



Ocean Stewardship Fund – Interim Grant Report

In accordance with the Ocean Stewardship Fund Grant Agreement, all grantees are required to submit interim reports during their project and a final report at the end of their project. This report is an opportunity for you to share details of your achievements and impacts supported by the grant awarded to you. MSC collects this information in order to record how the funds have been used and to assess whether funding is achieving the objectives of the Ocean Stewardship Fund. MSC may also publish information from these grant reports in press releases, annual reports, the MSC website and other channels in order to recognise your achievements.

For full details, please view the [Ocean Stewardship Fund Privacy Policy](#).

Personal details

Grant awarded	<input type="checkbox"/> Innovation Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Science and Research Fund <input type="checkbox"/> Transition Assistance Fund <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OSF MAVA
Year in which Grant was awarded	2023
Grantee name	Mohamed El Hafed EJIWEN
Grantee organisation	Institut Mauritanien de Recherche Océanographique et des Pêches (IMROP)
Grantee email address	hafedhejiwen@gmail.com
Fishery name	Small pelagics
Project title	Improved fisheries data and ecosystem information for small pelagics
Project end date	2025
Total Grant awarded	134982
Grant funds received to date	55716
Interim Grant Report number	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1 <input type="checkbox"/> 2
Date of Interim Grant Report	31-12-2023

Project summary

Please provide a brief summary of your progress to date (250 words max):

Since receiving the funds allocated to the agreement, several activities have been carried out:

- Revitalization of scientific observation programs. Five observation missions have been carried out and scientific reports are available. This available information base provides



new data on discards and by-catches to enable in-depth analysis in support of ecosystem-based management.

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- Revitalize the collection and analysis of data on small pelagics (sampling at sea and on land). This has been achieved by maintaining a permanent team to monitor fishmeal factories in Nouadhibou and the central zone to estimate the quantity processed by species (the specific composition of the quantities processed).

- On the communication and coordination front, a team of scientists has been set up to ensure effective coordination with stakeholders.



Project progress

Activity (please list all the activities in your proposal)	Progress to date (please include any activities, milestones or outputs achieved)	Please indicate whether the activity is: a) Completed b) In progress – on target c) In progress – behind schedule d) Not started	If not started / behind schedule, please provide the reasons why and what changes or measures you will take to achieve this activity	MSC Fisheries Standard Performance Indicator(s) linked to this activity
A.1.1 Historical logbook data	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Established a data input team for paper logbooks - Data input, paper logbooks 2019-22 - Data input for 2023 underway - Extraction of data and comparison with e-logbook data 	a	For the paper logbook activity, data entry and archiving of 2019 to 2023	1.2.3, 2.1.3 ; also 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.4
A.1.2 Sampling of landings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expansion of sampling team at landings sites: Nouadhibou (6 enumerators) and central zone (3 enumerators) - Higher sampling rate for landings in Mauritania 	b		1.2.3, 2.1.3 ; also 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.4



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 429 samples taken March-décembre 2023 covering 150000 t landings - 32821 individuals measures: sardinella spp., horse mackerel, sardine, mackerel, anchovy 			
A.1.3 Artisanal catch	- Sampling of landings from artisanal seiners at Nouadhibou and Tanitt (40 seiners sampled)	b		1.2.3, 2.1.3 ; also 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.4
A.1.4 Alternative data-gathering methods		d	Training in data-poor assessment methods will be provided for researchers working on small pelagic species in January 2024. The contacts have been established with an expert to organize training on appropriate assessment methods for small pelagics. A slot corresponding to his schedule is currently under discussion.	1.2.3, 2.1.3 ; also 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.2.4
A.1.5 Small pelagic management plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Management plan has been completed and validated - Implementation is being supported by research described above 	a		1.2.1, 1.2.2, 2.1.2, 2.2.2 ; also key LTL, 2.5.2
A.2.1 Role of small pelagics in the ecosystem	- Data collection by observers (9 trips April-december 2023)	b	.	1.1.1 et 1.1.2 (key LTL requirements) 2.5.1, 2.5.2, 2.5.3



	- Initial exploration of IMROP databases			
A.2.2 Bycatch	- Data collection by observers (9 trips April-december 2023) - exploration of IMROP databases	b	the first results of the impact of pelagic fishing on the ecosystem are presented in a report summarizing the results of the at-sea observation campaigns. these results do not yet allow a quantitative assessment of the impact of fishing on the other components of the ecosystem (by-catches and discards).	2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.3
A.2.3 Protected species	- Workshop took place 2 August 2023 with scientists and industry focusing on monk seals and other protected species, and the impact of the fishery on these species (report is being finalised) - Liaison / discussion with Najaf (monk seal NGO) regarding following activities such as awareness raising	b		2.3.1, 2.3.2, 2.3.3
A.3 Communication and coordination	- Establishment of a coordination / communication team at IMROP - Information bulletin on the project is in development	b		n/a

Other activities not funded by this grant

This section is an opportunity for you to report on any other activities taking place within the same project that are NOT being funded by this grant. This information will be used to aid MSC's understanding of the project as a whole.

A FIP supported by part of the industry and by MPEM, IMROP, FNP and others, has provided some limited support to improve data collection, particularly in relation to the fishmeal factories. GIZ supported the revision and validation of the small pelagic management plan. Acoustic surveys (autumn 2022, 2023, 2025 and 2026) are supported by the FAO Nansen programme.

These activities are integrated into this project budget as co-financing, to the extent that the support can be quantified.

Challenges and changes to the project

Please summarise any challenges you have experienced or changes made to the project not mentioned above:

There have been some administrative delays in making funds available for activities. We have had to overcome reluctance from some fishermen to take scientific observers on board

Dissemination

Please give details of any dissemination activities that have taken place during this reporting period:

We conducted a survey of pirogues and boats active in small pelagic fishing in June, during which the project was discussed. The project was presented to the workshop participants in August, including industry, MPEM, FNP, SMPC etc.

Please indicate if there are any interim findings you would prefer us not to share with supporters, explaining why and giving details of how long you would like these kept confidential:

No

Future activity

Please summarise the activities you will carry out before the next Grant Report (150 words max):

- Continue data collection at landing points and factories (January-December 2024)
- Continue to take on board scientific observers (January-December 2024)
- Workshop on the analysis of data collected since the start of the project (May 2024) (paper and electronic fishing logs, statistical sheets, biological data)
- Workshop on the state of ecosystem model input data (December 2024)

Budget spend

Please attach a copy of the Excel Grant budget calculator you submitted with your Grant Application, and provide details of ALL budget spend from the start of the project to date.

Please also summarise your actual spend to date in comparison with your proposed budget below:

Activity (please describe – add as needed)	Proposed budget (this should come from your Application Form)	Actual spend to date of 31 October 2023 (depenses 1)	Actual spend to date 31 octobre to 31 December 2023 (depenses 2)	Total spend
Activity 1	15000	4500	5500	10000
Activity 2	17483	8000	4000	12000
Activity 3	17500	4000	5000	9000
Activity 4	5000	0	0	0
Activity 6	13333	2000	5000	7000
Activity 7	13333	2000	0	2000
Activity 8	23333	3500	0	3500



Activity 9	30000	1000	5000	6000
TOTAL:	134982	25000	24500	49500

For any items that have a significant variance between proposed and actual costs (i.e. more than 10%), please provide an explanation below and indicate whether you expect future spend will meet proposed costs:

Click or tap here to enter text.

Overall, how much funding will you require between now and the next grant report?

Click or tap here to enter text.

Note pour info: Voici ce qu'on a demandé par année (jaune):

	Year 1 expected spend (Euros)	Year 2 expected spend (Euros)	Final year expected spend (Euros)
Requested from OSF	55716	44216	35050
Confirmed match funding	12665	8665	3665
Total	68381	52881	38715

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form. Once completed, please email your report to OSF@msc.org