

Mauritania small pelagics FIP: social workplan (Grant # 18967)

Interim narrative grant report and financial report

2 July 2024

Introduction

This brief report sets out progress so far at the intermediate stage of the project to develop a social workplan for the Mauritania small pelagics FIP, based on a Human Rights Impact Assessment and FIP social audit (HRIA), conducted previously by the consultants Partner Africa. The objective of the project is to convert the HRIA into a social workplan for the FIP, covering the social requirements of FisheryProgress as well as related issues such as pollution and health and safety.

The grant application divides the work into three actions:

- Action 1 – Scoping: Formulate a list of specific issues / objectives that the workplan should address (Partner Africa).
- Action 2 – Stakeholder consultations (IMROP and Partner Africa)
- Action 3 – Workplan drafting and finalisation (IMROP and Partner Africa)

According to the proposed timeline, at this halfway stage it was foreseen that the scoping is completed and the consultation phase is being prepared, which is indeed the current situation.

Project Outcomes

The outputs of the project to date are the scoping report prepared by Partner Africa in both English and French (Action 1 in application; English version Appendix 1), and the commentary on this report by IMROP (Appendix 2). The scoping report was presented at the annual FIP meeting which took place on May 23 (presentation by Partner Africa; Appendix 3).

Next Steps

Subsequently, IMROP and PartnerAfrica met remotely to discuss the scoping report as well as plan the next steps (meeting 19 June 2024). At this meeting it was agreed:

- IMROP will first work internally on the possible actions proposed in the Scoping Report, with the aim of narrowing down the best options, as a function of feasibility and practicality of implementation; and likely willingness of stakeholders to participate (factory and vessel owners, fishers, community organisations and authorities).
- On the basis of this refined list of options, expanded consultations will be conducted by IMROP with these stakeholders, with the participation and support of Partner Africa (Action 2 in application).

The objective is to define a clear plan for the consultations by the end of July, and to commence the consultation phase in August. (The holiday season tends to slow down activity in August, but it picks up in September, so the project timeline should not be affected even if the consultations start a little later than foreseen in this plan.)

Other Elements to be addressed in report

Successes and Challenges: The scoping report, based on the Human Rights Impact Assessment (HRIA) previously conducted by Partner Africa, is a useful document which aims to provide a range of practical and implementable options for the social workplan. Nevertheless, it remains a challenge to conform with the social requirements of FisheryProgress in the context of a least developed country such as Mauritania.

Key lessons learned to date: So far, the work has conformed to the plan and timetable; the most difficult element (Action 2, the consultation) is still in the planning phase.

Sharing the results of the work: It is clear that buy-in from multiple types of stakeholder is required to make a success of the social workplan. Aside from the formal consultation process, we try to ensure transparency and availability at all points. For example, Partner Africa produced the scoping report in both English and French. All documents are posted on FisheryProgress at each 6-month update. (NB: The scoping report is not yet there since it was finalised after the last update, but will be posted in August.)

Partnerships: This work is with two partners: Partner Africa and IMROP. In both cases, the FIP has established links with them; IMROP is our key implementation partner, while Partner Africa previously conducted the HRIA. Based on these long-term partnerships, the FIP is able to collaborate effectively with these organisations. It also seems that they are able to work with each other, perhaps at least in part because the Partner Africa team member in Nouakchott is a former IMROP researcher.

Financial Report

See below Project Budget Table from application, with expenditure to date.

Project Budget Categories	Overall Project Budget	RLF Request	Expenditure to date	Notes
Project Salaries	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$1,000	Estimate that IMROP have completed ~10% of their work (review of scoping); the rest of their input is Actions 2 and 3
Project Salaries	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 2,000	40% of FIP coordinator budget spent, based on progress through project timeline
Benefits	\$ 0	\$ 0		
Travel	\$1,000	\$1,000	0	Not yet spent (Action 2)
Sub-contractors	\$7,000	\$7,000	\$6,000	4 days remain out of 28 allocated to Partner Africa. Note that additional funding will be provided from the FIP for extra days if required, based on the detailed plan from IMROP
Other #1	\$ 6,000	\$ 2,000	0	Stakeholder consultation meeting costs : not yet spent (in prep)
Other #2	\$ 5,000	\$ 0	\$ 4,000	External review of FIP underway, including social element. Further external review (of workplan) may need additional funding which will come from FIP
Other #3	\$ 40,000	\$ 0	\$40,000	HRIA; the basis for this work
Direct Costs Subtotal	\$74,000	\$20,000		
Indirect	\$ 0	\$ 0		
TOTAL:	\$ 74,000	\$ 20,000		
Spent to date: Overall			\$53,000	Action 1 completed, Action 2 in preparation, Action 3 not started. Timeline so far aligned with application.
Spent to date: RLF			\$7,000	

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Scoping Report (English version)

Appendix 2 – Commentary by IMROP on Scoping Report

Appendix 3 – Presentation by Partner Africa to FIP

The Appendices are provided as separate documents.