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FISHERIES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

**The European Community's
Policy**

DEVELOPMENT

FISHERIES IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES:
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY'S POLICY

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History

World War II caused many fishing-related activities to be interrupted. As a result, marine fauna flourished, giving an impression which persisted to the late fifties, that the oceans were inexhaustible. The territorial waters of Third World countries seemed immensely rich, since the coastal countries only carried on artisanal (i.e. non-industrial) fishing for subsistence purposes.

During the sixties, the industrialized countries, some of them traditionally involved in fishing, enlarged their industrial fleets and extended their activities into almost every ocean.

Returns from these new fleets depended on the level of catches. With the intensified fishing necessary for these fleets to show a profit, full exploitation - indeed over-exploitation - was soon reached. Over-exploitation resulted in a failure of stocks of certain species to be replenished; thus a shift in catch composition occurred worldwide, with an increasing number of species with a lower market value being included.

The first oil crisis posed a new problem for deep-sea fleets: an increase in operating costs.

At the same time, however, India's green revolution was bearing its first fruits. Advocates of pisciculture believed that this new form of production would provide the answer. The principle tenet of this new active approach was technology, which it was hoped would enable fish farming to be carried out on an industrial scale. While interesting results were achieved in Europe, Japan and the United States, social and economic constraints prevented success in Africa and Latin America. At the beginning of the eighties, the first doubts began to emerge about the transfer of technology pure and simple.

Many studies had already warned of wastage and a probable slowing down of the growth rate for catches. The predictions made by J. Gulland were proved correct in the seventies, when the speed with which catches had been expanding began to lag by 1% a year.

In view of this slowdown, it was time for a re-appraisal of industrial fisheries. It was then that artisanal (non-industrial) fishing began to be noticed, for the important role that it plays in providing food and employment in the developing countries. In Africa, for example, 70% of the fish consumed by the local population is caught by artisanal methods.

Nowadays, the situation in the fisheries sector is that natural resources are almost fully exploited, and in some cases over-exploited. According to FAO statistics, moreover, it would seem that out of the more than 90 million tonnes of fish landed annually during the eighties, about one third was processed into fish-meal and two thirds were used for human consumption. In addition, 10 to 20 million tonnes of fish are wasted each year, either through being thrown back into the sea (the case for shrimp by-catches, for example) or because of inadequate methods for handling, processing or marketing after catches are landed.

¹Gulland, J. The fish resources of the ocean. Fishing News Books.

While awareness has grown that stocks are not limitless and that they are precious, it is the establishment of exclusive economic zones (EEZ), which may extend for 200 miles, in conjunction with and following on from the third UN Conference on the Law of the Sea, that has really laid the foundation for more rational management of the sea's resources.

EEC policy

The Community's policy on fisheries in the developing countries is complex. To analyze it, it must be considered under two different headings: development aid (cooperation) and trade.

Under the first of these headings, cooperation or aid for development, the Community has, since 1958, financed 450 fisheries projects, either through the various European Development Funds (EDF) or the EEC budget.

Modest at the outset, Community aid for fisheries has increased to the point where the EEC is now one of the leading donors in this field, its contribution amounting to 5-7% of world aid in the sector.

Originally, Community funding was applied only to projects relating to port infrastructure or processing facilities. Later on, Community support was provided for projects reflecting the expansion the sector was undergoing at the time. Included in them were elements for technical assistance and the improvement of equipment, but more significantly, assistance was provided to raise the standard of living of the fishing population.

The EEC's commitment to assist the ACP countries in developing their own fisheries potential was mentioned in Annex XVIII of the second Lomé Convention in 1979. This annex recognized the importance of fishery resources for the overall development of the states concerned as well as the latter's rights to determine a suitable conservation policy. For their part the ACP States declared their willingness to negotiate bilateral fishery agreements with the Community, whereby EEC vessels would be permitted to fish in ACP States' waters. It is these agreements which constitute the trade aspect of Community policy on fisheries.

The fisheries agreements are negotiated within the framework of the EEC's common fisheries policy.

From the administrative point of view, responsibility for the development aid aspect of policy lies with the Directorate-General for Development (DG VIII); the trade agreements are handled by the Directorate-General for Fisheries (DG XIV).

The first part of this paper is concerned with the trade agreements, while the second looks into development aid.

These two types of operation overlap in several ways and it is this interaction that will form the subject of the third part of our analysis.

Some fisheries figures¹

Fisheries represent an important activity for the EEC, even though the number of people employed therein is relatively small: 260 000 fishermen, or 0.18% of the working population.

To this should be added the people employed in the building and maintenance of vessels and fishing gear, and those employed in fish processing and marketing. All these together amount to at least four or five times the number directly involved.

In 1986, European fishermen caught 6.6 million tonnes of fish, i.e. 7.2% of the world total. This places the EEC in the fourth position behind Japan (11.8 million tonnes), the USSR (11.3 million tonnes), and China (8 million tonnes).

The foremost country in Europe for fishing is Denmark with 1.9 million tonnes of catches (especially species with industrial value: fish-meal and fish oil). Next comes Spain with 1.3 million tonnes (high quality species for human consumption), then the United Kingdom with 0.8 million tonnes.

As far as fishing grounds are concerned, 70% of European fishing takes place in the north east Atlantic, 12% in the Mediterranean, 3% in the north west Atlantic and 5% in the eastern part of the central Atlantic.

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Acknowledgement for the figures in this section is given to "Europe in Figures" 2nd Edition, Office for Official Publications, Luxembourg 1988.

PART I: THE FISHERIES AGREEMENTS

Background

The exclusive economic zone and the Law of the Sea

First step - the exclusive economic zone (EEZ)

When various exclusive economic zones were introduced in the seventies, deep-sea fishing operations, especially those by EEC fleets, were seriously upset. In this context, and in order to safeguard economic returns in its fisheries sector as well as wishing to optimize the utilization of the EEZ declared by its Member States, the Community encouraged the development of vessels that were better adapted technically to this fishing zone. It also negotiated access to the resources of this zone for non-member countries, by means of fisheries agreements.

It also developed a policy on fisheries agreements so that it could safeguard its legitimate interests (maintenance and expansion of fishing rights) in the EEZ of non-member countries.

To this end, in the framework of the Community's jurisdiction in the organization of the fisheries sector arising from common fisheries policy, the EEC Commission was, in 1976, instructed by the Council to commence negotiations for the conclusion of fisheries agreements with the non-member countries concerned, such agreements being seen as of vital importance.

Second step - the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea

In 1982, exclusive economic zones were given international legitimacy by the UN Conference on the Law of the Sea, at which the EEC played an active role. As a result, most of the world's halieutic resources are now under the jurisdiction of coastal countries.

This development is of prime importance to developing countries bordering the sea, since it establishes their rights to a major resource which they can exploit to their own best advantage.

This right to exclusive jurisdiction over these economic zones is concomitant with coastal states' obligations to ensure that their resources are managed rationally (evaluation of existing stocks and determination of catch levels that will ensure optimum utilization without endangering the species) and supervision of measures taken to this effect.

Fisheries agreements under the Lomé Conventions

Lomé I

When the first Lomé Convention was signed in 1975, no article on the fishery sector was included. This gap may be explained by the fact that Lomé I predated the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, negotiations for which took place around the end of the seventies and the beginning of the eighties.

Lomé II

The second Lomé Convention, signed in 1979, contained an annex relating to sea fishing.

Annex XVIII of this convention recognized:

- (a) the sovereign right of the ACP States to determine policies for the conservation and use of fishery resources;
- (b) the fact that the ACP States were willing to negotiate fishery agreements satisfactory to both parties, on a non-discriminatory basis;
- (c) the fact that the EEC would act in the same spirit with regard to ACP States whose geographical situation justified it (for example through reciprocal agreements on access, between a (French) overseas department and a nearby island state in the ACP group);
- (d) the fact that compensation received under a fishery agreement would be additional to any grants from the EDF;
- (e) and lastly, the importance of cooperation through existing organizations with a view to ensuring conservation and to promoting the optimum use of fishery resources.

In the same year (1979), the first commercial fisheries agreement (between Senegal and the EEC) was signed.

Lomé III

The third Lomé Convention (1984) pays special attention to fisheries. Its second title is headed "The development of fisheries" and it repeats the 1979 declarations, pointing out that "the ACP States and the Community recognize the urgent need to promote the development of fishery resources of ACP States both as a contribution towards the development of fisheries as a whole and as a sphere of mutual interest for their respective economic sectors.

"Cooperation in this field shall promote the optimum utilization of the fishery resources of the ACP States, while recognizing the rights of landlocked states to participate in the exploitation of sea fisheries and the right of coastal states to exercise jurisdiction over the living marine resources of their exclusive economic zones in conformity with current international law and notably the conclusions of the third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea."

Article 55 of Lomé III mentions that the ACP States are willing to negotiate fishery agreements with the Community under mutually satisfactory conditions and free from discrimination against the Community or among its Member States.

Lomé IV

The latest ACP-EEC Convention builds still farther on the third Convention's provisions concerning the development of fisheries. The priority objectives of cooperation in this field are laid down as follows in Title III, Article 59:

- (a) to improve knowledge of the fisheries environment and its resources;
- (b) to increase the means of protecting fishery resources and monitoring their rational exploitation;
- (c) to increase the involvement of the ACP States in the exploitation of deep-sea fishery resources within their exclusive economic zones;
- (d) to encourage the rational exploitation of the fishery resources of the ACP States and the resources of the high seas in which the ACP States and the Community share interests;

- (e) to increase the contribution of fisheries including aquaculture, non-industrial fishing and inland fisheries, to rural development, by giving importance to the role they play in strengthening food security, improving nutrition and the social and economic conditions of the communities concerned; this implies, inter alia, a recognition of and support for women's work at the post-harvest stage and in the marketing of fish;
- (f) to increase the contribution of fisheries to industrial development by increasing catches, output, processing and exports.

To ensure that the Convention is respected, an official from the Directorate-General for Development is present during negotiations of trade agreements between the EEC and an ACP state.

Different types of agreement

We may distinguish here between fisheries agreements proper (bilateral agreements), concluded with non-member countries, and recommendations adopted in the framework of the work of international organizations relating to fishing (falling under the heading of multilateral relations).

Private fisheries agreements are another possibility.

Bilateral agreements

Most of the bilateral agreements concluded by the Community are described as framework agreements. These are all negotiated by the Commission and adopted by the Council, after Parliament has been consulted.

These framework agreements spell out the general conditions governing fisheries relations between the two contracting parties. They normally run for several years and often contain a clause to cover tacit renewal.

The financial and technical conditions directly connected with fisheries operations are annexed to the framework agreement. These vary from one agreement to another and are periodically renegotiated.

Since, in accordance with the Law of the Sea, the Community recognizes the right of coastal states to determine the use to which their fishing resources are put, it obviously agrees to pay compensation for any fishing rights it is granted.

The fisheries trade agreements signed by the Community fall into five different categories, depending on the form in which compensation is made. The categories are as follows:

- Reciprocal agreements

These provide for access by the vessels of each contracting party to the fishing zones of the other party. The approximate value of catches available in each party's zone is calculated so that a mutually satisfactory balance may be struck.

This type of agreement has been signed with the Faeroes, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

- "Access to resources - access to markets" agreements

This type of agreement gives Community fishermen access to fishery resources in non-member countries in exchange for trade advantages, in the form of erga omnes trade concessions (reduced customs duty).

Such an agreement has been concluded with Canada.

- "Access to surplus stocks" agreements

Here, the non-member country allows Community vessels the part of its stock it is unable to exploit, against payment of fees by the fleet owner.

The agreement with the United States is of this type.

- Financial compensation agreements

In such agreements, which are commercial in nature, the Community pays financial compensation in exchange for fishing rights.

Agreements of this type have been signed with ACP countries. Because of the Lomé Convention, the states concerned enjoy free access to the Community market for all their fishery products.

- "Access to resources in exchange for compensation plus tariff concessions" agreements

Agreements of this mixed type have been concluded with Greenland and Morocco, neither of which at present enjoys free access to Community markets for their fishery products.

It should be borne in mind that although the Community has sole competence with regard to the organization of the fisheries sector, especially where the conclusion of framework agreements with non-member countries is concerned, this in no way precludes the possibility of fleet owners from privately concluding arrangements to acquire fishing rights from any non-member country. Such arrangements are outside the scope of existing ACP-EEC relations. An individual fleet operator making such a private arrangement may not, in any case, avail himself of any Community fisheries agreement that may exist and he alone must bear the full cost of his licence. As the Community plays no part in reaching such arrangements, it cannot be held responsible in their implementation.

Multilateral relations

The Commission takes part in the negotiations for the terms of international conventions relating to the creation of exclusive economic zones; it also represents the Community in international organizations concerned with the sector.

The chief purpose of such conventions is to ensure that resources are protected and that they are exploited rationally outside of the zones themselves, in other words, in international waters.

The Community is a member of the following organizations:

- (i) North-West Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO)
- (ii) North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC)
- (iii) North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO)
- (iv) Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
- (v) International Baltic Sea Fishery Commission (IBSFC)

At the present time, the Community is negotiating membership of the International Convention for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT). In addition it has obtained observer status at the FAO, and takes part as such in the various regional committees set up by that organization.

Agreements with developing countries

The Community has entered into bilateral fisheries agreements with coastal states among those developing countries close to areas fished by the Community fleet, specifically Morocco and African countries bordering the Atlantic or Indian Oceans. The number of such agreements is bound to rise, firstly because of the need to redeploy fishing vessels as the whereabouts of stocks becomes better known (in the Indian Ocean, the Pacific and off Latin America), and secondly because of the obvious advantages conferred on both parties, but especially on the developing country, through such agreements.

Under the terms of its commercial agreements with ACP countries, the Community pays compensation and the fishermen concerned pay licence fees directly, in exchange for the fishing rights obtained. The ACP state receiving this cash input may use it in any way it wishes, with the development of local fisheries being one of the targets.

It should be noted that financial compensation is paid without prejudice to the grants received by the ACP country as a Lomé partner. Compensation does not affect funding the country may receive through bilateral cooperation with individual Member States, either.

As well as the financial compensation, a further grant is made by the Community to the partner country in order to fund scientific programmes aimed at increasing information on the fishery resources in its waters.

The Community, in keeping with the strategic principles of these agreements, also contributes to meeting the nutritional needs of the local population. It does so through compulsory landings of fish from any catches taken during fishing operations covered by a fisheries agreement. These are handed over to the competent local authorities, either free-of-charge or at local market prices.

The agreements make provision for the Community to contribute to structural improvements in the country's fishing sector. This may take various forms, according to the developing country's requests, for example:

- (a) supplying local industries with raw materials;
- (b) financing fisheries-related infrastructure on land and the use of port facilities by Community vessels;
- (c) declaring catches taken in the country's fishing zone so that local resources can be managed better;
- (d) providing training on board for local sailors, in order to create employment locally and improve the level of qualifications;
- (e) taking on board national observers, to monitor the fishing operations of Community vessels;
- (f) providing training grants to enable local people to build up their expertise in all matters - legal, economic, scientific and technical - linked to fisheries and to lay a foundation for autonomous development of the country's fisheries;
- (g) providing funds so that the country's experts can attend international meetings or training sessions on fisheries;

- (h) financing partner states' costs for attending the sessions of the main international fishery organizations which concern them.

The monitoring of fisheries activities remains the responsibility of the coastal state partner.

Example of an agreement with an ACP State - Equatorial Guinea

Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea, approved by the Council on behalf of the Community under Council Regulation (EEC) No 1966/84 of 28 June 1984. Entry into force 3 December 1984 (OJ L 188 of 16 July 1984)

The first protocol, annexed to the framework agreement was:

- (a) concluded for a period of 3 years; it granted authorization to fish to 27 freezer tuna boats;
- (b) the EEC was required to pay compensation of ECU 180 000 per year, with shipowners fees set at ECU 20 per tonne caught;
- (c) fisheries activities were subject to compulsory declarations of catches and monitored by observers taken on board the Community vessels;

The second protocol:

- (a) was concluded for a new period of three years (from 27.6.86 to 26.6.89) and authorized increased fishing opportunities to take into account the Spanish and Portuguese fleets;
- (b) authorizations were granted to 59 tuna fishing vessels and freezer trawlers were included for less migratory species;
- (c) the financial compensation to be paid by the Community was increased to ECU 1 705 000 per year;
- (d) the Community also contributed a sum of ECU 200 000 towards financing a scientific and technical programme to improve information on fishery resources within Equatorial Guinea's EEZ. It also financed 10 study and training grants for the country's nationals;
- (e) shipowners' licence fees were revised;
- (f) existing arrangements for monitoring were extended;
- (g) shipowners agreed to pay the cost of taking national sailors on board for further vocational training;
- (h) arrangements were agreed on for landing catches to supply the local population at prices set by the local authorities.

The third protocol has recently come into force with the following provisions:

- (a) it covers a new period of 3 years (from 27.6.89 to 26.6.92);
- (b) the number of tuna vessels authorized has been reduced to 40; access for trawlers remains unchanged;
- (c) in addition, 30 vessels using surface longlines, for migratory species (swordfish) are authorized;
- (d) the Community's annual compensation has been raised to ECU 2 000 000;
- (e) the Community contribution to the country's scientific and technical programme has also been raised to ECU 500 000 for the whole period, with an additional sum of ECU 650 000 promised for study awards and contributions to the costs of participating in international meetings or training courses on fisheries;
- (f) the remaining technical and administrative provisions have been extended, particularly as regards monitoring, stock conservation measures (determination of authorized mesh size), and catches landed to supply the local population.

Future outlook

Given that coastal states may legitimately hope one day to exploit their own fishery resources using their own fleets, the fishing agreements in their present form must be viewed as short or medium-term instruments. In the coming years, serious consideration must be given to finding new ways of cooperating in the fishery sector and to opening up new possibilities in the matter.

In this context, there is the feeling of increasing willingness on the part of coastal states in some parts of the world (Gulf of Guinea and Pacific, for example) to form regional groupings for the common defence of their fishery interests. Such initiatives point strongly towards the eventual signing of regional fisheries agreements. These could create a general framework within which those with fishery interests could contact each other so that fisheries activities could be conducted with respect for the mutual interests of the parties concerned.

The utilization of external resources ought to strengthen the ties of solidarity and reciprocal interests between Community fishermen and the developing country concerned. Joint ventures might be one way that this could be realized since these provide the means for permanently combining fisheries interests and the commercial interests of the partners. In this type of association, the EEC business end can provide support, especially as regards expertise, that is vital if the interests of the foreign partner are to be met.

List of agreements between the EEC and developing countries

(Dates refer to the year when the agreement was first negotiated.)

1980	Senegal	1987	Mauritania
1980	Guinea-Bissau	1988	Comoros
1983	Guinea	1988	Morocco
1984	Seychelles	1988	Gabon
1984	Sao Tome and Principe	1989	Mauritius
1984	Equatorial Guinea	1989	Sierra Leone
1986	Madagascar	1990	Cape Verde
1986	Mozambique	1990	Tanzania
1987	Gambia	1990	Ivory Coast
1987	Angola		

The types of fish usually caught under fishery agreements are tuna, shrimp and high quality groundfish.

In addition to the above agreements that have already been signed, negotiations have been authorized for the conclusion of agreements with the following countries:

Antigua and Barbuda	Liberia
Djibouti	Maldives
Dominica	Nigeria
Ghana	Somalia
Kenya	Sri Lanka

PART II: DEVELOPMENT AID

History of EEC development aid for fisheries

The EEC has been providing aid for fisheries since the first European Development Fund (EDF) was created in 1958 with a view to establishing a system of association between the Community and overseas countries having ties with the Member States. In the first EDF, ECU 9.7 million was set aside to fisheries projects, most of these being for the provision of port installations in West Africa and in Saint Pierre and Miquelon.

At the start of the sixties, a large number of French-speaking African countries gained independence. This change in status led to a new relationship between the EEC and the newly-independent states, governed by the Yaoundé Conventions of 1963 and 1969, corresponding respectively to the second and third EDF.

The second EDF allocated ECU 7.2 million for fisheries, while the third earmarked ECU 5.5 million. As was the case with the first EDF, most of these funds went to West Africa (98%), principally to build port installations (75%).

Towards the mid-seventies, the relationship between the EEC and the developing countries took on much greater dimensions. This was in part because of the signing of the first Lomé Convention by the then nine European partners and the 46 African, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP), and in part because, from 1976, the EEC enlarged its development aid policy to include developing countries which were not in the ACP Group. This new type of development aid was financed not from the EDF, but from the EEC budget.

The structure of EEC aid for fisheries assumed a new shape under the first Lomé Convention and the sum available from the fourth EDF jumped to ECU 32.2 million, to be spread wider, both geographically and sectorally.

Lomé II saw not only an increase in the number of ACP countries (57 compared with the 46 Lomé I signatories) but also a much larger volume of aid for the sector - ECU 99.4 million. The second convention also contained an annex (Annex XVIII) whose provisions set out the type of relations the EEC and the ACP States would maintain on fisheries.

To date, ECU 49.2 million has been allocated to fisheries under the third Lomé Convention. New countries joining the ACP Group have brought the number of signatories of Lomé III up to 66.

For the first time, via this convention, a specific legal framework for EEC fisheries aid to the ACP States was drawn up. In its Title II, it repeats the 1979 declarations, while introducing a number of specific details (see under Lomé III in Part I).

Fisheries aid for developing countries not in the ACP Group was first introduced at the end of the seventies. This has developed along more varied lines, however, and some of the countries which benefitted most from it have since become members of the ACP Group.

TABLE 1

Share of EDF allocated to fisheries sector

EDF	Convention and length	Total sum (m ECU)	Sum for fisheries (m ECU)	As % of EDF
I	1958-63	581.3	9.7	1.6%
II	Yaoundé I 1964-68	730	7.3	1 %
III	Yaoundé II 1969-75	887	5.5	0.6%
IV	Lomé I 1976-80	3 190.5	32.3	1 %
V	Lomé II 1981-85	4 887.3	99.4	2 %
VI	Lomé III 1986-90	7 511.7	49.2	0.6%

Sources of financing: the EDF and the EEC budget

All the various fisheries development projects representing cooperation under Lomé Conventions are financed from the EDF. This fund is constituted from contributions by each of the Member States. The share of this fund allocated to fisheries has never exceeded 2%, whilst the smallest percentage to be allocated to the sector is 0.6% (see Table 1 above).

As well as receiving grants from the EDF, ACP countries may also get funding from the EEC budget, in which certain headings provide for specific development programmes, for example, training for nationals from developing countries, the environment, and resource management, as well as the co-financing of NGO projects and the Science and Technology for Development programme.

Developing countries which are not in the ACP Group cannot receive financing from the EDF; on the other hand, certain budget headings provide specifically for them.

TABLE 1a

Comparison of sources of financing for fisheries projects

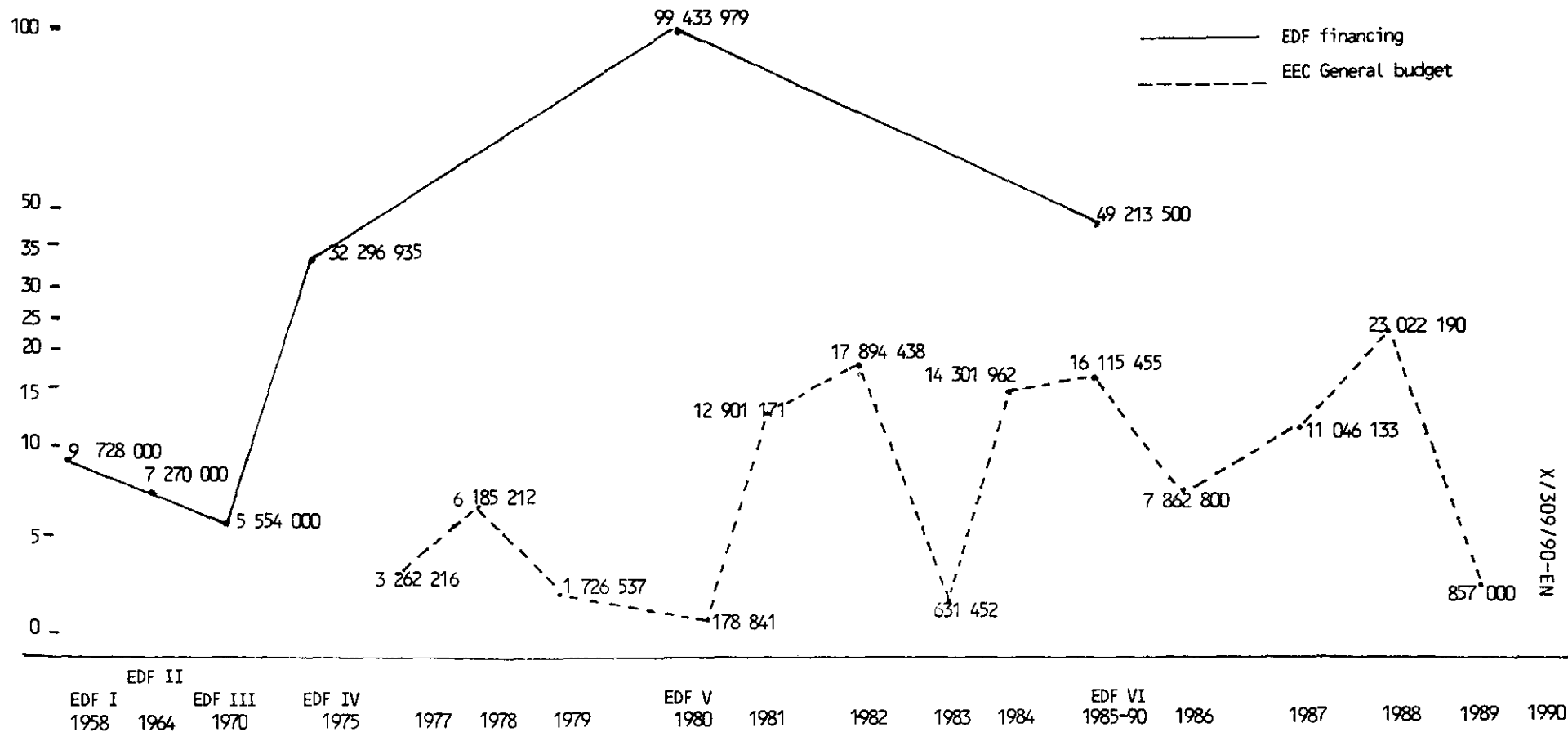
Source of financing	European Development Fund (EDF)	EEC budget
Recipients	ACP countries	ACP countries plus non-associated d.cs
Operations financed	Fisheries development projects (infrastructure, artisanal fisheries, aquaculture, production, management, training, etc.)	NGO cofinancing STD programme Training Environment Good resource management Evaluation

TABLE 2

EEC aid to the fisheries sector

EEC aid
committed
in '000 000 ECU

N.B. STD (= ECU 1 456 630)
not included



Development aid (cooperation)

General approach

Most of the world's fishery resources are to be found in the developing countries and their exclusive economic zones. But many of these countries have neither the capital nor the technical ability (management, qualified labour, technology) to exploit these resources or their potential to the full.

Since fisheries development can lead directly to improving food availability, nutritional standards, employment, rural and industrial development, the trade balance, and so on, national and international aid donors support the developing countries' fisheries sectors, by providing technical assistance and funding for projects.

During its 25 years of cooperation with developing countries in the fisheries sector, the EEC, like many other donor bodies, has shifted its emphasis away from industrial fisheries designed for export, towards artisanal fisheries, when it allocates its aid. For in developing countries, the major part of artisanal fishing catches is used for local consumption.

Around 1975, instead of thinking simply in terms of expansion, the accent was placed on stock management and rational exploitation of resources, with all that this implies regarding more effective use of existing production, training, strengthening of the institutions and fisheries research.

This change in direction came about because the financing of port installations was assigned a more secondary role, while the importance of artisanal fisheries was recognized for the support it could bring to food security strategies and employment and the boost it could give to rural communities. Looked at another way, this new direction coincided with the integrated rural development approach being introduced then. However, industrial fisheries still remain a means of trade with foreign countries.

Fisheries development projects

• Geographical breakdown of aid

The way in which aid is distributed geographically does not exactly correspond with the administrative distinction that exists between ACP and other developing countries.

All the following types of country receive Community assistance: members of the ACP Group (i.e. Lomé signatories), independent states not in the ACP Group, the (French) overseas departments (OD) and the overseas countries and territories (OCT).

In the table of recipient countries which follows, these distinctions are indicated.

West Africa

Angola	Equatorial Guinea	Mali
Benin	Gabon	Mauritania
Burkina Faso	Gambia	Sao Tome and Principe
Cameroon	Ghana	
Cape Verde	Guinea	Senegal
Central African Rep.	Guinea-Bissau	Togo
Chad	Ivory Coast	Zaire
Congo	Liberia	

(All members of the ACP Group of States)

Regional programme for the Gulf of Guinea
Regional programme for West Africa

East Africa

Burundi	Mozambique	Uganda
Ethiopia	Rwanda	Zambia
Kenya	Somalia	Zimbabwe
Malawi	Sudan	

(All members of the ACP Group)

Regional programmes: Lake Tanganyika, Lake Victoria, Southern African Development
Coordination Conference (SADCC)

Pacific

Kiribati (ACP)	Solomon Islands (ACP)	Vanuatu (ACP)
New Caledonia (OCT)	Tonga (ACP)	Wallis and Futuna (OCT)
Papua New Guinea (ACP)	Tuvalu (ACP)	
Saint Pierre and Miquelon (DT)	Western Samoa (ACP)	

South Pacific Regional Programme

Caribbean

Barbados (ACP)	Grenada (ACP)	Saint Vincent and Grenadines (ACP)
Dominica (ACP)	Martinique (OD)	Trinidad and Tobago (ACP)
French Guiana (OD)	Netherlands Antilles (OCT)	

Caribbean Regional Programme
CARICOM (regional organization)

Indian Ocean

Comoros (ACP)	Mauritius (ACP)	Yemen (non-assoc.)
India (non-assoc.)	Réunion (OCT)	
Madagascar (ACP)	Seychelles (ACP)	

Latin America

Brazil	Guyana (ACP)	Paraguay
Chile	Honduras	Peru
Colombia	Mexico	Suriname (ACP)
Ecuador	Nicaragua	Uruguay
Falklands Islands (OCT)	Panama	

(Except where indicated, all non-associated countries)

Regional programme for Central America
Permanent Commission for the South Pacific

Asia

Bangladesh	Kampuchea	Sri Lanka
Burma	Malaysia	Thailand
China	Pakistan	
Indonesia	Philippines	

(All these countries are non-associated)

Regional programme: Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Mediterranean

Algeria	Malta
Egypt	Tunisia

(All these countries are non-associated).

TABLE 3

Geographical breakdown of Community-financed fisheries development projects

Region Source of finan.	E. AFRICA		W. AFRICA		CARIBBEAN		PACIFIC		INDIAN OCEAN	
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)
EDF I	1	5 000	6	6 178 000	-	-	1	3 545 000	-	-
EDF II	-	-	10	7 270 000	-	-	-	-	-	-
EDF III	1	150 000	6	2 951 000	1	453 000	-	-	1	2 000 000
EDF IV	8	4 369 950	35	17 140 010	10	2 641 100	17	6 250 000	5	312 000
EDF V	18	16 248 586	52	51 854 475	8	1 434 050	18	9 700 868	17	15 281 000
EDF VI	10	11 308 500	18	24 761 000	1	39 500	6	12 581 500	2	232 000
<u>BUDGET</u>										
1977-79	1	4 675 000	5	1 667 983	-	-	-	-	4	51 620
1980-84	14	3 516 026	17	18 043 552	-	-	-	-	7	1 178 135
1985-89	10	7 851 756	13	4 798 354	-	-	2	13 812	13	20 776 070
STD Prog.	2	388 750	1	203 500	1	300 000	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	65	48 513 568	163	134 867 874	21	4 867 650	44	32 091 180	49	39 830 825

Region Source of finan.	ASIA		LATIN AMERICA		SOUTHERN AND EASTERN MED.		ALL COUNTRIES		TOTAL
	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(1)	(2)	(2)
EDF I	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9 728 000
EDF II	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7 270 000
EDF III	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5 554 000
EDF IV	-	-	8	1 544 875	-	-	1	39 000	32 296 935
EDF V	-	-	2	4 915 000	-	-	-	-	99 433 979
EDF VI	-	-	2	291 000	-	-	-	-	49 213 500
<u>BUDGET</u>									
1977-79	5	3 231 200	3	1 548 162	-	-	-	-	11 173 965
1980-84	10	15 303 627	10	226 554	6	7 640 000	-	-	45 907 894
1985-89	15	12 750 064	22	8 891 812	6	3 625 097	3	160 613	58 867 578
STD Prog.	3	325 280	1	150 000	-	-	1	99 100	1 466 630
TOTAL	33	31 610 171	48	17 567 403	12	11 265 097	5	298 713	320 912 481

(1) No of projects
(2) Amount in ECU

N.B. The tables on fisheries development projects have been prepared on the basis of data published in June 1989.

Broadly speaking, Table 3 reveals that 73.7% of the aid, i.e. ECU 205 079 917, has been allocated to countries in the ACP Group together with the overseas departments, countries and territories.

More precisely, 57% of the aid has gone to Africa (42% to West Africa and 15% to East Africa) while ACP countries in the Indian Ocean region have received 5.2%, India has been allocated 7.2%, the Pacific 10% and the Caribbean 1.5%. The remaining aid has been shared between Asia (10%), Latin America (5.5%, of which almost half was received by two ACP countries, Guyana and Suriname) and southern and eastern Mediterranean countries (3.5%).

The table also shows that since 1977, non-associated developing countries have received a substantial amount of financing from the EEC budget amounting to 15.5% of total fisheries aid.

The data below, concerning EDF financing for the fisheries sector, indicate that 89% of it has been allocated in the course of the last three EDF (49% from the fifth EDF alone):

EDF I	4.8%
EDF II	3.5%
EDF III	2.7%
EDF IV	16%
EDF V	49%
EDF VI	24%.

The drop from the fifth EDF's 49% to the sixth's 24% appears at first sight to be contrary to the spirit of Lomé III which was the first of the conventions to make specific provisions dealing with fisheries. The explanation of this is that aid has recently been channelled into areas absorbing smaller amounts than infrastructural projects, to which much of the earlier EDF funding was directed. In other words, artisanal or non-industrial fishery projects, which fit logically into rural development and food security strategies, can be carried out with smaller cash inputs.

It must be said, however, that another reason for this discrepancy is an arbitrary administrative one, namely that some fisheries operations have continued to be financed by balances left over from the fifth EDF. It should also be mentioned that the growing number of fisheries agreements enables countries to cover some of their training and research needs through the compensation they are paid for access.

Summing up, if the amounts now being allocated to fisheries have declined it is not through any lack of interest. A combination of different factors is responsible, one of which is the reorientation of aid.

Trend in and distribution of aid by type of project

Tables 4 and 5 below illustrate the trend in and geographical distribution of aid by type of project. Fisheries development aid falls under ten main headings, with most projects, however, combining elements from more than one heading.

TABLE 4

Trend of type of project financed by the European Community
in the fisheries sector 1959-1989

CATEGORIES	EDF I	EDF II	EDF III		EDF IV	EDF V	EDF VI	No date	TOTAL	%
	58-63	63-69	70-75	75-79	76-80	81-85	86-90			
	1959	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85-89			
Management	-	-	-	-	404 100	4 852 000	31 657 189	181 000	37 094 289	11.5
Research	-	151 000	-	-	-	6 927 000	6 919 067	1 667 000	15 664 067	5.0
Training	-	-	-	-	2 509 000	7 042 125	4 518 722	3 031 000	17 100 847	6.5
Production	-	1 000 000	5 000	-	2 664 875	7 972 554	22 864 515	12 150 000	46 656 944	14.5
Post-harvest sector	-	-	-	-	699 300	150 612	143 255	702 000	1 695 167	0.5
Marketing	-	-	-	-	1 645 000	2 801 731	306 283	12 700	4 765 714	1.5
Infrastructure	2 453 000	8 472 000	6 053 000	1 733 000	7 603 000	33 495 460	11 366 772	1 328 000	72 504 232	22.5
Secondary support	-	-	-	-	227 892	-	9 564 425	556 600	10 348 917	3.0
Aquaculture	-	100 000	-	-	2 739 200	5 101 741	16 839 801	20 603 000	45 383 742	14.0
Artisanal fisheries	850 000	-	-	2 126 000	10 039 573	17 439 394	34 382 570	4 861 025	69 698 562	22.0
T O T A L	3 303 000	9 723 000	6 058 000	3 859 000	28 531 940	85 782 617	138 562 599	45 092 325	320 912 481	100 %

TABLE 5

Geographical distribution of project types

type \ region	W. AFRICA	E. AFRICA	CARIBBEAN	PACIFIC	INDIAN OC.	ASIA	LATIN AM.	S. and E. MEDIT.	GLOBAL	TOTAL as %
Management (planning, instit. building)	3.255.000 8,8%	12.651.000 34,1%	139.100 0,4%	11.713.000 31,6%	146.000 0,4%	33.576 0,1%	7.394.000 19,9%	1.700.000 4,6%	62.613 0,2%	37.094.289 11,5%
Research	2.422.750 15,5%	2.123.500 13,6%	300.000 1,9%	3.602.000 23%	61.000 0,4%	3.769.280 24,1%	179.437 0,1%	3.000.000 19,2%	206.100 1,3%	15.664.067 5%
Training	-	6.930.955 40,5%	38.000 0,2%	3.607.127 21,1%	2.299.000 13,4%	-	5.765 0,1%	4.190.000 24,5%	30.000 0,2%	17.100.847 5,5%
Fishing equip. (boats, motors, gear, etc.)	7.304.000 15,7%	19.814.786 42,5%	115.000 0,2%	2.999.868 6,4%	11.862.000 25,4%	1.924.400 4,1%	466.890 0,1%	2.170.000 4,7%	-	46.656.944 14,5%
Post-harvest technology	84.855 5%	911.012 53,7%	-	6.000 0,4%	3.300 0,2%	-	690.000 40,7%	-	-	1.695.167 0,5%
Marketing fish products	1.899.950 39,9%	19.164 0,4%	-	-	-	2.525.000 53%	321.600 6,7%	-	-	4.765.714 1,5%
Infrastructure (ports, roads, cold storage)	6.021.500 8,3%	36.985.010 51%	3.078.450 4,2%	7.342.500 10%	2.002.000 2,8%	12.000.000 16,6%	5.074.772 7%	-	-	72.504.232 22,5%
Secondary support (manuf. gear, boat repair shops)	312.000 3%	9.280.425 89,7%	516.600 5%	-	39.892 0,4%	-	200.000 1,9%	-	-	10.348.917 3%
Aquaculture	3.095.548 6,8%	7.609.901 16,8%	490.500 1%	667.685 1,5%	21.695.976 47,8%	11.214.733 24,7%	404.302 0,9%	205.097 0,5%	-	45.383.742 14%
Artisanal fishing Support for local communities	24.117.965 34,6%	38.542.121 55,3%	190.000 0,3%	2.153.000 3,4%	1.721.657 2,5%	143.182 0,2%	2.830.637 4,1%	-	-	69.698.562 22%
TOTAL	48.513.568 15%	134.867.874 42%	4.867.650 1,5%	32.091.180 10%	39.830.825 12,4%	31.610.171 10%	17.567.403 5,5%	11.265.097 3,5%	298.713 0,1%	320.912.481 100%

Note that just four African countries (Egypt, Ghana, Nigeria and Tanzania) account for half the African continent's fishing population. In some countries such as Angola, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal, the importance of the fishery sector in their economies is constantly expanding. In Mauritania, fisheries are now the second-largest sector.

Infrastructure

The infrastructure type of project, which includes port and road improvements and cold storage facilities has, overall, absorbed the largest share of aid (22.5%) to date, since this was the type receiving most attention from the first four EDF. West African countries have received the lion's share (51%), with Asian countries coming next (16%). ACP countries as a whole have received easily the largest share of the aid spent on infrastructure projects (75%).

Artisanal fishing

At the present time, only about half of the available stocks in the EEZ of ACP countries (especially those of West Africa) are exploited by the countries themselves. Their own catches are nearly all landed by artisanal, labour-intensive fishing methods, after which they are marketed locally. However, an increasing proportion of such artisanal production is being channelled into the export market, especially where high quality species are concerned.

The attention paid to artisanal fishing and to support for fishing communities has increased considerably recently, especially since 1975. Projects of this type have received 22% of the available aid. Here again, West and East Africa have been the major beneficiaries, with 55.3% and 34.6% respectively. The remaining aid for artisanal fishing has been distributed as follows: Latin America: 4.1%, Pacific: 3.0%, Indian Ocean: 2.5%, Caribbean: 0.3% and Asia: 0.2%.

One of the reasons why artisanal fishing has aroused such interest in recent years is that donors have realized that 70-90% of such catches find their way onto local markets and the activity is therefore very important as a food strategy.

The objectives that are stressed in this type of project are intended to provide support for groups of small fishermen, to improve methods and techniques used in traditional fishing or processing, to conduct literacy campaigns and to provide loans for people seeking specialized training.

Production

As with artisanal fishing projects, production projects have developed since 1975. The heading "production" covers fishing material and equipment - vessels, motors and gear. Once again, Africa has received much of the funding for this type of project: 42.5% for West Africa and 15.7% for East Africa. The Indian Ocean has received 25.4% while the rest has been shared between the Pacific (6.4%), southern and eastern Mediterranean (4.7%), Asia (4.1%), the Caribbean (0.2%) and Latin America (0.1%).

Aquaculture

Aquaculture seemed, in the mid-seventies, to be the answer to the ever-increasing demand for fish and fishery products. The tendency towards this type of project was encouraged by the enormous technical progress achieved in the field, for example the production of fry, feeding, disease control and management. In addition, aquaculture could provide a source of jobs and income. But the tremendous hopes that built up in the seventies were not fulfilled, except in the Far East where fish farming was a traditional activity. Aquaculture has produced far from encouraging results in African countries, where it has made only a marginal contribution to feeding local populations.

The geographical breakdown table (Table 5) reveals that 47.8% of aid for aquaculture was spent in the Indian Ocean region (in Kashmir, India), with 24.7% allocated to Asian projects. West Africa (Benin, Central African Republic) and East Africa received 16.8% and 6.8% respectively. Very little financing for this type of project went to other regions: 1.5% for the Pacific, 1% for the Caribbean, 0.9% for Latin America and 0.5% for the Mediterranean.

Planning, management and institutions

The "Planning" heading covers assistance in formulating overall plans for the fishery sector, which includes items like setting up a fishermen's loan system.

Management aid covers assistance in managing fishery resources and this may range from drawing a wide variety of information from fisheries statistics to the design of licensing and monitoring systems, as well as other fisheries improvements.

Aid projects for institutions aim at strengthening them through the provision of management training and technical assistance within the ministry concerned, and so on.

Since the mid-seventies, 11.5% of EEC financing has been directed towards this type of project and the amount is set to rise. One of the reasons for this rapid expansion is the establishment of exclusive economic zones, since each coastal country is now responsible for managing resources in its zone and supervising and monitoring fishing activities. The money devoted to this type of project is therefore essential if maximum value is to be extracted from the EEZ.

West Africa and the Pacific between them have received 66% of the aid in this category (West Africa 34.1%, Pacific 31.6%). Latin America has also benefitted to a substantial degree (19.9%).

Training

The "Training" column in Table 5 does not give a true picture of the sums spent on this type of operation, since a training element is provided in many other projects. Depending on the projects' objectives, training is given locally at workshops or technical seminars, or may consist of study trips or grants. It extends to land-based staff, crews, research workers and officials.

Training projects as such account for 5.5% of fisheries development aid. The geographical breakdown of this financing is: West Africa 40.5%, Mediterranean 24.5%, Pacific 21.1%, Indian Ocean 13.4%, Caribbean 0.2% and Latin America 0.1%.

Research

The main aim of research projects is a better understanding of fishery resources. When requested, research vessels may be sent to carry out national, inter-state or regional surveys of stocks.

Research absorbs 5% of EEC fisheries financing, broken down as follows: Asia 24.1%, Pacific 23%, Mediterranean 19.2%, East Africa 15.5%, West Africa 13.6%, Caribbean 1.9%, Indian Ocean 0.4% and Latin America 0.1%.

Secondary support

This heading covers workshops set up on shore for repairing fishing vessels and their motors, for manufacturing nets, etc.

This type of project has received 5% of the EEC's aid for fisheries development, most of which has gone to West Africa (89%). The remainder has been shared by the Caribbean, East Africa, Latin America and the Indian Ocean.

Marketing

Aid for marketing was first introduced in 1975, but it accounts for a mere 1.5% of EEC financing in the fishery sector. The objectives of this type of aid are to set up a general information system on prices, to develop markets and to provide loans for middlemen.

The main recipients of this form of aid are: Asia (53%) and East Africa (39.9%).

Processing

Only 0.5% of EEC aid for the sector has been allocated to fish processing. This heading refers to post-harvest technology. There are a few regional programmes designed to enhance the value of catches (for example by promoting traditional methods of smoking fish) and to limit losses after landing, which in some countries may attain one third of catch levels.

West Africa obtained more than half (53.7%) of the aid to this activity, with most of the remainder going to Latin America (40.7%).

Programmes

Another avenue by which fisheries development aid is distributed is through national or regional programmes or via operations carried out by non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

- Regional programmes

These are mainly geared to two aspects of cooperation: activities to foster fisheries management on a regional level and assessment and full utilization of stocks in the EEZ. Programmes of this type have been set up in East and West Africa, the Caribbean, Latin America and Asia.

N.B. The names of these programmes are appended to each region in the list of countries broken down by geographical region (p.17).

• Non-governmental organizations

Out of the 450 EEC-financed operations in the fishery sector, 113 have been cofinanced with an NGO. The volume of aid thus channelled represents 1.6% of the total EEC aid to the sector.

The chief feature of NGO projects is that six out of ten of them involve artisanal fishing.

This type of cooperation started in the mid-seventies, at which time EEC development policy was broadened in scope to cover countries in Asia and Latin America and programmes run by NGOs. It is not surprising therefore that 66.5% of the funding passing via the NGOs is directed towards countries which are not in the ACP Group (the remaining 33.5% being received by ACP countries).

Coordination with other donors

The EEC attempts to ensure that its efforts are as closely coordinated and integrated as possible with those of others providing development aid. It moreover insists on the need for project objectives to be reviewed regularly and for rigorous management of resources. It contributes 7.5% of world aid to fisheries development, which puts it among the leading donors in the field, this despite the fact that the sector only receives 1% of total EEC aid to development.

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PART III: AGREEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENT AID

Comparison

If the sums paid under fisheries agreements are compared with the money allocated to cooperation, i.e. development aid (see Table 6 below), it is seen that the former - compensation for access to fishery resources - is considerably higher than the latter - financing for development projects.

There is only one exception to the rule, Guinea, which has received more in aid (for developing semi-industrial fisheries) than in compensation.

There are several important areas where fisheries agreements differ from development aid.

- (a) In the matter of responsibility, although the Member States recognize that the Community has sole competence in negotiating fisheries agreements, the latter has no jurisdiction where private agreements are concerned.
- (b) It is generally believed that out of the ECU 20 million in aid contributed annually by all the Member States, only 12% is channelled through the Community.

In other words, Community policy reinforces that of the Member States and bilateral aid is larger in volume than Community aid to the sector.

Reflections

The conflict between artisanal and industrial fisheries is often evoked. In this connection, it may be asked whether or not the objectives of the trade agreements are compatible with Community policy on development aid. It is a fact that the Community fleet which exploits the fishery resources of the developing countries consists of industrial vessels, whereas local fishing fleets are largely of the artisanal type.

There should not, in theory, be any competition between the Community fleet and offshore fishing vessels. The first reason for this is the stipulation in the fisheries agreements that Community vessels may only avail themselves of fish that are surplus to the coastal country's needs, i.e. the resources that are not exploited by local fishermen. The second reason is that the agreements usually cover catches of high-quality species in which the local fleet is only partly interested.

The answer to the question of why such resources are not more fully exploited by local offshore fishermen is that the sector remains undeveloped, through lack of either interest or the means. Thus local fleets have not yet gone beyond the artisanal stage. This is not to denigrate the role of artisanal fishing - one that is extremely important in satisfying the local market.

TABLE 6

Comparison of amounts paid
under trade agreements and as development aid

Country	Fishery agreements		Fisheries development projects	
	Period	Annual compensation (ECU)	Decision year	Amount per project (ECU)
Senegal	16.11.81		1982	65 000
	to	3 813 500	EDF V	150 000
	15.11.83			
	16.11.83		1984	62.493
	to	4 495 000	1984	5 881
	15.01.86			
	1.10.86		1986	1 600 000
	to	4 077 656	1987	12 000
28.02.88				
29.02.88		1988	52 755	
to	12 000 000			
28.02.90				
Guinea-Bissau	1.01.83		1983	6 900
	to	1 598 333	1985	89 008
	30.12.85			
	16.05.86		1986	185 000
	to	2 873 333		
	15.06.89		1987	236.425
	16.06.89		1987	1 762 000
to	5 865 000	1987	105 000	
15.06.91				
Guinea	1.01.83		1984	1 260 000
	to	820 667	1985	178 000
	31.12.85		1985	170 000
	8.08.86		1987	8 555 000
	to	3 082 332	1987	2 300 000
	7.08.89		1987	858 000
Sao Tome and Principe	4.10.84		1983	252 000
	to	180 000		
	3.10.86			
	1.06.87		1987	252 000
to	625 000			
31.05.90				
Equatorial Guinea	26.06.83			
	to	180 000	-	-
	25.06.86			
	27.06.86			
	to	1 891 666	-	-
	26.06.89			
27.06.89				
to	1 053 000	-	-	
26.06.92				

TABLE 6 (contd.)

Comparison of amounts paid
under trade agreements and as development aid

Country	Fisheries agreements		Fisheries development projects			
	Period	Annual compensation (ECU)	Decision year	Amount per project (ECU)		
Madagascar	21.05.86 to 28.11.86	889 166	-	-		
	29.11.86 to 20.05.89	1 099 166	1988	77 413		
	21.05.89 to 20.05.92	1 266 666	-	-		
	Gambia	11.11.86 to 30.06.90	1 157 000	1986 1987	85 000 3 000 000	
		Seychelles	11.01.84 to 10.01.87	383 333	EDF V 1984	50 000 45 000
			18.01.87 to 17.01.90	2 250 000	1985 1986 1986	12 000 6 000 171 000
Mozambique	1.01.87 to 31.12.89		2 500 000	1987 1987 1987 1987 1988	70 000 18 500 683 000 160 000 2 750 000	
	Angola		3.05.87 to 2.05.89	6 470 000	1987	8 650 000
		3.05.89 to 2.05.90	8 985 000	-	-	
		Mauritania	1.07.87 to 31.06.90	7 040 000	1984-85	3 360 000
	Comoros		20.07.88 to 19.07.91	466 666	1987	1 092 000
Morocco		1.03.88 to 29.02.92	70 375 000	-	-	

A coastal country not yet in possession of the means to develop its fishery sector may yet allow its neighbours or other foreign fishermen to fish in its waters, meanwhile gradually building up its own capacity. This option, as shown by past experience, means that the country must decide on its own policy and strategy and it must therefore have an overall development plan.

It is here that the trade agreements and fisheries development projects play different roles.

The trade agreements are an important source of foreign exchange for a coastal country, which may choose freely the use to which compensation will be put. Where the coastal state so wishes (and this has been the case in almost all the trade agreements signed recently) the compensation is accompanied by an item to cover training and research. This is an approach that will certainly contribute to fisheries development.

When the Commission makes a trade agreement with a coastal country, it takes into account the policy on cooperation established with that country. Indeed, when the fisheries agreements are being concluded with an ACP state, an official is present to ensure that there is no incompatibility with the Lomé Convention.

The last convention, moreover, stressed that the ACP States should be involved in the exploitation of deep-sea fishery resources within their EEZ. These zones should be exploited rationally in order to avoid the kind of problems that have arisen in the past.

In practice, things have not always been simple, however. The example of shrimp fishing illustrates what can happen when certain species are over-exploited. The technique used by shrimp fishermen consists of making catches by raking the sea bed. But continual raking prevents the marine flora and fauna from reproducing, because the shrimp by-catch is destroyed. Trawlers pose another problem. Attracted by the rich hauls in the coastal zones, they appear increasingly frequently, despite prohibitions and regulations designed to preserve this zone for artisanal fishing. The result is that artisanal fishermen find their gear (nets, etc.) destroyed during the night. Moreover, this new pressure on resources, combined with technological improvements, pushes offshore fishermen into deeper and deeper waters, until they start competing with the trawlers which were responsible in the first place for their move into this new fishing ground.

This type of problem rarely arises for tuna fishing vessels fishing the high seas, except where means are deployed by tuna fishermen or by artisanal fishermen to concentrate the fish. To sum up, when natural stocks decline through excessive fishing pressures, the result is an increase in tension between the various interest groups exploiting the stocks, all of whom consider that they are entitled to access. These problems are exacerbated by environmental damage in coastal areas, pollution and so on. For this reason it is important to strengthen the fisheries institutions in the developing countries so that they can regulate access to and exploitation of their resources. It is the countries themselves, however, who must find the political will to draft such regulations and see to it that they are enforced.

The conflict between artisanal and industrial fisheries referred to here goes well beyond relations between the EEC and the ACP countries. It is, in fact, a problem of an economic nature resulting from a confrontation between the interests of the local population and those of national or foreign industrialists.

It was for this reason that the fourth Lomé Convention made support for rural development one of its main objectives, thereby emphasizing the contribution fisheries can make in strengthening food security and improving nutrition and the social and economic conditions of the communities concerned. Aquaculture, artisanal (non-industrial) and inland fisheries are all mentioned in the latest convention, and for the first time, the role of women is recognized in all activities from the post-harvest stage to the marketing of fish.

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