of property rights and catch share allocations, and community-based management. He also explained working relationship between the Ba-Nafaa project, TRY Association and other stakeholders including the Department of Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DPWM), Fisheries Department (DoFish), Brikama Area Council (BAC) and Kanifing Municipal Council (KMC). The goal is to implement an ecosystem based management of the oyster fishery that will guarantee ecological integrity and improved social and economic benefits for the oyster harvesters. Staff of DPWM gave a presentation on the management goals of the Tanbi Wetlands Complex and the activities of DPWM within the Complex. Dr. Kathy Castro gave a presentation on co-management, the roles and responsibilities of partners, consultations and negotiations to achieve goals and objectives. One of the women who went on the Saloum

tour gave a report on the tour and the lessons learned. The presentations were followed by group discussions and report out. A report on the workshop has been prepared.

Pilot oyster aquaculture project and training

Mr. Daniel Theisen of the University of Maryland was contracted by URI to conduct a 2 week training project on oyster culture. It is important that oyster be developed for several reasons: to protect wild mature oysters as source of spat, to protect the mangroves from damage during harvest, and the culture of oysters has the potential to improve the food security of the area especially that of the oyster harvesters. The goals of the training were:

- Train the oyster harvesters on the construction and management of support lattice, strings and trays.
- Determine the best method, location and time of year to collect spats.
- Determine the best method and area for grow out.
- Develop management techniques: cleaning of strings, thinning and transfer of spat to trays, inventing strings to assure that spat sets on strings uniformly.

The nine communities within Tanbi wetlands complex were clustered into 6 groups for training on the construction of lattice racks using bamboo poles ranging from 5-9 cm in diameter, arranged in the form of an inverted “V” and tied together with galvanized wire and rope, stringing and hanging of oyster shells onto the bamboo poles. A report on the training is available from the CRC/URI website.

Training in entrepreneurship has not yet started but a select group of TRY Association members went on a 2 day study tour to an ICAM (Integrated Coastal Area Management) project area to observe the functioning of a microcredit program operated by the beneficiaries themselves. The group has expressed interest to undergo similar training.

Plans are at an advanced stage to bring 2 women from Sine Saloum to Gambia to offer training on improved processing and packing of oysters and clams. The training will be conducted at the beginning of the 3rd. Quarter.

Conduct a water quality study

The project will collaborate with DoFish to conduct the water quality study in the main oyster harvesting areas to determine whether or not to growing areas are contaminated. The study is necessary considering the possibility for marketing raw oysters to hotels/restaurants or exporting them. Furthermore, the study will help assess the feasibility of developing a shellfish sanitation management plan with DoFish which is a requirement for export of raw oysters to the EU and US. The study was scheduled to start during the 2nd. Quarter using the DoFish laboratory for analysis but the laboratory is currently under renovation. The Department of Water Resources, which is under the same Ministry as DoFish, has agreed to conduct the study; a cost estimate (which is within the budget) has been forwarded to URI for consideration. The study can commence during the 3rd. Quarter.

Value Chain

A local consultant was contracted in December 2009 to conduct the Assessment but the consultant has yet to submit his report. Two local consultants were also contracted at the same time to conduct the assessments for shrimp and sole respectively, they have since submitted their reports.

Participatory stock assessment.

A research project to examine the spawning, growth and mortality of the mangrove oyster has been planned. A concurrent market survey will be conducted to evaluate size of oysters in the landings.

Peace Corps Placement

There is a Peace Corp volunteer currently working on the sole project activities. The project manager was recently informed that a volunteer has expressed interest in the oyster program.

Outputs

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
450 oyster harvesters participating in oyster management plan development and adoption	500 oyster harvesters (this is the entire membership of TRY) are participating in the process to develop an oyster management plan.
1 market/landing facility improved	Not yet – feasibility study included in grant agreement to TRY
15 individuals trained in resource monitoring	Not yet
Oyster co-management plan drafted and adopted by DoFish and stakeholders	Not yet
50 people trained in entrepreneurship, oyster aquaculture, other livelihood activities	74 trained in oyster culture, 11 exposed to microcredit management.

Key Results

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
1	# of businesses and persons economically benefiting	50	74 (oyster culture) and 25 (improved marketing of oysters)-Saloum tour)
2	# receiving assistance packages	50	99 (see above)
3	# of people with improved access to loan capital	0	0
4	# of agencies or mgt bodies strengthened or created	One oyster management committee created	0

5	# of personnel trained in resources mgt	15	89 from co-management w/shop
6	Improvements on a governance scorecard	Yes	6 participants at expert group meeting – Oyster scorecard baseline: 24.
7	# of harvesters with use rights	450	0
8	# of individuals participating in regional meetings and/or exchanges	25 (Saloum exchange)	28
12	# hectares in areas under improved management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oyster mangrove area as community-based management zones 	200 hectares	6000 hectares (Tanbi) (Note – original estimate of the Tanbi wetland was 200 hectares, but DPWM estimate is 6000.
13	Number of technological innovations adopted <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oysters, 7cm length 	1	Not yet
17	Hectares under effective management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oyster 7cm minimum size, increased density in no-take areas 	200 hectares (biological baseline conducted this year to track change)	Not yet.

Changes in Program Activities

The participatory stock assessment exercise planned for the 1st Quarter will now commence in the 4th quarter. Also, the water quality study planned for the 2nd Quarter will commence in the 3rd. Quarter.

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

- Submission of Value Chain Assessment report
- Commence Water Quality Study
- Convene workshop on results of PRAs and determine the way forward towards preparation of a management plan
- Develop organizational and leadership capacities of TRY
- Commence Oyster Stock Assessment
- Commence market surveys
- Commence research on spawning and growth

2.4 Shrimp

Background

Artisanal shrimp fishermen operate in the estuary and tributaries of the Gambia River and target mainly the pink shrimp species, *Penaeus notalis*. There are over 225 shrimp fishermen that are widely dispersed at multiple landing sites and communities along the river. Two gear types are

used and there seems to be some debate and conflicts between the stow net (stationary gear) and drift net (mobile gear) fishers. Some of the industrial trawl vessels also target this species as well. While there is a small domestic market, this shrimp has also an important export commodity. Recently, fishermen have been complaining about a lack of buyers for the shrimp they are catching and export processors have also stated that they are no longer exporting this species as the world market price is too low to make it profitable at this time.

The conclusion of the CECAF (Committee for Eastern Central Atlantic Fishery) Working Group is that pink shrimp are overexploited. However, given the current market situation it is unclear whether that is currently the case. This widespread distribution of fishers will also make management of this species a bit more difficult and complicated. Given the complications of addressing management and market issues surrounding this fishery, the Project is deferring any substantive work here until Year 2. However, Year 1 is being used to start compiling some preliminary information that can help to more clearly understand the current issues. The Project is carrying out a value chain assessment of the shrimp fishery. This will help in better understanding some of the current problems of export marketing and possible opportunities for alternative markets.

Report Period Accomplishments

Value Chain Assessment of the shrimp fishery has been conducted. The contract was awarded to a local consultant. The consultant submitted a 1st. draft in January 2010 and a revised report (incorporating comments on the 1st draft) was submitted in February 2010.

Outputs

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
Report on issues in the shrimp value chain	Final Draft report submitted for review.

Key Results

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
10	# of reports documenting transboundary issues	1	Draft but not yet final (see above)

Changes in Program Activities

No changes.

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

No activities are planned for the next period.

2.5 *Sardinella*

Background

Sardinella is another important fishery in The Gambia The main landing site is at Tanji and consists of two main species that range from Morocco to Guinea Bissau. These fish are important

for local food consumption and in the West African regional export trade. CECAF has recommended that harvests should not exceed 200,000MT annually and effort should be reduced by 50 percent. The Gambia lands approximately 5,000MT annually so comprises only a small fraction of the total regional harvest. Management of this fishery will take regional cooperation well beyond the borders of The Gambia and Senegal. In The Gambia, sardinella is landed almost exclusively by the artisanal fisheries.

The *Ba Nafaa* Project is concentrating on several local management issues while supporting efforts of the sub-regional commission to harmonize policies and measures to reduce overall effort. In The Gambia, the local issues include a need to register and license artisanal fishing vessels, capture of juvenile fish, and the extensive use of wood in the smoking and drying process. Almost 50 percent of the bycatch is estimated to consist of juveniles or sub-adults. Wood used for smoking and drying the fish, which is then transported inland and to other countries, is reportedly becoming scarce and more expensive.

The Project will support DoFish in the establishment of a participatory action research effort with fishermen to assess the bycatch issue. Registration of vessels will also be addressed for this fishery. Meetings will be held to capture local knowledge as to whether bycatch levels vary seasonally and spatially, and as to the species composition including possible bycatch of endangered and threatened species. As the participatory action research takes place, the Project will elicit ideas and recommendations from fishers as to how the bycatch problem could be reduced—what measures they think would be feasible and practical, and that they would be willing to implement.

Report Period Accomplishments

The planned activities have been postponed until Year 2 to concentrate on the oyster and sole fisheries.

Outputs

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
Report on bycatch issues in the sardinella fishery	Postponed to Year 2
400 persons participating in outreach events on by-catch issues	Postponed to Year 2

Key Results

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
5	# of personnel trained in resources management	50 participants in bycatch survey	Postponed to Year 2

Changes in Program Activities

Sardinella activities postponed until next year due to the need to concentrate more fully on sole and oyster fisheries.

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

None

2.6 Export and Trade Promotion

Background

Fish export competitiveness. There are a number of issues that broadly fall under a heading of fish export competitiveness in The Gambia and that transcend all of the export fisheries including sole, shrimp, and a few others. One of these issues, which has been raised by the industrial fish processors, is the concern over the current pricing of shrimp on the world market—an issue that cannot be controlled locally. Since the price of fish commodities is determined on the world market, the only factor that can be locally controlled is the cost of capture, processing and marketing of these export products. That said, the high price of electricity—the highest cost factor in fish processing (for maintaining freezing facilities, etc.)—makes this difficult. Processers are asking for reduced electricity rates to make them more internationally competitive.

Report Period Accomplishments

In this first year of the Project, a thorough assessment of the issues described above was to be conducted to document in more detail the relative costs in The Gambia vis-à-vis other exporters in the region. The goal was to prepare a policy brief that can clearly document the issues and provide a number of policy alternatives for consideration. The report on competitiveness issues will be initiated in the next reporting period. The report on electricity prices has been canceled for this year as electricity prices were reduced during this reporting period so no longer viewed as a priority for review. Other competitiveness issues are being captured in the sole and shrimp value chain studies.

Outputs

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
Report on competitiveness issues for fish export processors in The Gambia	Canceled as electricity prices were reduced during this reporting period so no longer viewed as a priority for review

Key Results

No.	Indicator	Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
10	# of reports documenting transboundary issues	1	canceled

Changes in Program Activities

Canceled as electricity prices were reduced during this reporting period so no longer viewed as a priority for review.

2.7 Biodiversity Conservation

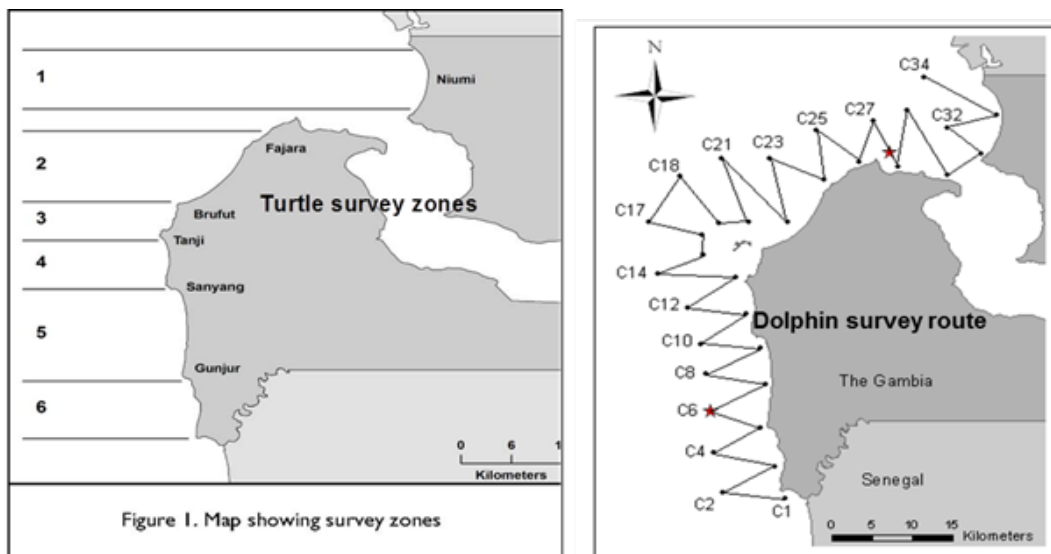
Background

WWF (World Wide Fund) together with Department of Parks and Wildlife Management (DPWM) have developed strong monitoring methods for Marine Turtles and Dolphins.

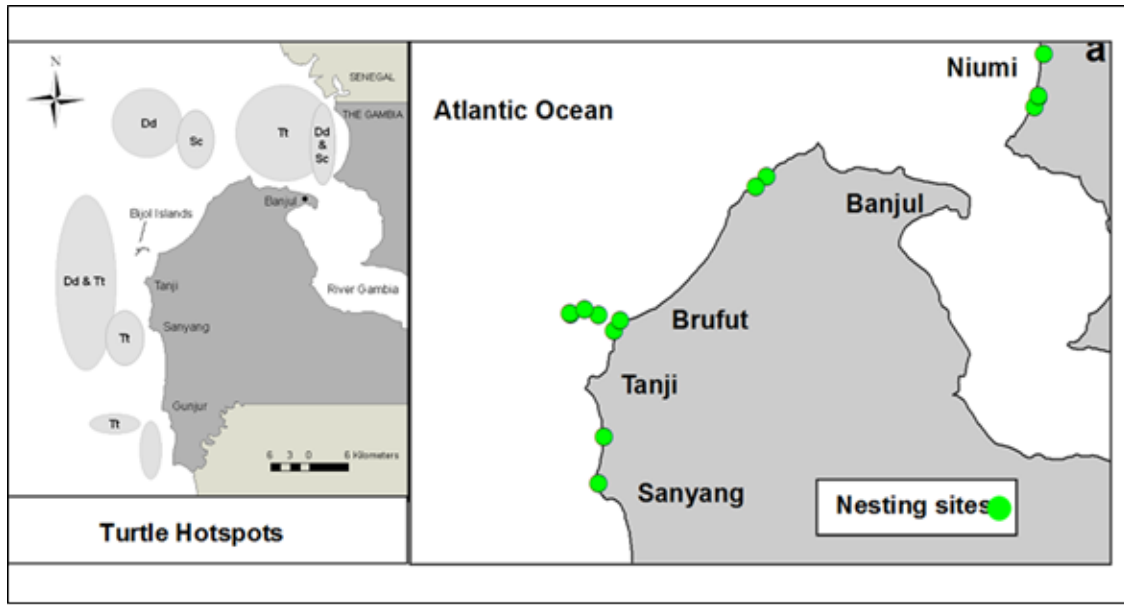
The monitoring includes beach surveys and in water surveys. The maps below show the survey zoning of Gambian beaches and the in-water survey for dolphins. The marine turtle nest survey is planned from June to October 2010.

Report Period Accomplishments

In 2009, the monitoring system has been conducted by a team of 10 DPWM staff and volunteers, They were covering 50 km long and 10 m beach width (500 ha) and were surveying every Wednesday for 16 weeks.



The coast of The Gambia is a nesting ground for green turtles but at a very low rate; only 9 nests were found during the 2009 survey of the South Bank. The surveyors collected 3 strandings per week from June to the end of August along the South Bank beaches in 2009. The area between Brufut and Sanyang has the highest rate of stranding presence.



Moreover, the team found that many nests are poached by either communities or lodges and decided to save 3 out of 9 as shown in the photos below.



The dolphin survey has not been resumed due to the lack of boats; the procurement of boats is taking longer than expected.

The Ba-Nafaa team, together with fisherman, are also conducting a GPS survey of sole hotspots. The survey will cover the entire South Atlantic coast from Kartong to Bakau; the survey will be completed in April 2010..

Outputs

- Report on local knowledge on sole hotspots is available
- Map of Dolphin hotspots is available.
- Report and Maps of Turtles nesting and stranding sites
- 2009 Turtle Survey forms
- 500 ha coast surveyed during 16 weeks

Key Results

- None anticipated this year

Changes in Program Activities

Dolphin survey not yet started due to lack of boats for monitoring.

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

- Sensitization for turtle nests conservation
- Campaign for 2010 turtle monitoring
- Resume Dolphin monitoring
- Continue the hotspots mapping with communities

2.8 Capacity Building, Communications, Outreach and Coordination

Background

Building a critical mass of mid-level professionals with key government institutions is an essential task for building sustainability to implement fisheries and MPA plans. This will be achieved in several ways. First, senior Project staff and counterparts in DoFish and one of the National Fisheries Associations (either NAAFO or GAMFIDA) and DoE will attend two intensive international training courses implemented at URI: the *Leadership for Fisheries Management* and *The Institute in Coastal Management*. In addition, another strategy of the *Ba Nafaa* Project is to provide degree training for mid-career staff within DoFish within West Africa regional centers of higher education.

Report Period Accomplishments

Four individuals have been selected to attend the *Leadership for Fisheries Management Institute* at URI. Application forms and other documentation for visa processing submitted to URI. The following persons will attend: Mr. NFamara Dampha (Director of Fisheries Department), Ms. Fatou Janha MBoob (Coordinator of TRY Association), Mr. Dawda Saine (Executive Secretary of NAAFO-National Association of Artisanal Fisheries Operators), and Mr. Ousman Drammeh (Ba-Nafaa) Two individuals have been selected to attend *Institute in Coastal Management* with a special emphasis on climate change adaptation, Ibrahima Mat Dia from WWF, and, Drammeh Famara, Program Officer, Coastal and Marine Environment National Environment Agency. Application forms and other documentation for visa processing submitted to URI.

Degree Training for DoFish Staff. Another strategy of the *Ba Nafaa* Project is to provide degree training for mid-career staff within DoFish. The Fisheries Department has not yet provided the names of the persons to undergo the Degree training within the region.

Coordination with the West Africa trade hub. This activity has been ongoing and included setting up a meeting at the Boston Seafood show for the Hub representative with a New England

fish importer and exporter. Coordination will continue but our local New England importer and exporter said it is highly unlikely a US market can be found for the Gambian sole fish (once it receives certification) and better opportunities can be had in Europe.

Coordination with Wula Nafaa. Ba Nafaa coordinated with the Wula Nafaa project who hosted the study tour to the Saloum Delta of a group of women oyster gathers. The Wula Nafaa team did an outstanding job of organizing the tour which was highly motivational for the oyster harvesters in The Gambia. TRY Association is planned to invite 2 women from Mounde Island to spend a week in The Gambia to train the women on improved processing, packaging and marketing of oysters and clams. The 2 women are expected to arrive in Gambia before end of April 2010. Also, the project managers of Wula Nafaa and Ba-Nafaa have expressed the wish to embark upon a joint research survey to develop a product (groundnut and saw dust for fish smoking as an alternative to fuel wood).

Coordination with regional fisheries organizations. The Ba Nafaa project manager will participate in the PRCM meeting in Mauritania at end of July 2010 which will provide opportunities for regional networking..

Communications and outreach. The Project produced several outreach and communications products. This included a Project brief, prepared in English.

Outputs

Expected Year 1 Outputs	Actual To Date
2 persons from DoFish trained regionally at Diploma or Bachelors level	None as yet but scheduled for 4 th Quarter
5 persons trained internationally in fisheries and coastal management	None as yet but scheduled for 3 rd and 4 th Quarter
5 persons sharing experience with related fisheries projects through annual coordination workshop event	None as yet
2 outreach documents produced	A two page project brief was prepared and is being distributed at key local and regional and international events

Key Results

No.	Indicator	FY 10 Target	Actual (Oct09-March10)
5	# of personnel trained in resources mgt	6	None as yet
8	# on individuals participating in regional meetings and/or exchanges	5	2 (USAID-Dakar) Mat Dia and Ousman Drammeh.
9	# of regional workshops/meetings on policy reform	1	0

Changes in Program Activities

None

Priorities for Next Reporting Period

None

3. Project Management

3.1 Challenges, Constraints, and Opportunities

The Gambia offers unique opportunities for making significant progress on sustainable fisheries management. This in part is due to the small size of the country, the short coastline of about 70 km in length. There are only 7 artisanal small scale fish landing sites referred to as Community Fisheries Centers (CFCs) and about than 500 fishing boats. The Community Fisheries Centers have concentrated fishing and related activities within established areas and management committees were established to manage the CFCs. The members of the management committees are representatives of the different artisanal operators, a representative of the Village Development Committee, and the head of the village as the Chairman.

Project staff do not have to travel far to reach all fishing communities and daily interactions with all stakeholders are possible. Project s ideas can be discussed and conflicts can be resolved quickly. Achieving sustainable fisheries management under a co-management arrangement (the goal of the Ba-Nafaa Project) is a real possibility. This possibility is enhanced by fisheries legislation of The Gambia, the Fisheries Act 2007, which provides the legal basis for co-management of artisanal fisheries (Sections 11, 15 and 1s 6 of the Fisheries Act). This legislation provides an important enabling condition not present in other countries of West Africa.

However, there are several constraints that can affect the smooth implementation of project activities. The constraints include the fact that the majority of the fishers are Senegalese nationals some of whom still consider themselves as foreigners and are reluctant to assume duties and responsibilities and take part in decision making. This is despite of the fact that they spend more than 10 months of each year in The Gambia, their children are Gambian citizens by birth, and some have married Gambian wives. Another major constraint is that the Government agencies, being supported by the project, are lacking the requisite resources (human, financial and technical) to meet their mandates, and are relying heavily on the project to get things done.

The challenges include the following: raising awareness of fisher folks on responsible and sustainable fisheries and the negative impacts of IUU fishing, educating fisher folk on the fisheries legislation and their powers under the law, and pushing forward the process to develop fisheries management plans with the full participation of all stakeholders.

3.2 Environmental Monitoring and Compliance

No activities were implemented during this reporting period that required environmental screening or activities where mitigations measures were required.

3.3 Branding Strategy Implementation

The *Ba Nafaa* Project provides information through many existing channels. This includes through presentations at meetings, conferences, outreach sessions and other forums as well as

through print media—e.g., peer-reviewed articles in professional journals, locally produced Information, Education and Communication (IEC) materials, pamphlets, brochures, policy briefs, guides, and PowerPoint presentations. The main target audiences include local communities, local government agencies, national policymakers, grassroots NGOs, and other donors. Acknowledgement is always given to the generous support of the American people through USAID in all Project communications and materials. Also recognized are partnerships and support from local government ministries, agencies and departments who participate in various activities of the Project.

Communication items produced during the reporting period that are affected by USAID marking/banding regulations (ADS 320/AAPD 05-11) are provided in the following Table.

<i>Item</i>	<i>Type of USAID marking</i>	<i>Marking Code</i>	<i>Locations affected/ Explanation for any ‘U’</i>
Press materials to announce Project progress and success stories	USAID logo (co-branded as appropriate)	M	Primarily a Gambian audience
Project brief / fact sheet	USAID logo (co-branded as appropriate)	M	Primarily a Gambian audience
PowerPoint presentations at meetings, workshops and trainings	USAID logo (co-branded as appropriate)	M	Primarily a Gambian audience
Project Office/room within WWF/Gambia office in Banjul	Project sign in English and local dialect name as well (<i>Ba Nafaa</i>) but no USAID identity used	M	Primarily a Gambian audience
Project vehicles, office furnishings and computer equipment purchased for project administration by WWF	No USAID identity used	U	Standard exclusions under USAID marking guidelines/policies

Marking Codes: M = Marked, U=Unmarked, PE = Presumptive Exception, W=Waiver

Specific reports produced during this reporting period include:

- Biodiversity threats assessment
- Fisheries overview and governance baseline
- PRA reports
- Training and workshop reports
- Value Chain Assessment Report on the Sole Fishery (Draft).
- Value Chain Assessment Report on the Shrimp Fishery (draft).

The Project has received a good deal of media coverage via TV and in printed media.

3.4 *TraiNet Data on Trainings Conducted during the Reporting Period*

The Ba Nafaa Project Office compiles information on all training events as required by USAUD, This information is submitted to CRC where the data is entered into the TraiNet electronic reporting system. A summary of trainings conducted is provided in the following table.

<i>Training program</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Start date</i>	<i>End date</i>	<i>Participants</i>			<i>Estimated Cost</i>
				Male	Fem.	Total	<i>US \$</i>
<i>Sept 09- March 10</i>							
Study Tour to Sine Saloum	Senegal	12/16/2009	12/18/2009	30	1	31	3507
Co-management Training on Sole Fishery	The Gambia	1/25/2010	01/26/2010	37	3	40	2188
Co-management Training on the Oyster Fishery	The Gambia	02/01/2010	02/02/2010	51	2	53	2373
Co management Workshop	The Gambia	03/23/2010	03/24/2010	51	2	53	2373
Total				169	8	177	10442

3.5 *Estimated Semi-Annual Financial Status*

The following table shows a pipeline analysis of actual and anticipated expenditures through FY 11 in relation to obligations to date and anticipated funding (obligation) needed for the FY 11 period.

Estimated Life of Project Budget (May 2009 – April 2014)	\$ 2,500,000
Obligations to Date	\$ 1,000,000
Cumulative expenditures May 09-March 30, 2010	\$567,387
Anticipated expenditures April 1, 2010 – Sept 30, 2010	\$250,000
Estimated Balance as of Oct. 1, 2010 ¹	\$182,613
Estimated Year 2 (FY 11) budget ²	\$ 800,000
Anticipated needs for next obligation	\$ 617,387

¹ Estimated pipeline is not adequate to enable encumbrance of implementing partner contract for year 2 (WWF). Additional funds will be needed in the first or early in the second quarter.

² Assumes accelerated spending in year 2 for technical assistance and travel from URI

3.6 Leveraged Funding

The following table represents estimated funds the project has been able to leverage from non USAID or partner match sources.

Fiscal Year	Leveraging Partner	Donor	Activity	Leveraged Funds
2010	US Peace Corps	US Government	One Peace Corps Volunteer assigned to the project and working on Sole fishery activities.	\$41,000 (estimated total cost per volunteer)

Appendix A. Performance Management Report

The goal of performance management and evaluation is to encourage adaptive management and learning within the Project and to report results to USAID/West Africa. This requires collecting timely information using indicators selected to provide meaningful information on progress towards stated objectives. In Year 1, the Project developed a Performance Management Plan (PMP), a summary of which is presented below. The PMP includes key results, refined performance targets disaggregated by year, specific monitoring parameters, and source(s) of data for each indicator. Time-bound targets were refined through the work planning process in consultation with local partners and beneficiaries.

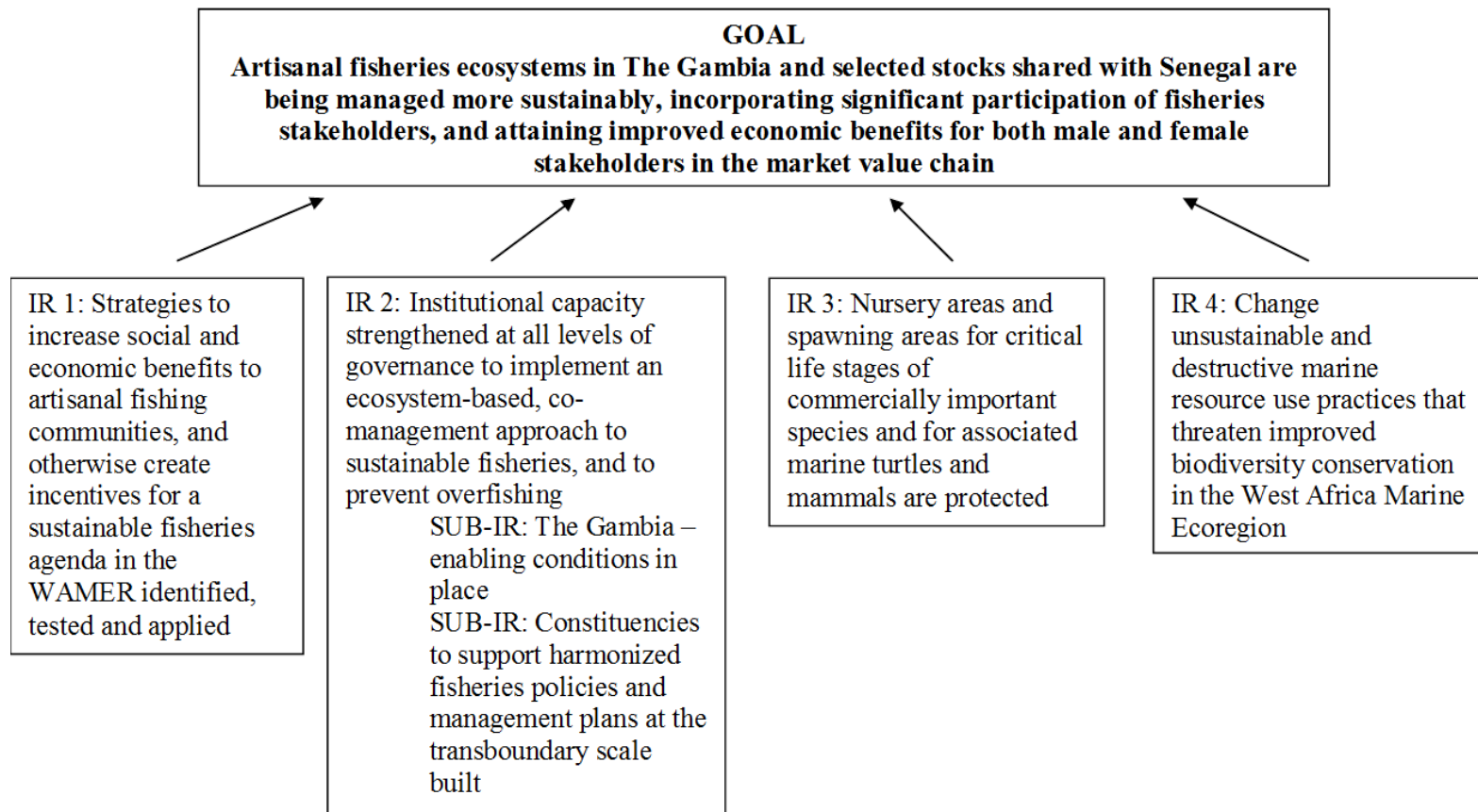
The semi-annual performance monitoring report documents progress on achieving results. The report includes:

- A comparison of actual accomplishments against the targets established for each indicator for the reporting period and cumulatively for the project (in tables below);
- An explanation of quantifiable outputs generated by Project activities and reasons why goals were or were not met, provided in the text narrative prior to this appendix;.

This data is supported by evidence collected and filed by the Project Manager, or his designee, who serves as the in-country PMP coordinator. The CRC provides quality control measures to ensure the PMP system is properly implemented.

Results Framework

The Results Framework below is organized by Project Goal and Intermediate Result (IR). Each IR has one or more indicators and LoP targets that are shown in the table on the following pages. Indicators and targets are reviewed and adjusted annually.



Life-of-Project (LOP) Targets per Indicator

No.	Indicator	LOP Targets
IR 1		
1	Number of businesses economically benefiting	50 businesses (gender disaggregated)
2	No persons receiving economic assistance packages	200 persons
3	Number of people with improved access to loan capital	100 people w/ access to capital (gender disaggregated)
IR 2		
4	Number of govt. agencies or management bodies strengthened or created	4 committees (Gunjur, Burfurt, Sanyang, Tanji),
5	Number of government personnel, community leaders and private sector stakeholders trained in resources mgt	200 people trained (gender disaggregated)
6	Improvements on a governance scorecard covering, goals, constituencies, commitment and capacity dimensions, including measures that legislation and regulations are being implemented and complied with, and budgetary investments by government in fisheries management	Qualitative increases on score card criteria for Gambia EB-fisheries mgt
7	Number of fishermen and women with collective or individual use rights (collective quotas or territorial use rights, saleable licenses)	600 people w/ use rights (gender disaggregated)
8	Number of stakeholders participating in regional meetings and/or exchange visits	100 persons (gender disaggregated)
9	Number of workshops/meetings on policy reform for the artisanal fisheries sector held between Senegal and the Gambia	3 events
10	Number of reports documenting transboundary issues and alternative solutions	4 reports
11	Number of policy changes made by national governments to harmonize policies	3 national policy changes
IR 3 & 4		

No.	Indicator	LOP Targets
12	Hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hectares covered by the fisheries management plan defined as the range of fishing fleets targeting these species 	FMP Areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sole - (20,000 hct) Sardinella – same as for sole Shrimp – Gambia estuary (10,000 hct)
12	Hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oyster fishery estuarine and mangrove areas designated and allocated as community managed zones, including no-take areas 	Community managed oyster zones <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tanbi wetlands 200 hct Numi 300 hct
12	Hectares in areas of biological significance under improved management: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Area in hectares of any officially designated MPA (Marine Park or fishery no-take reserve) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Numi National Park MPA – 30 sq. km Numi no-take area 3X10 km -30sq km
IR 4		
13	Number of technological innovations (gear or fisher behaviors) developed and/or effort restrictions that reduces bycatch.	At least three innovations and/or 3 effort restrictions (e.g. min. mesh size, size limit)
14	Number of fishing units that adopt by-catch reduction devices	20% of vessels for shrimp and sardinella fisheries
15	Number of processors that reduce fuel wood consumption	At least two reduce wood consumption by at least 20%
16	Number of vessels registered/licensed	100 coastal vessels targeting sardinella and sole
GOAL		
17	Hectares under effective mgt (Key biological reference points in the FMPs for sardinella, shrimp, sole, oyster)	A subset of LOP Targets for previous indicator No targets set but progress towards BRPs or MRPs will be tracked.

Results to Date

The following table shows the indicators targets and results to date for the BaNafaa Project.

N0	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results to Date (Sept 09 – March 10)	LOP Target	Cumulative Results to Date
1	Number of businesses economically benefiting	50	74 oyster harvesters	125	74
2	No persons receiving econ. assistance packages (grants, training, etc.)	50	99 oyster harvesters	220	99
3	Number of people with improved access to loan capital	0	0	115	0
4	Number of govt. agencies or mgt. bodies strengthened or created	3	8 informal formed (7 informal for sole mgt 1 informal oyster committee), 2 strengthened (NAAFO, DoFish)	8	8 informally created, 2 strengthened
5	Number of stakeholders trained in resources mgt	60	216 (109 – sole, 89 oysters, 18 stock assess.)	200	216
6	Improvements on a governance scorecard	Oysters improving	Oyster baseline score = 24	improving	Oyster baseline = 24

N0	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results to Date (Sept 09 – March 10)	LOP Target	Cumulative Results to Date
7	Number of fishermen w/ use rights (collective quotas/territorial use rights, saleable license)	450	0	600	0
8	Number participating in regional meetings and/or exchange visits	55	28 – Saloum tour, 2 Mat and Ousman to USAID regional meeting	130	28
9	Number of workshops/meetings on policy reform between Senegal and The Gambia	1	0	6	0
10	Number of reports documenting transboundary issues and solutions	1	2 (Drafts) Sole and Shrimp value chains	4	2
11	Number of policy changes made by national govts to harmonize policies	0	0	3	0
12	Hectares of biol significance under improved mgt: • Fisheries mgt plan	20,000 (sole)	0	30,000	0
12	Hectares of biol significance under improved mgt: • Oyster CB-mgt zones	200	6,000	500	6,000
12	Hectares of biol significance under improved mgt: • MPAs or fishery no-take reserves	0	0	6,000	0
13	Number of tech innovations and/or effort restrictions that reduces bycatch.	0	0	3	0
14	Number of fishing units that adopt bycatch reduction technologies	0	0	20%	0
15	Number of processors that reduce fuel wood consumption	0	0	2	0

N0	Indicator	FY 10 Target	FY 10 Results to Date (Sept 09 – March 10)	LOP Target	Cumulative Results to Date
16	Number of vessels registered/licensed	50	0	100	0
17	Hectares under effective mgt (progress towards BRPs) for sole	No target	0	No target but tracked	0
17	Hectares under effective mgt for oyster	No target	0	No target but tracked	0
17	Hectares under effective mgt for sardinella	No target	0	No target but tracked	0
17	Hectares under effective mgt for shrimp	No target	0	No target but tracked	0