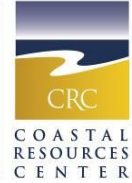




THE
UNIVERSITY
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USAID/COMFISH Plus Project *PENCOO GEJ*

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**Emergence of CLPAs in artisanal
fisheries governance in Senegal**



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I. INTRODUCTION

The artisanal fisheries sub-sector in Senegal plays a key role in the country's national economy, accounting for more than 80% of the landings of fisheries products, 12% of GDP in the primary sector¹ and 3.2% of total GDP. Artisanal fishing in Senegal also contributes to reducing unemployment by creating more than 600,000 direct and indirect jobs, representing 17% of the active population. In terms of nutrition, it helps to meet 75% of the needs for animal protein (DPM, 2007).

Despite this performance recorded in the fisheries sub-sector, it is also clear that some demersal stocks are overfished, leading to the suspension of industrial fishing licenses for some years now.

This problem also affects pelagic stocks, but to a lesser degree. Although the overfishing threshold is yet to be reached for pelagic stocks, there are already noticeable signs that these resources are declining.

Based on this observation, the Ministry of Fisheries and Maritime Economy (MPEM), which is responsible for this field of activities, is working the further the principles defined in the Sectoral Policy Letter on Fisheries and Aquaculture Development (LPSD-PA) for the 2016-2022 period. The first strategic pillar of this document is geared toward sustainable management of fisheries resources and the restoration of some stocks.

To achieve these objectives, fisheries authorities, with support from development partners, understood the need for:

- Changing the top-down approach in managing activities in the fisheries sector and,
- Introducing the concept of co-management in the sustainable management of fisheries resources with increased involvement of workers in the fishing industry.

This experience began in 2005-2006 with the establishment of Local Artisanal Fisheries Councils (CLPAs). However, during their early years of operation, CLPAs lacked dynamism due to their weak institutional anchorage and their poor legitimacy in the eyes of local stakeholders.

¹ It should be noted that a large number of fishing-related activities are recorded under the tertiary sector.



Since its inception in 2011, the USAID/COMFISH Project has been supporting the Senegalese government in its strategy of sustainable management of fisheries resources as defined in the LPS-DA (2008-2013). One of the approaches recommended by the project is the reorganization and revamping of CLPAs.

This process led to the establishment of local governance and co-management structures through CLPAs created at all fishing sites. One of the main objectives of these local governance structures is to validate co-management measures and rules put in place by stakeholders in sustainable management of fisheries resources.

The establishment of CLPAs stems from the MPEM's willingness to reform the management of fisheries and related activities in an inclusive and participatory manner.

Hence CLPAs have been entrusted with the mandate of using a participatory approach to strengthen the dynamics of players in the fishing sector on one hand, and ensuring sustainable management of fisheries resources on the other hand. Undoubtedly, this mandate contributes to the achievement of MPEM's objectives with a view to the implementation of the LPS-PA.

Due to the differences between fishing sites, each CLPA is expected to clearly determine its co-management vision at local level. Hence, Senegalese fishing authorities had to adapt both the institutional and regulatory framework of CLPAs to enable them to fully play their role of spearheading the co-management of fisheries resources.

To address this need, the legislative framework of CLPAs was reinforced through Act 2015-18 of 13 July 2015 relating to the Fisheries Code, complementing Ministerial Order No 9077 of 8 October 2010 which defines organizational and operational procedures for CLPAs as well as their mandates and functions, which include:

- Issuing an opinion on all matters referred to them by the Minister of Fisheries;
- Organizing community fishers to prevent, curtail and resolve conflicts in the first instance at the local level;
- Participating in the monitoring, supervision and surveillance of fishing and its related activities in collaboration with competent local and national bodies;
- Organizing all players in the artisanal fishing industry to assist administrative authorities in their monitoring and supervision of fishing activities;



- Proposing conservation measures for the development and management of artisanal fisheries, exploited resources and their habitats;
- Proposing artisanal fisheries development and management plans for the sustainable management of resources and the conservation of the marine ecosystem at local level;
- Educating all players in the artisanal fishing industry on all measures relating to marine fishery and fish farming in their community;
- Issuing an opinion on the management of community infrastructure;
- Participating in managing the socio-economic impact of management and conservation measures on each member of the community;
- Issuing an opinion on applications for license to undertake activities relating to artisanal fishing.

In spite of all these efforts to empower industry players at community level, major constraints were still noted in the framework of sustainable management of fisheries resources.

The first constraint is the lack of control over fishing effort which continues to intensify without taking into account the production potential. This situation continues to have considerable impact on the resources with a significant decrease in some stocks.

The second constraint to address is the strengthening of organizational dynamics of industry players through CLPAs. Hence, since 2011, as a strategic partner of the MPEM, the USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus projects have been working to overcome the challenge of revamping local governance structures.

II. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE OPERATION OF CLPAs BEFORE THE USAID/COMFISH PROJECT (2006 - 2011)

2.1. Poor organizational management

From 2006 when they were established until 2011, several gaps have been noted in the organizational management of CLPAs.

It should be recalled that a majority of CLPAs were not following the process of democratic selection of delegates of the various colleges. Undoubtedly, this led to failures and undermined the legitimacy of CLPA bodies that were created.



From an organizational perspective, it should also be specified that, for most of the CLPAs established, meetings of the Coordination and Advisory Body (ICC) were not being held on a regular basis or even at all. These local governance structures were put in place without proper training of stakeholders in the fisheries industry who are to operate them. Given that the various ICC bodies (Committees, Executive Bureau... etc.) to operate CLPAs were not in place in most cases, officials did not have enough capacity to carry out their mandate.

Gaps were also identified in record keeping and the management of CLPA equipment. There were no records on expenses and the loan or return of equipment.

2.2. Poor administrative and financial management

The assessment of the organizational performance and operation of a CLPA is based on two indicators: Administrative organization and financial management.

From a regulatory point of view, after the appointment of ICC members, most CLPAs failed to develop rules of procedure specific to the fishing sites concerned, or the rules of procedure were not discussed within the body. This was a cause of bias in the participation and involvement of industry players.

In respect to administrative and financial management, there were no transparent procedures governing the activities of CLPAs.

In other words, there were no meetings held, no written or telephone invitations, no reports or records whatsoever of CLPAs. The same applied to the financial organization: no management procedures or tools were put in place. Expenses were incurred in a disorganized manner, without any rigorous or transparent procedure.

2.3. Insufficient fisheries resources management initiatives

In the framework of sustainable management of fisheries resources, players in the fishing industry, who are the main users of such resources, could not develop any initiative to ensure their proper management. A few cases were recorded at the fishing sites of Cayar, Mbour, Joal and Saint-Louis.



At the Cayar site, players in the industry placed a ban on the use of mono-filament fishing line in accordance with the Fisheries Code. They also put in place procedures governing the catching of belt-fish (*Trichiurus lepturus*). This measure was finally scaled up to the entire country.

At the Mbour and Joal sites, players in the fishing industry developed initiatives for the protection of cymbium “*yet*” and octopus “*yaranka*” (*Octopus vulgaris*).

At Saint-Louis, the Purse Seine College, which belongs to a committee called the “Diamalaye Committee”, introduced rotating trips. In particular, this strategy aims to control fishing effort and avoid overproduction. The objective is twofold: first, it will help to avoid fish dumping on the beach, and secondly it will enable fishers to sell their products at competitive prices

In spite of all these efforts, other bold measures and initiatives could be taken by stakeholders in the fisheries industry with a view to managing and protecting resources.

Other initiatives also suffered from lack of fund raising. This is an important aspect because it could enable CLPAs to take care of some of their expenses without relying on financial partners.

Activities to be targeted are Income Generating Activities (IGA), member contributions, sale of membership cards, etc.

2.4. Unfavorable financial situation

Good financial management is a prerequisite for the optimal operation of any producer organization. That is why fisheries authorities decided to define a source of funding for CLPAs.

To enable local governance bodies to operate, 60% of fees charged on artisanal fishing licenses and 30% of proceeds from the sale of wholesale trader identification cards are to be paid into their deposit accounts opened at the public treasury.

Unfortunately, it has been noted that, for close to eleven years of operation, CLPAs are still not able to access those funds. This is an impediment to their empowerment and smooth operation.

Apart from these fees, no other initiatives were developed, until 2011, to internally generate funds for CLPAs.

On the contrary, with the exception of some CLPAs that were able to work with partners to fund some of their activities, no reliable and well-organized system was put in place to guide fund disbursement procedures.



III. APPROACHES USED TO IMPROVE THE OPERATION OF CLPAs

3.1. Restructuring of CLPAs

In response to the needs expressed by industry players for smooth operation of CLPAs, USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus projects, in collaboration with the Directorate for Marine Fisheries, decided to support their restructuring. This activity, which was rolled out in several stages, began with the renewal of CLPA bodies in all intervention areas of the project. From Saint-Louis to Kafountine, passing through Cayar, Mbour, Rufisque, Sindia Nord, Sindia Sud and Ziguinchor, USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus projects supported stakeholders (technical services and industry players) in the process of consensual appointment of delegates to represent them within CLPA bodies. This was followed by the establishment of various bodies of the institution, notably the ICC, the Executive Bureau and Technical Committees.

3.1.1. Coordination and Advisory Body (ICC)

The Coordination and Advisory Body is the decision-making body of the CLPA. It is composed of all the representatives of fish wholesale traders, fishers, processors, service providers, fisheries administration, territorial administration, local communities, community elders and traditional leaders.

Established for a duration of two (2) years, the ICC of CLPAs has the following mandate:

- Ensuring the sustainable management of fisheries resources in communities in their jurisdiction;
- Ensuring consultation, security and capacity building of members;
- Ensuring, in collaboration with the administration, the security of fishers and their means of production as part of the co-management approach;
- Deliberating on measures to be taken to address the concerns of industry players within the colleges.



During its operation, the ICC holds at least three annual meetings, including the meeting for the development of annual action plans and another meeting to assess the plans. However, it may hold additional meetings if the need arises, or at the request of members.

Thanks to USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus projects, field officers (facilitators and relays)², ICCs of targeted CLPAs have been reinvigorated. As a result, they hold regular meetings to share ideas and deliberate on issues of direct interest to players in the artisanal fishing industry. This demonstrates in many aspects the vitality and dynamism of decision-making bodies of CLPAs after the restructuring. The restructuring also instituted women's participation in leadership and in the decision-making process of CLPAs.

3.1.2. Executive Bureau

Apart from the ICC, the restructuring of CLPAs required an Executive Bureau to be put in place. Indeed, this was a novelty in the traditional operation of CLPAs and resulted from innovations introduced with the expertise of the USAID/COMFISH Project.

The structure below, highly appreciated by stakeholders, was proposed and validated for the composition of the Executive Bureau of CLPAs:

- Coordinator;
- Deputy Coordinators;
- Secretary General and his or her Deputy;
- Treasurer General and his or her Deputy;
- Chairs of committees.

The Executive Bureau is mandated to:

- Ensure the implementation and monitoring of CLPA activities;
- Prepare ICC meetings and come up with proposed agendas thereof;
- Propose each year an Annual Work Plan (AWP) to be submitted to the ICC for approval;
- Prepare reports (quarterly, annual, ...).

² Facilitators have been contracted by the project to intensify communication between CLPAs and the project. Relays have been chosen by communities to strengthen the relationship between communities and stakeholders (see section 3.3 below).



3.1.3. Technical Committees

The **Scientific and Technical Committee** is mandated to identify initiatives for the co-management and sustainable exploitation of marine and coastal resources. These initiatives need to be realistic and capable of being easily incorporated into development plans approved by relevant authorities. This Committee is a mechanism for participatory research and ought to work in close collaboration with other research entities that are partners of the project and of the MPEM (CRODT, IUPA, IRD, etc.).

The **Fund Raising and External Relations Committee** is mandated to implement the financial policy of the ICC, define an action plan to generate revenues for the ICC, pursue the search for donors, and to enter into credit agreements with project funding and investment organizations on behalf of the ICC.

The **Monitoring Committee** is mandated to ensure compliance with the ICC Local Convention and existing regulatory texts. This Committee is made up of community squads which make up monitoring operational units. Its main mandate is to gather intelligence on persons who break the law onshore and offshore and to trigger the necessary procedure.

The **Information, Sensitization and Training Committee** is mandated to roll out a communication plan both internally and externally. In this capacity, it participates in various meetings, seminars or workshops that are of interest to the Committee. It also ensures the flow of information between the ICC and the various areas of interest. The Committee also has the responsibility to identify training needs and organize all meetings (seminars and workshops, coordination meetings, briefing sessions, income generating activities such as regattas and cultural evenings, etc.)

The **Social Affairs, Conflict Management and Prevention Committee** is mandated to prevent and manage conflicts arising from the exploitation of fisheries resources, and to ensure the settlement and integration of seasonal fishers. It also has the mandate to appreciate the legitimacy of assistance requests and to prioritize beneficiaries.

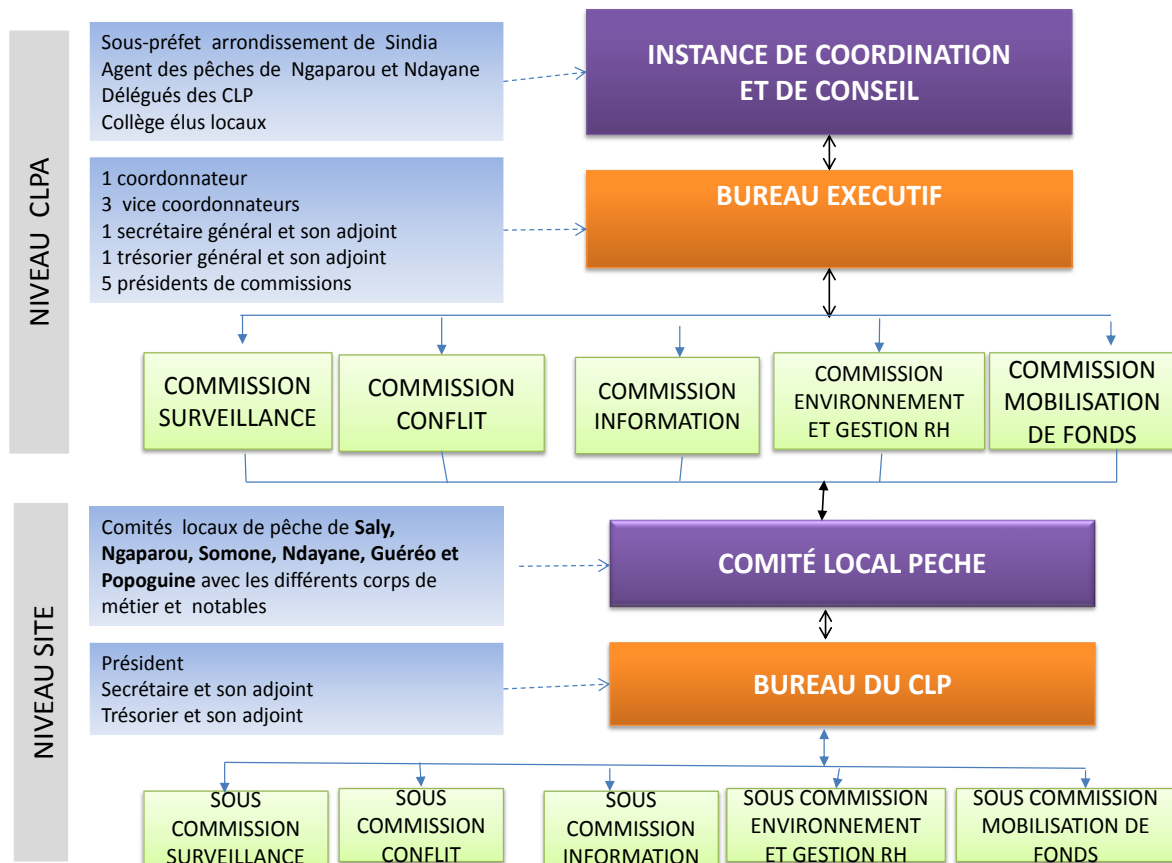


Figure 1. Example of a restructured CLPA - Organizational chart of the CLPA of Sindia Nord

3.2. Development of a Procedures Manual

The CLPA, as a body ensuring compliance with Local Conventions and existing fisheries regulations, needs to adopt organizational and operational rules, principles and procedures. Hence, the USAID/COMFISH Project, in collaboration with USAID, conducted assessments of the organizational capacity of CLPAs (Sindia Nord, Cayar, Saint-Louis, and Kafountine).

The main recommendation from the assessment was the development of a Procedures Manual.

The Manual describes the organizational, management, administrative, financial and accounting procedures of CLPAs with the following objectives:

- Providing a formal framework for the conduct of administrative operations;
- Describing administrative, financial and accounting procedures;



- Describing procedures for making expenses under conditions where effective internal control is assured by formalizing controls to be carried out and specifying responsible officers at every stage where documents are circulated;
- Describing procedures to be employed by the entire accounting and administrative staff as well as the responsibilities of each member;
- Making judicious use of all implementation resources (human, material and financial).

In terms of impacts, the implementation of the Procedures Manual started yielding the following results:

Definition of CLPA values, notably:

- Equity in the sustainable management of fisheries resources;
- Transparency in the management of the affairs of the CLPA;
- Ethics throughout the decision-making and implementation process.

The development of a financial system with the identification of procedures for internal and external control to enhance transparency in the management of CLPA funds. This was followed by the development of practical and standardized management tools such as cash books and fund-raising records, among others.

Overall, the efficiency of the management system, which is expected to translate into regular controls for CLPAs to remedy or curtail the risks that may arise from irregularities or malpractices (exceptional cases) but also and especially from negligence, errors in procedures, judgement or understanding (daily occurrences), is dependent upon compliance with and effective implementation of procedures contained in the Manual.

According to stakeholders, the Procedures Manual was a response to their expectation, and would help to curtail problems associated with transparent management owing to the lack of clear and traceable procedures. In addition, it would help to better define the roles and responsibilities of all co-management entities.

Furthermore, the administrative and financial management of a CLPA is ensured by the Bureau members themselves, notably the Coordinator, the Deputy Secretary General, the Treasurer and Committee Chairs.



3.3. Innovative tools for sustainable management of fisheries resources (Local Convention, Participatory Fisheries Management Plan, Local Climate Adaptation Plan)

To support CLPAs to put in place tools and materials to better carry out and legitimize their actions, the USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus Projects developed, in a participatory manner, three tools: Local Conventions, participatory sardinella management plans and local climate adaptation plans.

The **local convention** is defined as a set of rules developed in a consensual manner by one or several CLPAs, validated by technical services and approved by the administrative authority for sustainable management of targeted resources. This document is the most important element in the co-management approach which enabled CLPAs to define rules in a consensual manner in the form of local initiatives to deal with artisanal fishing offences within their jurisdictions³.

In terms of composition, a community relay is chosen among local community members to support the process of developing and implementing local conventions. A community relay is a volunteer (male or female) who acts as a liaison officer between various stakeholders in the fishing industry for the implementation of activities in general, and those supported by the USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus Projects in particular.

The main tasks of community relays are to:

- Identify and record all workers in the fishing industry within their area of intervention;
- Take regular stock of fishing activities in the area: fishing gear and equipment, problems encountered by fishers and indigenous solutions envisaged;
- Organize fisheries workers in the community;
- Contribute to the implementation of action plans developed as part of the activities of the CLPA, and especially those supported by the project;
- Facilitate interactions between technical services, fisheries workers, local authorities and the project in their respective areas of intervention;
- Facilitate community engagement for the implementation of activities identified in the CLPA's action plans;

³ This jurisdiction stretches into the sea, up to the boundary where industrial fishing is banned.

- Inform key stakeholders (CLPA and the project) on existing problems associated with the implementation of activities supported by the project;
- Collect technical data on fishing activities and fisheries resources;
- Feed the data into activities reporting tools on regular basis in consultation with the monitoring and evaluation team and report to the project facilitator.



Figure 2. Training session of relays



Figure 3. Relay of Ngaparou in a working session with Guéréo women

Hence, from the establishment of the baseline situation up to the official validation of local conventions, relays have played a paramount role in data collection, the mobilization, sensitization and training of stakeholders. They also work with CLPAs for the implementation of local conventions.

Given the success recorded with local conventions, CLPAs embarked on the development of **Participatory Management Plans** for the management of priority species such as sardinella and ethmalosa. This tool is the dashboard on which technical services, partners and local fisheries stakeholders agree for the sustainable management of species. It comprises a set of time-bound actions to be implemented. It should be noted that the various action plans take into account the peculiarities of major fishing zones along the Senegalese coastline.

Just like the Participatory Management Plans (PGP), **local climate adaptation plans** are also a set of activities to be implemented to minimize the adverse effects and impacts of climate change. Since the beginning of the development process of this tool, six climate vulnerability assessments have been conducted, and six local adaptation plans have been developed and made



available to CLPAs and partner technical services with financial and technical assistance for its implementation.

All these tools are henceforth recorded in the documentary heritage of CLPAs and have even served as a basis for the development of their Annual Work Plans (AWPs), which are planned CLPA activities to be implemented over the year. At the same, the AWP helped to address all the concerns of local stakeholders, technical services and financial partners as part of the process to strengthen fisheries co-management.



Figure 4. CLPA of Saint-Louis holding the 2018 AWP development workshop

All actions carried out by CLPAs to implement Annual Work Plans require financial resources. In view of this, the Senegalese government put in place the CLPA Operation Support Fund (FAF). Unfortunately, there was a delay in making these resources available to CLPAs. Since the inception of the USAID/COMFISH Project, no CLPA has benefited from the FAF. Therefore, an alternative strategy was deployed by the project to mobilize the necessary funds to fill in the gap.



3.4. Internal fund mobilization

To ensure the empowerment of CLPAs, the USAID/COMFISH Project quickly understood the need to develop other strategies to mobilize additional resources. Hence, strategies were proposed, focusing on:

- The sale of college membership cards;
- Contributions by companies in the community;
- Partnership agreements with fishing wharves;
- Rental of equipment;
- Proceeds from fines associated with artisanal fishing;
- Contributions by CLPA members;
- Grants from partners.

Furthermore, after two years of implementation, USAID/COMFISH undertook a fund mobilization strategy assessment and dissemination in the various CLPAs. The beneficiaries were the CLPAs of Yene/Dialaw, Kayar, Sindia Nord, Mbour, Ziguinchor, Kafountine and Saint-Louis. Overall, satisfactory results were achieved, giving renewed impetus to the operation of CLPAs.

By way of example, in 2017, at the Yéne/Dialaw, Sindia Nord and Mbour CLPAs, a total of **3,054,500 CFA Francs** was mobilized, which can be broken down as follows:

- 2,135,000 CFA Francs mobilized from the CLPA of Mbour, representing all contributions from members of the various colleges and the proceeds from the sale of membership cards;
- 635,000 CFA Francs from the CLPA of Yene/Dialaw, representing proceeds from the sale of membership cards and grants from partners (AFRICA FISH) involved in the implementation of the AWP.
- 284,500 CFA Francs from the CLPA of Sindia Nord, representing proceeds from the sale of college membership cards.

At the same time, the following amounts were mobilized from the Ziguinchor, Kafountine, Sindia Sud, Rufisque and Cayar CLPAs, which can be broken down as follows:

- Sale of college membership card and contributions:



The respective amounts of 1,757,500 CFA Francs and 1,871,000 CFA Francs were mobilized from Ziguinchor and Kafountine. At the Rufisque and Cayar CLPAs, the funds mobilized amounted to 120,000 CFA Francs and 98,000 CFA Francs respectively. And finally, 265,000 CFA Francs from Sindia Sud.

- Financial contributions from the inter-professional EIG responsible for the management of fishing wharves:

This strategy was implemented only at the Kafountine CLPA, where an agreement was reached between the inter-professional EIG and the Commune of Kafountine to allocate 5% of the EIG's monthly profits to the CLPA as its contribution to the management of fisheries resources. Under this agreement, the CLPA received a total amount of 1,237,035 CFA Francs in 2017.

- Grants from partners

Most of the CLPAs receive monthly support from the USAID/COMFISH Project for participatory monitoring. Additionally, the Sindia Sud CLPA received 1,000,000 CFA Francs from the ADUPES Project for the implementation of its AWP. Similarly, the CLPA of Saint-Louis also received a grant estimated at 4,226,000 CFA Francs from Kosmos Energy, a mining company.

These efforts for internal fund mobilization facilitated the implementation of the Annual Work Plans of CLPAs by enabling them to access adequate financial resources.



Figure 5. Fund-raising meeting at Ziguinchor and Yéne CLPAs



IV. Future prospects

4.1. Access to the CLPA Operation Support Fund

The CLPA Operation Support Fund is a significant source of resources to ensure the sustainability of CLPAs. Although tremendous efforts have been made to mobilize additional resources, CLPAs still need financial support from the Senegalese government. The CLPA Operation Support Fund, made up of 60% of proceeds from payments for artisanal fishing licenses and 30% of proceeds from payments for wholesale traders' identification cards, has reached tens of millions of CFA Francs for some CLPAs. These funds, once available to CLPAs, would enable them to finance the implementation of their Annual Action Plans on one hand, to take up other more ambitious actions for the sustainable management of fisheries resources on the other hand.

To deal with constraints associated with access to these funds, the USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus Projects took actions to support local stakeholders to enjoy the benefits of this fund.

Therefore, workshops were organized with various stakeholders (payroll managers, regional inspectors, CLPA secretaries, coordinators, Directorate for Marine Fisheries) to determine in a collegial manner steps to be taken. In the same perspective, USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus advocated with the MPEM which gave an assurance in this regard. The monitoring of this process is more than ever crucial, and would require the involvement of all technical and financial partners of CLPAs.

4.2. Harmonization of fisheries resources management initiatives

Fisheries resources management initiatives are enshrined in the Marine Fisheries Code of Senegal. They constitute the legal basis on which fishing communities can propose measures as part of local conventions initiated by the USAID/COMFISH and USAID/COMFISH Plus Projects. Before the first phase of the project and even prior to that, several community initiatives stood out. At Saint-Louis, the division of fishing boats into several groups and fishing trips rotation are some examples of local rules that nurtured and legitimized the leadership of the CLPA in as much as the sustainable management of fisheries resources is concerned. (Adjustment of fishing capacity, increase in socio-economic benefits). At Joal, the ban on night trips was a well-known measure to players in the fishing industry.



Several other initiatives were also taken by industry players in more or less different contexts. Similarly, the impact of such measures on the resilience of ecosystems and livelihoods of communities cannot be over-emphasized. That is why those initiatives need to be domesticated as part of the harmonization of management measures. This harmonization ought to be done according to the geographic limits of fishing sites to create synergy of actions in a conglomerate of CLPAs bound together by history and geography.

4.3. Strengthening the legal status of CLPA Coordinators

CLPA Coordinators have become key corporate entities in the operation of CLPAs. In practice, their signing of any legal instruments, their physical presence and sometimes agreements in principle that they enter into are binding upon CLPAs. However, the issue of the legal framework of their actions arises.

4.4. Transparent financial management

Sooner or later, CLPAs are expected to grow and to fully carry out their mandates with support from Technical and Financial Partners. Therefore, there will be the need for them to manage substantial funds from either the CLPA Operation Support Fund or financial support from the Senegalese government or other partners. As a result, financial management ought to take center stage in the development of CLPAs. At the same time, compliance with donors' requirement and, by extension, principles of good governance must be ensured. Therefore, CLPAs need to continue the efforts they have made so far in the area of financial management, which translated into the development of a procedures manual with detailed financial and administrative management procedures of their bodies, and think of professionalizing the position of administrative and financial officer within them.

4.5. A website to enhance communication, learning and transparency

The website www.clpa.sn should serve as a reference for CLPAs and other players in the fisheries industry. Therefore, it is important to ensure that it is dynamic by updating it on regular basis.



4.6. National network of CLPAs

A network of CLPAs has been created in every department, region and at national level. Those networks bring together all existing CLPAs in the geographic locations indicated. The departmental network comprises all CLPAs in a specific department. The regional network comprises all departmental networks in a specific region. The national network comprises all CLPAs existing in Senegal.

The mandate of the national network of CLPAs includes:

- Serving as an interface with public authorities and various technical and financial partners within its area of intervention on all issues relating to the development of artisanal fisheries and the management of exploited fisheries resources;
- Issuing an opinion on all cross-cutting matters referred to it by the Minister of Fisheries;
- Promoting dialogue and consultation among all stakeholders involved in the management and exploitation of common resources, and CLPA members who made up the network;
- Working with networks within the same geographic location (departmental or regional), that share the same fisheries resources;
- Ensuring consistency in management measures recommended as part of the various fisheries development and management plans implemented in the geographic area concerned;
- Liase between the upper and lower levels on all issues relating to the development and management of marine artisanal fishing.

