



COMMISSION SOUS-RÉGIONALE DES PÊCHES
SUB-REGIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSION

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Report

«Sub-regional Workshop on Management Procedures for Small Pelagic Species in West Africa»

Under the High Patronage of His Excellency MOCTAR AHMED BOUCEIF, Minister of Fisheries, Maritime and Port Infrastructure (Mauritania)

Juin 2026

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Sub-REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES FOR SMALL PELAGIC FISHERIES IN WEST AFRICA

Under the High Patronage of His Excellency MOCTAR AHMED BOUCEIF,
Minister of Fisheries, Maritime and Port Infrastructure of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania



May 19–20, 2026, IMROP Center, Nouakchott Headquarters, Islamic Republic of Mauritania



COMMISSION SOUS-RÉGIONALE DES PÊCHES
SUB-REGIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSION



(CSRP) الورشة الإقليمية للجنة الفرعية الإقليمية للصيد البحري

Pew

إجراءات تسيير واستغلال أسماك السطح الصغيرة في غرب إفريقيا

تحت الرعاية السامية لوزير الصيد والبنى التحتية البحرية والمينائية، السيد المختار أحمد بوسيف



نواكشوط، 19 - 20 مايو 2026



COMMISSION SOUS-RÉGIONALE DES PÊCHES
SUB-REGIONAL FISHERIES COMMISSION



Pew

ATELIER SOUS-RÉGIONAL SUR LES PROCEDURES DE GESTION POUR LES PETITS PÉLAGIQUES EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

Sous le haut Patronage de Son Excellence MOCTAR AHMED BOUCEIF,
Ministre de la Pêche, des Infrastructures Maritimes et Portuaires de la République Islamique Mauritanie



19-20 mai 2026, Centre IMROP, siège de Nouakchott, République Islamique de Mauritanie



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The workshop achieved four key outcomes. First, it fostered a shared understanding among participants of Management Procedures (MPs) and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE), with broad consensus on their value for strengthening science-based, coordinated management of shared small pelagic stocks. Second, it identified critical challenges to their implementation, including limited harmonization of data systems, insufficient compliance and stakeholder engagement, environmental uncertainties, and the complexity of managing transboundary resources. Third, it initiated dialogue on potential sub-regional management objectives (such as stock rebuilding, long-term sustainability, food security, and catch stability) while highlighting the need to balance trade-offs and build political trust among countries sharing the same stock. Finally, participants expressed a strong commitment to continuing this work through a structured regional process under the SRFC framework. The participants recommended that the SRFC take a leading role in advancing MPs and MSE through a structured sub-regional process, beginning with pilot applications on key shared stocks. This process should focus on aligning common management objectives among Member States, strengthening and harmonizing data systems, enhancing regional scientific and governance coordination, and ensuring active stakeholder participation throughout the process. To support these efforts, participants recommended the establishment of a Technical Working Group coordinated by the SRFC and composed of representatives from the Member States. The Group could work in synergy with FAO, The Pew Charitable Trusts, The Ocean Foundation (TOF), IRD and other relevant scientific and technical partners. The Working Group would contribute to the development of a regional roadmap, assess technical and governance requirements, and support the implementation of pilot activities. As a first practical step, participants supported the organisation of technical sessions and capacity-building activities focused on the application of MPs and MSE approaches to the round sardinella (*Sardinella aurita*) fishery, with the objective of exploring the development of a pilot sub-regional MP for this shared stock. More broadly, participants encouraged the progressive extension of these approaches to other fisheries and strategic stocks of ecological, socioeconomic and food-security importance.



Date: 19-20 May 2026

Location: IMROP, Nouakchott, Islamic Republic of Mauritania

Hybrid Format

Organized by the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, in partnership with the Pew Charitable Trusts, the Ocean Foundation, IMROP and IRD.

COMMITTEES

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BACKGROUND

Small pelagic species (such as sardines, sardinella, horse mackerel or bonga shad) play a central role in the marine ecosystems and economies of West Africa. These species are highly migratory and widely distributed across national jurisdictions, forming shared stocks that underpin food security, employment, and regional trade. As a key source of affordable animal protein, they contribute directly to the concept of “blue food” and to the nutritional security of coastal populations.

The countries of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) share a long-standing commitment to cooperation in fisheries management, including through regional scientific collaboration and policy dialogue. However, the dynamic nature of small pelagic stocks (combined with increasing fishing pressure, climate variability, and evolving market demands) has heightened the need for more structured and coordinated management approaches at the sub-regional level. Scientific assessments conducted at national and sub-regional levels, including through the Fishery Committee for the Eastern Central Atlantic (CECAF), have repeatedly highlighted concerns regarding the status of key small pelagic stocks. At the same time, the translation of scientific advice into coordinated management measures remains limited, particularly in the absence of jointly agreed management objectives and coordinated decision-making frameworks.

At the policy level, the importance of strengthened sub-regional cooperation for shared fisheries governance has been reaffirmed in international and regional fora, including the 2025 United Nations Ocean Conference (UNOC-3) and discussions within ECOWAS. These processes emphasize the need to move toward more integrated, ecosystem-based, and forward-looking fisheries management systems. In this context, the SRFC provides a relevant institutional platform to advance sub-regional solutions, strengthen alignment between science and management, and support the development of common approaches for the sustainable exploitation of shared marine resources.

MSE Overview

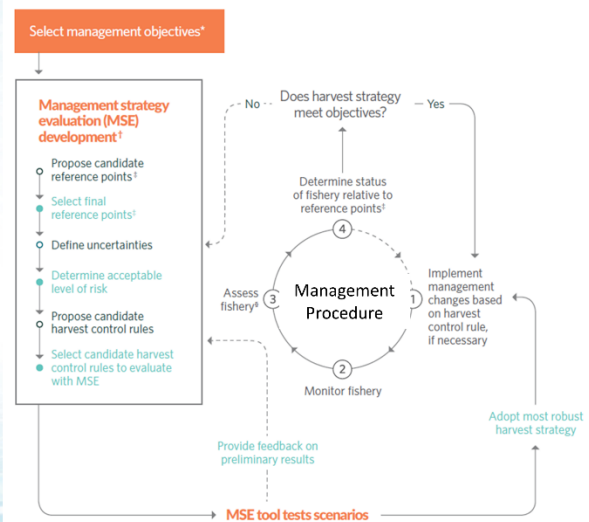
Selection of **Management Objectives** is the key initial step.

It involves **Scientists, Managers and Stakeholders**.

The **Management Objectives** will define the scope and direction of the MSE, and are typically do not change without *exceptional circumstances*.

Harvest Strategies: Understanding How the Process Works

○ Scientists ● Managers



RATIONALE

Regional or sub-regional cooperation is widely seen as a condition to improve the sustainable management and conservation of shared fisheries resources and is encouraged by the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Lack of such cooperation leads to risks of overexploitation through disagreements on key management aspects such as setting catch limits, sharing and access arrangements.

The lack of adequate shared management at the level of the North West African sub-region is considered as one of the main reasons for the current unfavorable status of several small pelagic stocks. As an example, there has been an inadequate management response to overfishing and declining status of round Sardinella in recent years, despite recurring calls for caution by science advisors at the national level and by CECAF.

An important consideration is to strengthen the link between science and management at sub-regional level. Developing management procedures, or harvest strategies, for these small pelagic stocks through the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission (SRFC) could be one way to achieve this (see definitions in the section below).

While national governments in West Africa may have considered management procedures for their stocks through their fisheries management plans, current management procedures do not adequately cover shared stocks and are not based on jointly agreed management objectives.

The SRFC and Pew initiated a dialogue on MP and MSE during UNOC-3 in Nice in 2025. Building on the growing international experience with MPs and MSEs, both organisations identified the development of MPs for shared fisheries resources as a priority topic for regional dialogue. It was therefore agreed to organize a dedicated workshop bringing together fisheries administrations, scientists, regional organizations, development partners and fisheries stakeholders from the SRFC Member States and neighboring countries.

This workshop was therefore intended as a first step toward establishing a structured sub-regional process under the SRFC to develop and implement management procedures management strategy evaluations for shared small pelagic stocks and, progressively, other fisheries.

By improving shared sustainable management of these ecologically and economically key species, SRFC members would make an important first step towards an ecosystem-based approach for the management of small pelagic fisheries and towards securing access to an important “blue food” for their communities.

The organization of this workshop is fully aligned with the SRFC Strategic Plan 2025–2029 (SRFC, 2025)², which identifies the sustainable management of shared fisheries resources, ecosystem resilience, food sovereignty, climate adaptation and strengthened regional cooperation as key strategic priorities. The workshop also contributes to the implementation of the Strategic Plan’s objective of reinforcing

science-based fisheries governance and promoting innovative management approaches capable of addressing uncertainty and long-term environmental change.

Conclusions and Key Points

• **Prioritize Objectives First:** Management objectives must be clearly designed and agreed upon before the MSE simulation starts.

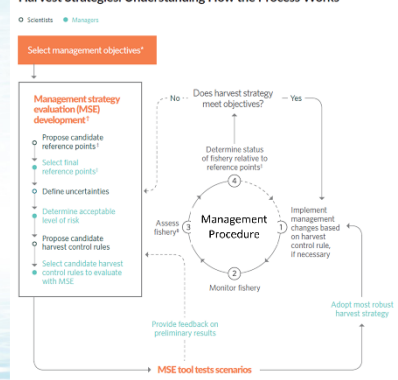
• **Shift to Long-Term Robustness:** MSE moves the focus away from debating the exact current stock status to evaluating how a strategy performs over decades of (biological) uncertainty.

• **Pre-Agreed Decision Rules:** Management Procedures (MPs) act as “rules of the road,” utilizing Harvest Control Rules (HCRs) to automate management responses based on pre-defined data inputs.

• **Closed-Loop Simulation:** MSE provides a simulation framework to test data collection errors, implementation gaps, and shifting environmental baselines simultaneously.

• **Explicit Trade-Off Evaluation:** Gives managers and stakeholders a transparent framework to visualize and weigh the inherent trade-offs between conservation risk, total catch volume, and inter-annual stability.

Harvest Strategies: Understanding How the Process Works



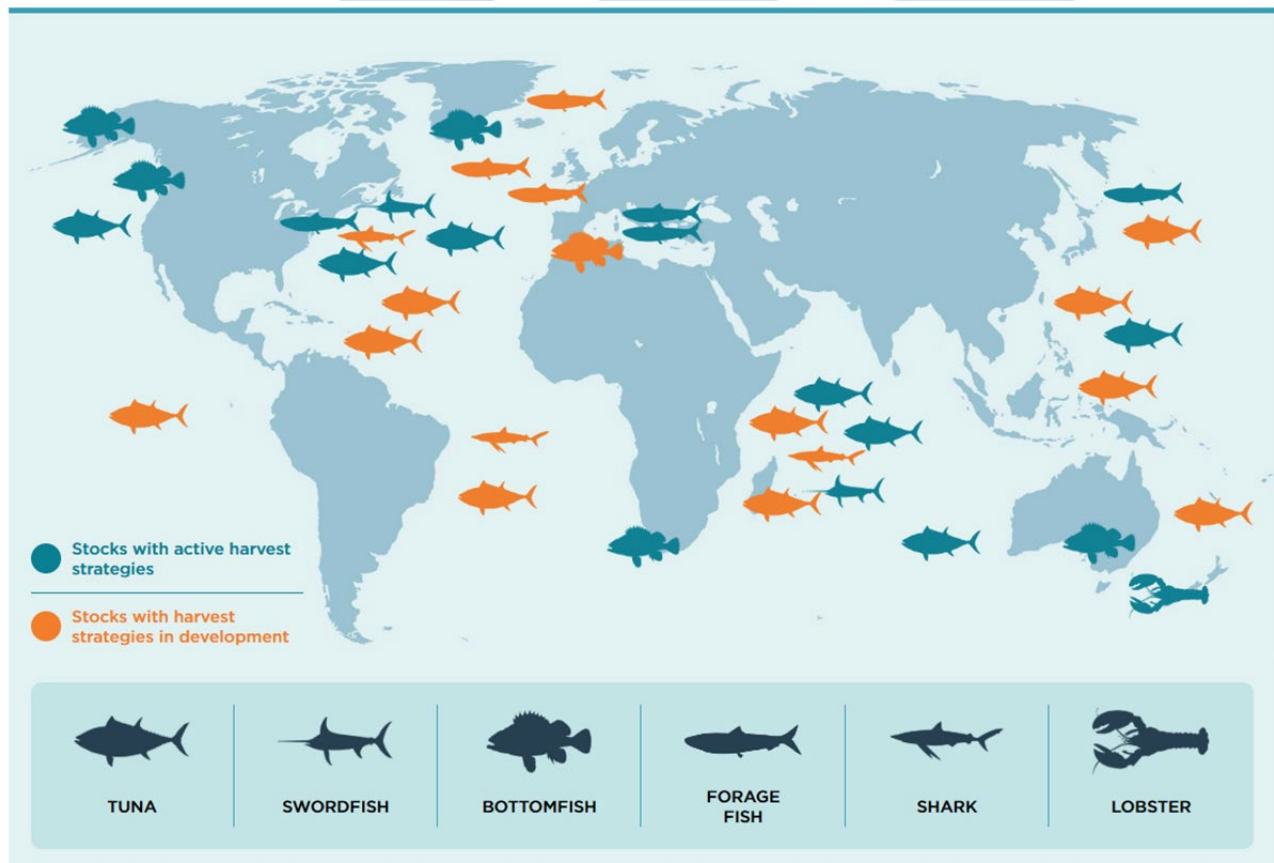
² Brehmer, P., Drame, M., Camara, L., Brites, I., Ndiaye, I., Cham, A. M., ... & Brahim, K. (2025). Plan Stratégique de la Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches "CSRFP" (2025-2029). Version française. Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches, Secrétariat Permanent, Dakar.
<http://dx.doi.org/10.23708/fdi:010096094>

MANAGEMENT PROCEDURES (HARVEST STRATEGIES) AND THE ROLE OF MANAGEMENT STRATEGY EVALUATION

Management procedures, also called harvest strategies, are structured, pre-agreed approaches to fisheries management that define how decisions are made in response to changes in stock status and ecosystem conditions. A management procedure typically includes defined management objectives (e.g., sustainability, yield, stability), indicators and reference points to track stock status and decision rules (e.g., catch or effort adjustments). It also includes monitoring and data collection systems, and a process for evaluation and periodic review.

By agreeing on management rules in advance, management procedures strengthen the link between science and management, increase transparency and predictability in decision-making and reduce delays and conflicts in management responses.

A central component of management procedures is the use of Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE), a simulation-based approach that allows testing different management options under uncertainty before implementation. Using MSE allows better consideration of uncertainty, including climate variability and supports a transition toward ecosystem-based fisheries management.



Importantly, management procedures can be adapted to a wide range of data contexts, including data-limited fisheries, making them particularly relevant for West African small pelagic fisheries. At the sub-regional level, the development of shared management procedures under the SRFC framework would provide a concrete mechanism to operationalize coordinated management of shared stocks and strengthen collective governance.

RESULTS OF THE PRELIMINARY SURVEY (on WS participant)

Prior to the workshop, a questionnaire was circulated among participants to assess their familiarity with MPs and MSEs, and to identify priorities and expectations regarding the management of shared small pelagic

fisheries in West Africa. A total of fourteen completed responses were received from representatives of SRFC Member States, the SRFC Secretariat, fisheries scientists, managers and fisheries stakeholders. Respondents represented Mauritania, Senegal, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, The Gambia, Morocco and the SRFC Secretariat. The survey results provided a useful baseline for the workshop discussions and helped identify both the capacity-building needs and the management priorities shared by participants from SRFC Member States and partner institutions.

Familiarity with MP and MSE in the SRFC sub-region

The survey revealed a moderate overall level of familiarity with Management Procedures and Management Strategy Evaluation approaches. Most respondents reported intermediate levels of knowledge, while only a limited number considered themselves highly familiar with these concepts. This confirmed the relevance of organizing an introductory workshop on these topics.

Management priorities in the SRFC sub-region

The survey highlighted a strong consensus regarding the importance of ensuring the long-term sustainability of shared fish stocks. Stock conservation and ecosystem protection emerged as the highest-ranked management objectives among respondents. Climate resilience was also identified as a major priority, reflecting increasing concerns regarding the impacts of environmental variability and climate change on small pelagic fisheries in the Canary Current Large Marine Ecosystem. In contrast, maximizing catches was generally assigned a lower priority. Catch stability received intermediate rankings, indicating recognition of its socioeconomic importance while acknowledging that it should not compromise stock sustainability. Overall, the survey results suggest that participants support management approaches that prioritize stock health, ecosystem integrity and resilience to environmental change, while maintaining crucial socioeconomic benefits for fisheries-dependent communities.

Several respondents also emphasized the urgent situation of key small pelagic stocks, particularly *Sardinella* spp., and highlighted the importance of developing coordinated regional management responses based on the best available scientific information.

Contribution to the workshop

The results of the preliminary survey were used to guide discussions during the workshop and helped identify common concerns, management priorities and capacity-building needs among participants.

SUMMARY AND KEY OUTCOMES

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

Attendance

Over 70 participants attended the workshop, and five of the seven SRFC member countries were represented. Sierra Leone and Cabo Verde were not represented, due to visa issues (Sierra Leone) and national elections (Cabo Verde).

The Kingdom of Morocco was invited by the SRFC, given their role in the region as a fishing nation targeting small pelagic species, some of them being shared with Mauritania (e.g. Sardine). Several staff from IMROP attended the event, including senior researchers and PhD students. The attendance online included several guests who could not travel, including Dr Najib Charouki, from INRH, who gave his presentation online, and Dr Aboubacar Sidibeh, Senior Officer at FAO (see the list of participants in the Annex).

Day 1: Current situation and challenges for the management of small pelagic fish

Following an opening session, Session 1 highlighted the scientific, ecological, and socioeconomic dimensions of small pelagic fisheries in the SRFC sub-region, emphasizing growing environmental pressures and governance gaps. Presentations noted that while small pelagic stocks represent most of the catches in the sub-region, key stocks such as sardines and sardinella are declining under increased fishing pressure and warming waters, with observed impacts on fish size, fat content, and distribution, including northward migration. Scientific challenges persist, including limited regional coordination in surveys and data

collection, inconsistent assessment methods, and the need for capacity building. Concerns were raised about the lack of operational management measures despite ambitious effort reductions recommended by CECAF, as well as the absence of a regional TAC and allocation system, with countries managing stocks unilaterally. Speakers stressed the importance of integrating environmental drivers (e.g., temperature) and socioeconomic objectives into management frameworks such as MSEs.

Session 2 focused on the national approaches to managing small pelagic fisheries across the sub-region. Morocco presented its approach, which is a long-standing management system with multiple zones, fleet controls, and biological rest periods. The Gambia emphasized efforts to combat IUU fishing, improve monitoring, and enforce seasonal closures, alongside regional projects supporting data harmonization. Senegal's intervention underscored the dominant role of artisanal fisheries and growing concerns over juvenile catches, whereas Guinea-Bissau stressed sovereignty over national resources despite openness to regional catch limits. Mauritania highlighted strong national regulations, but a lack of binding regional agreements that weakens management of each country. Across discussions, participants highlighted key gaps, including inconsistent measures (e.g., minimum catch sizes), weak regional coordination, and limited evaluation of the national management plans' effectiveness, while stressing the need for harmonization of rules (notably gear regulations and rest periods).

Session 3 then introduced MSE and MP as tools to support more coordinated, robust, transparent, and science-based decision-making, through the setting of clear management objectives, simulation-based testing of management strategies under various types of uncertainty, and based on the principle of “agreeing the rules before playing the game”.

Day 2. Tools for improving sub-regional science-based management of small-pelagic species: the contribution of management procedures

On Day 2, Session 3 (second part) focused on lessons from the successful implementation of MPs and MSE in other regions and RFMOs, highlighting that these approaches are already widely applied in countries such as Australia, the USA, the EU, and in tuna fisheries globally, with increasing expansion to small pelagic species. Case studies from sardines and anchovies in South Africa and the Eastern Pacific illustrated how MSE can incorporate multiple objectives (e.g. stock conservation, catch stability, ecosystem considerations), use performance metrics and simulation models to test different management strategies, and remain adaptive to changing environmental conditions. Discussions with participants highlighted key challenges for West Africa, including data limitations, difficulty disentangling environmental and fishing effects, and the need to balance biological, socioeconomic, and food security objectives, as well as to build agreement among decision-makers. However, speakers underscored that even in data-limited contexts, MSE can be applied using simplified models or empirical methods, provided there is sufficient basic information (e.g. abundance indices), political will, and strong regional coordination to implement and enforce agreed management procedures.

In a roundtable format, round sardinella was used as a practical case study to move from MSE theory to implementation, framing the process around four core steps: mapping stakeholders and governance bodies, defining management objectives, scoping key uncertainties such as climate effects, and selecting candidate management procedures for testing. The discussion centered on the need for collaborative governance from the outset, with managers and stakeholders defining objectives and scientists shaping the simulation framework, and on making explicit the major trade-offs between economic yield, biological safety, and catch stability. Participants' exchanges showed broad concern that any management approach must account for the species' transboundary nature, climate-driven recruitment, and central role in food security, while also confronting major barriers such as incomplete artisanal catch data, weak survey coverage, governance fragmentation across countries, and limited technical capacity. Overall, the session pointed toward a pragmatic, adaptive, and transparent pathway: start with simple, understandable rules and a “minimum viable” model rather than waiting for perfect data, build trust through regular engagement, improve and harmonize the evidence base over time, and agree on clear regional objectives as the foundation for a workable regional management procedure.

Session 4 highlighted the perspectives and roles of artisanal and industrial fishing sectors in shared fisheries management, emphasizing the importance of inclusive, participatory approaches. Representatives stressed that artisanal fisheries hold valuable ecological and socioeconomic knowledge that should be incorporated into management procedures alongside scientific data. There was broad consensus on the need for practical measures such as temporary closures, but also recognition of the importance of distinguishing between artisanal and industrial fleets when designing regulations. Discussions underscored governance challenges, including limited stakeholder involvement, contradictions in policies, and the need for stronger cross-sector and inter-ministerial coordination within countries. Overall, participants called for simpler, more consistent and enforceable regulations, grounded in local realities and supported by stakeholder participation, to improve the effectiveness of shared fisheries management.

The closing session highlighted strong regional momentum to advance MSE and MP as practical tools for managing shared small pelagic stocks. The SRFC Secretariat emphasized their intention to engage with MSE through follow-up work quickly. Participants agreed that the key challenge is no longer recognizing the need for coordinated management but effectively implementing it at sub-regional level through tools such as MP and MSE. Speakers stressed the importance of including the fishing sector in these processes and making MSE approaches more accessible, while noting that progress will require political commitment, regional coordination, and improved data. Mauritania's recent measures and transparency efforts were cited as examples of progress despite data challenges. Overall, the session concluded that gradual, step-by-step implementation—starting with one stock and building on regional cooperation—offers a realistic pathway to strengthen fisheries management in the region.

KEY OUTCOMES

Outcome 1: shared understanding of Management Procedures (MPs) and the role of Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE)

The main objective of the workshop was to improve the participants' understanding of MPs and MSE and to facilitate exchanges between scientists, fisheries managers, administrations, industry representatives and artisanal fisheries stakeholders on the importance of these tools. The discussions highlighted a broad consensus on the need to strengthen science-based and coordinated management of shared small pelagic stocks and on the interest of MP and MSE to contribute to this process.

Outcome 2: identification of the challenges to MP/MSE development

Participants also identified several challenges, in the context of the current unfavorable status of several shared small pelagic stocks within SRFC member States, particularly round sardinella (*Sardinella aurita*). One key challenge for the development a MP for a stock such as round sardinella is the insufficient harmonization of monitoring and data collection systems among countries, despite recent efforts such as the [AGD project](#)³ (SRFC, 2018-2022). Another challenge identified is the need to strengthen compliance, transparency and stakeholder participation in fisheries management, which are also prerequisites for effective MPs. Other challenges include the uncertainties associated with climate variability and long-term environmental change, as well as the governance complexity linked to the transboundary nature of the shared stocks.

Identifying the Barriers



Data Gaps

Incomplete reporting of artisanal catches and lack of consistent transboundary surveys.



Governance

Difficulty in aligning multiple national management plans into a single regional procedure.



Capacity

Lack of specialized technical staff for coding and maintaining complex MSE models.

³ Brehmer, Patrice, B. S. Balde, and Anne Mouget. Projet AGD-pélagique (CSRP-IRD): Appui à la Gestion Durable des pélagiques: rapport technique IRD 2020. IRD, 2020. <https://hal.science/hal-03260898/document>

Outcome 3: Dialogue on the need for joint management objectives for stocks in the sub-region

Participants initiated a dialogue on possible sub-regional objectives for future management procedures under the SRFC framework, through the case study of round sardinella. The objectives most frequently highlighted included ensuring the rebuilding and long-term sustainability of the stocks, including in the context of climate change and environmental variability. Maintaining access to affordable blue food for coastal populations and preserving socioeconomic benefits and employment within fisheries value chains. Other key goals included increasing stability and predictability of catches and management measures. Tradeoffs between these goals were discussed, as well as the conditions for such objectives to be agreed, such as political will to cooperate and trust among member states.

Outcome 4: Commitment from participants to engage in further discussion on MP and MSE.

The workshop concluded on a strong interest by participants to continue the discussion on MP and MSE, by focusing on the development of an MSE for a pilot stock, which would enable to look in more detail at the enabling conditions and identify the first steps for such an evaluation

Participants recognized the SRFC as an appropriate platform for bringing together the relevant partners and facilitating the development of an MSE and more broadly of shared management approaches for transboundary fisheries resources.



RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1 “Kick off the MP and MSE”

Participants recommended that the SRFC initiate a structured sub-regional process for the development and implementation of Management Procedures (MPs), supported by Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE), for shared small pelagic stocks, starting with pilot applications on one or two key stocks. This process should aim to:

- identify common management objectives among Member States;
- strengthen and harmonize data collection and monitoring systems;
- contribute to regional scientific and governance coordination mechanisms;
- the progressive implementation of MPs adapted to sub-regional data availability and capacities;
- ensure the active participation of fishers and fisheries stakeholders throughout the process.

Recommendation 2 “Establishment of a Roadmap and Technical Working Group”

Participants encouraged the SRFC, in collaboration with its Member States and technical partners, to prepare a roadmap outlining the next steps, governance arrangements, technical requirements and capacity-building needs necessary to advance the development and implementation of Management Procedures (MPs) and Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) processes at both national and sub-regional levels. To support this process, participants recommended the establishment of a Technical Working Group on Management Procedures and MSE, coordinated by the SRFC and composed of representatives from the SRFC Secretariat and Member States, as well as technical partners including FAO, The Pew Charitable Trusts, The Ocean Foundation (TOF), IRD, and other relevant scientific and fisheries management institutions.

The Working Group would be tasked with:

- developing a sub-regional roadmap for the progressive implementation of MPs and MSEs within the SRFC member States;
- identifying priority stocks and fisheries suitable for pilot applications;
- assessing data availability, technical capacities and governance requirements within Member States;
- facilitating coordination among scientific institutions, fisheries administrations and stakeholders;
- supporting resource mobilization and partnership development.

As a first practical step, participants recommended the organization of dedicated technical sessions and capacity-building workshops to apply MP and MSE concepts to the round sardinella (*Sardinella aurita*) fishery, with the objective of exploring the feasibility of developing a pilot sub-regional Management Procedure for this shared stock. This pilot initiative could serve as a foundation for the future extension of MP and MSE approaches to other fisheries and strategic stocks of ecological, economic and food-security importance within the SRFC.

Recommendation 3 “Promote the approach across all SRFC Member States”

The Permanent Secretary, based on participant exchange, recommends promoting the development and implementation of Management Procedures (MPs), supported where appropriate by Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE), within SRFC Member States, not only for shared small pelagic fisheries but also for other fisheries and strategic stocks of major ecological, socioeconomic and food-security importance.

ANNEXES



RECOMMENDED BACKGROUND READING FOR PARTICIPANTS

- **Punt, A. E., Butterworth, D. S., de Moor, C. L., De Oliveira, J. A., & Haddon, M. (2016). Management strategy evaluation: best practices. *Fish and fisheries*, 17(2), 303-334.**

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/faf.12104>

Management strategy evaluation (MSE) involves using simulation to compare the relative effectiveness for achieving management objectives of different combinations of data collection schemes, methods of analysis and subsequent processes leading to management actions. MSE can be used to identify a 'best' management strategy among a set of candidate strategies, or to determine how well an existing strategy performs. The ability of MSE to facilitate fisheries management achieving its aims depends on how well uncertainty is represented, and how effectively the results of simulations are summarized and presented to the decision-makers. Key challenges for effective use of MSE therefore include characterizing objectives and uncertainty, assigning plausibility ranks to the trials considered, and working with decision-makers to interpret and implement the results of the MSE. This paper explores how MSEs are conducted and characterizes current 'best practice' guidelines, while also indicating whether and how these best practices were applied to two case-studies: the Bering–Chukchi–Beaufort Seas bowhead whales (*Balaena mysticetus*; Balaenidae) and the northern subpopulation of Pacific sardine.

- **Dowling, N. A., Dichmont, C. M., Haddon, M., Smith, D. C., Smith, A. D. M., & Sainsbury, K. (2015). Empirical harvest strategies for data-poor fisheries: a review of the literature. *Fisheries Research*, 171, 141-153.**

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0165783614003300>

Harvest strategy approaches based around empirical indicators and/or control rules are beginning to be accepted in a growing range of data- and capacity-poor fisheries. While there is an increasing body of work around developing empirical indicators and control rules in data-poor contexts, this has typically been done on a case-specific basis. There remains a need for general guidance on formulating control rules that link empirical indicators with suitable management responses. Additionally, in the data-poor context, most literature has focused on empirical indicators and assessments, with less focus on decision rules and the incorporation of indicators and assessments in a harvest strategy framework. This review considers a range of harvest strategy options, focusing on empirical indicators and decision rules available for data-poor species and fisheries. These clearly illustrate that a paucity of information is not a reason to avoid developing harvest strategies, and that a range of pragmatic approaches are available regardless of the available data, life-history of the target species, nature of fishing operations, or the available research capacity. There is considerable scope for further work in this field, but arguably there is a comprehensive repository of approaches and decision rules that, when combined with the guidelines, form a solid foundation and toolkit for all but the most data-poor species and fisheries.

- **Management procedures and management strategy evaluation: A brief guide for managers**

<https://openknowledge.fao.org/handle/20.500.14283/cd6449en>

Synopsis. This brochure highlights the global shift toward Management Procedures (MPs), or harvest strategies, as a superior alternative to traditional stock assessment-based fisheries management. MPs provide clearer scientific advice, streamline decision-making, and offer greater stability and predictability for fisheries and seafood markets. By incorporating management strategy evaluation (MSE), MPs also better address uncertainties like climate change, increasing confidence in achieving long-term sustainability goals. A key feature of MP development is stakeholder engagement, ensuring transparency and inclusivity. This publication explores the MP development process from a manager's perspective, emphasizing the benefits of collaboration with scientists and fisheries managers.

- **How to efficiently craft a management procedure. A review of steps and timelines for management procedures development and adoption**

<https://openknowledge.fao.org/items/d251bf2a-a2e7-4706-b89f-7aac1a7d250c>

This factsheet provides essential guidance on developing Management Procedures (MPs) for sustainable fisheries. It emphasizes the importance of a structured workplan, clear timelines, and stakeholder involvement, with a focus on Management Strategy Evaluation (MSE) to ensure effective fisheries management. The document highlights the need for expertise, science-management dialogue groups (SMDs), and a transparent process to overcome common delays in MP development. By sharing these insights, this publication aims to support fisheries managers, scientists, and stakeholders in creating efficient, inclusive, and scientifically robust management strategies that foster long-term

sustainability of fish stocks and healthy marine.



Web site “Harvest strategies” project

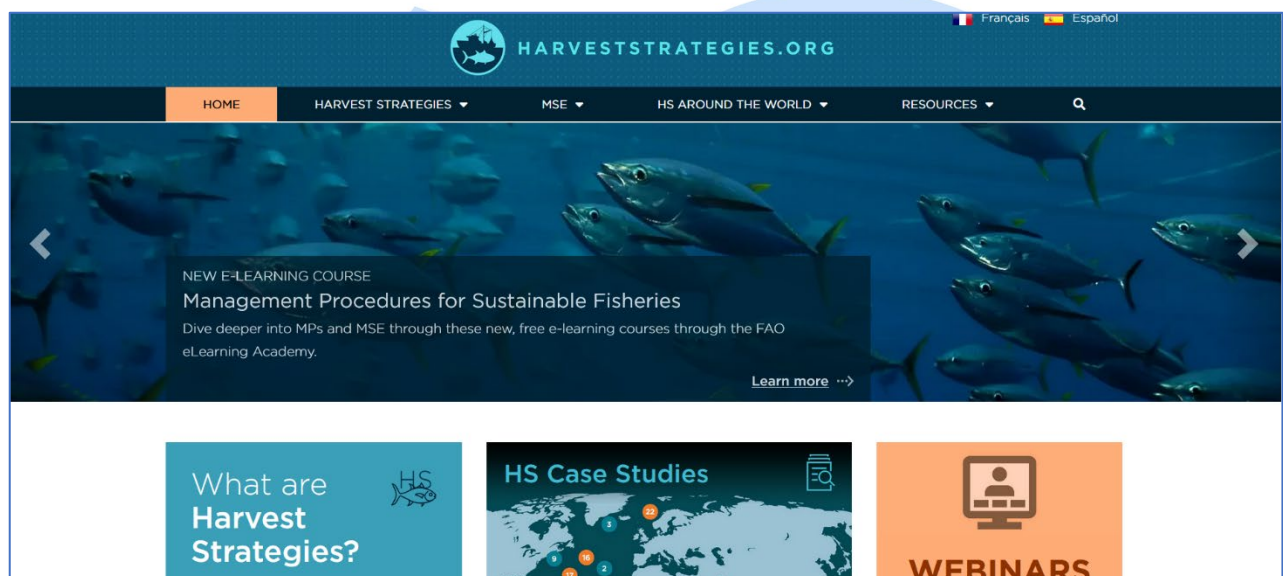
<https://harveststrategies.org/what-are-harvest-strategies/>

Which compiles information about how harvest strategies work and how implementing this pioneering management approach can lead to sustainable, profitable fisheries and successful recovery programs for many species around the world.

- **FAO E-learning Academy**

<https://elearning.fao.org/course/view.php?id=1305>

The 2025 e-learning series on “Management procedures for sustainable tuna fisheries” seeks to provide a general understanding of the concepts needed to develop and implement management procedures (MPs), also called harvest strategies. It aims to increase the capacity of people involved in fisheries to actively engage in the process of management procedure development and implementation.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The organizers warmly welcome all participants to Nouakchott and look forward to fruitful exchanges in support of sustainable fisheries governance in West Africa. Please refer to the notice “participant information” send as separate file (send to participant).

AGENDA (FORMAT HYBRID)

Day 1. Current situation and challenges for the management of small pelagic fish

Chair: President of the Coordination Committee of SRFC (DPM, Guinea) Mamadou DRAME represented by Aboubacar Aminata TOURÉ.

Time	Session / Activity	Speaker	Content
09:00 – 09:30	Welcoming of participants	All	Imrop, Nouakchott
09:40 – 10:00	Opening	Ejiwen Mohamed El Hafed, Director of IMROP H.E. Khallahi Brahim, SRFC Permanent Secretary Aboubacar Aminata Touré represent. Mamadou Drame, Chair Coordination Committee of SRFC (Director of Fisheries, Guinea) H.E. MOCTAR AHMED BOUCEIF, Ministre de la Pêche, des Infrastructures Maritimes et Portuaires	Welcoming remarks Opening remarks Opening remarks Opening speech
10:00 – 10:15	Coffee Break / Pause café		
10:15 – 11:00	Session 1 Scientific aspects	Dr Cheikh-Baye BRAHAM, Chair of the CECAF WG on small pelagic species (North) (IMROP, Mauritania) Dr Elimane KANE, Senior researcher (MPIMP/IMROP, Mauritania) SRFC Coordination Committee Member States and government representatives	Status and ecological importance of small pelagic species in SRFC sub-region (15') Socioeconomic importance of small pelagic, including market considerations (15') Question/Answer
11:30 – 12:30	Session 1 Scientific aspects	Najib CHAROUKI (INRH, Morocco) Patrice BREHMER (IRD, SRFC) SRFC Coordination Committee Member States and government representatives	Challenges and gaps in scientific assessments, of small pelagic in North West Africa (15') and effect of climate change (15') Question/Answer
12:30 – 14:00	Déjeuner/Lunch		

14:00 – 15:30	Session 2 Management aspects	National representative of each country: - Mr Momodou JALLOW The Gambia - Dr Aboubacar Aminata TOURÉ Guinea - Mr Luis SAKTA Guinea-Bissau - Dr Mohamed Ahmed JEYID Mauritania - Dr Bocar Sabaly BALDE Senegal - Mme Saham AMANOU Morocco SRFC Coordination Committee Member States and government representatives	National tools and plans for the management of small pelagics (10' per country) Question/Answer
15:30 – 16:30	Session 2 Management aspects	Dr Mika DIOP (SRFC coordinator of Project Shared Sardinella (FAO/Nansen)/Matthieu BERNARDON (Nansen) SRFC Coordination Committee Member States and government representatives	Challenges and weaknesses of sub- regional management plan for <i>Sardinella aurita</i> (15') Question/Answer
16:30 – 17:00	Coffee break		
17:00 – 18:00	Session 3 New tools for improving sub-regional science-based management	Dr Joel RICE (Rice Marine Analytics) and Dr Jean-Christophe Vandavelde (Pew) SRFC Coordination Committee Member States and government representatives	Concepts of management procedures and their use in the context of small pelagic fisheries (30') Question/Answer

Day 2. Tools for improving sub-regional science-based management of small-pelagic species: the contribution of management procedures

Chair: President of the Coordination Committee of SRFC (DPM, Guinea) Mamadou DRAME represented by Aboubacar Aminata TOURÉ.

Day 2 afternoon with fishermen representative and all stakeholders.

Time	Session / Activity	Speaker	Content
09:30 – 10:30	Session 3 New tools for improving sub-regional science-based management	Dr Joel RICE (Expert, Rice Marine Analytics) All	Successful implementation of management procedures for small pelagic species and management results: examples from other regions and RFMOs (30') Question/Answer
10:30 – 11:00	Pause café		
11:00 – 13:30	Round table From theory to practice: How to apply the concepts of harvest strategies and management strategy evaluation	Moderator: Dr Joel RICE, who will facilitate the discussion with slides, flipcharts.	Exchange (all participant) What could be the steps to initiate a management procedure for a stock like <i>Sardinella aurita</i> ? Goal of the session: working up a basic conceptual model of an MSE and discuss the conditions needed, the barriers, and what would be the shared objectives (high catches, safety of the stock, stability?) among managers and scientists

13:30-14:30	Lunch		
14:30 - 14:40	Session 4 Role of stakeholders on shared management of small pelagic stocks: what are the next steps	Dr Khallahi BRAHIM	On the Role of SRFC on shared management, including the use of management procedures: possible futures (10')
14:40 – 16:15	Session 4	President Gaoussou GAYE, African Small scale fisheries representant (CAOPA) and Industrial and artisanal fishing representative from Mauritania All	On the Role of artisanal (15') and industrial (15') fishermen on shared management, including the use of management procedures: possible futures Question/Answer
16:15 - 16:30	Coffee break		
16:30 - 17:00	Closing session Commitments for the future	Mohamed Abidine Mayif Jean-Christophe VANDEVELDE (Pew) Mohamed Ahmed JEYID AND Patrice BREHMER (SRFC/IRD)	General remarks Summary of key takeaways (15') Next steps and commitments (15')
17:00	End	President Coordination Committee of SRFC Official from Mauritania	Closing remarks

PARTICIPANTS

Category	Country / Organisation	Name	Institution	Role / Function
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Mohamed Ould Ely Ould Barham	MPEM	Secrétaire Général pi Ministère de la Pêche, des Infrastructures Maritimes et Portuaires MPIMP
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Lamine Camara (excusé)	MPEM	Senior official; CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Dedah Ahmed Babou	MPEM	Representant of RIM CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Cheikh-Baye Braham	IMROP	Chair CECAF WG Small Pelagics (North)
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Cheikh Hejbou	IMROP	Directeur centre NKT Imrop
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Mohamed El Hafedh Ejiwen	IMROP	Directeur IMROP
Technique	Mauritania	Mohamed Salem Baba Ahmed	IMROP	Informatique
Technique	Mauritania	Yahya Mbareck	IMROP	Communication
Technique	Mauritania	Amadou Dialade Sy	IMROP	Technicien
Technique	Mauritania	Ely Cheikh	IMROP	Technicien
Technique	Mauritania	Brahim Moustapha	IMROP	Technicien
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Mohamed Mayif	MPEM	Expert, ex Ministre d'Etat MPEM RIM
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Mahfoud Taleb (canceled)	ISSM	Director ISSM
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Mohamed Ahmed Jeyid	IMROP	Head laboratory
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Elimane Kane	MPEM	Scientist, fisheries economist
CSRP Member State	Senegal	Adama Mbaye (canceled)	ISRA/CRODT	Scientist, socio-anthropology
CSRP Member State	Senegal	Bocar Sabaly Baldé	ISRA/CRODT	Scientist, fisheries modeling
CSRP Member State	Senegal	Coumba Ndoffene Diouf (canceled)	Ministry of Fisheries	Senior official; DPM; CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	The Gambia	Momodou Sidibeh (represented)	Department of Fisheries	Senior official; DPM; CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	The Gambia	Momodou Jallow	Department of Fisheries	Technical officer

CSRP Member State	Guinea	Mohamed Soumah*	CNSHB	Scientist
CSRP Member State	Guinea	Aboubacar Aminata Touré	CNSHB	Senior official; delegation for DPM and CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	Guinea-Bissau	Cadijatu Djalo	INIPO	Scientist; Chair INIPO
CSRP Member State	Guinea-Bissau	Luis Sakta	INIPO	Statistic scientific
CSRP Member State	Guinea-Bissau	Represented	Fisheries administration	Senior official; DPM; CC CSRP
CSRP Member State	Sierra Leone	Victor Kargbo (canceled)	Ministry of Fisheries	Senior official; CC CSRP-Pi
CSRP Member State	Sierra Leone	Percy Showers (canceled)	Univ SL	Scientist
CSRP Member State	Cabo Verde	Albertino R. Martins*	Imar	Scientist. Pdt Board Imar
CSRP Member State	Cabo Verde	Carlos Monteiro (canceled)	Fisheries authority	Senior official; DPM; CC CSRP
Invited State	Morocco	Najib Charouki*	INRH	Head of Fisheries Department
Invited State	Morocco	Siham Amanou	Ministry of fisheries	Service gestion et aménagement ress. Halieut.
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Khallahi Brahim	CSRP	Permanent Secretary
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Mika Diop	CSRP	Project Manager – Shared Sardinella
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Makthar Seck	CSRP	Finance
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Maria Andrade	CSRP	Secretary
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Papa Abdourahmane Ba*	CSRP	Communication Officer, SRFC
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Ouseynou Diankha*	CSRP	Information Technology Officer, SRFC
Regional Fisheries Organisation	CSRP	Patrice Brehmer	CSRP / IRD	Scientific Adviser of Permanent Secretary
CSRP Member State	Mauritania	Beyah Habibe	IMROP	Chair, CECAF Scientific Sub-Committee
RFMO / IO	FAO	Aboubacar Sidibeh*	FAO	Senior fisheries expert
RFMO / IO	FAO	Jean Senhaoun (tbc)	FAO Nouakchott	National representative
Scientific Expert	Norway	Maik Tiedmann*	FAO/EAF-Nansen	Researcher IMR
Scientific Expert	USA	Joel Rice	Rice Consulting	Fisheries governance & HS
Partner	Pew	Jean-Christophe Vandeveld	The Pew Charitable Trusts	Manager, International Fisheries

Observer	Mauritania	Gaoussou Gaye	CAOPA	President CAOPA
Observer	Mauritania	Diop Issa	Small scale Fisheries	Fisher
Observer	Mauritania	Abdel Kerim	Small scale Fisheries	Fisher
Observer	Mauritania	Haiba Sid Ahmed	Industrial Fisheries	Fisher
Observer	Mauritania	Cheikh Sidi	Industrial Fisheries	Fisher
Observer	Mauritania	Bechir Hacena Ahmed Lebeid	Fishing factory	Fisheries industry
Observer	Mauritania	Abidine Sidaty	Processing industry	Fisheries industry
Observer	Morocco	Omar Akouri*	Industry/COMAIP	SG COMAIP
Observer	Mauritania	Harouna Ismail Lebaye	FLPA	Président Section Nouadhibou
Student	Mauritania	Aminetou Yeslem Didi	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Nzaha Isselmou Sabar	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Diye Lamine Camara	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Mariam Mohamed El Moctar	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Badie Fofana	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Mohamed salem Brahim	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Khadej Elkhirchy	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Zeinebou El Moustapha	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Emel Aboubekrine	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Student	Mauritania	Aichetou Elghadi Kaya	University	3 ^e cycles universitaires
Partner	Pew	Josephine Woronoff*	Pew	Senior Associate, International Fisheries
Observer	Spain	Juan Lechuga*	Faune and Flora	Technical specialist, Fisheries
Observer	CAPE	Beatriz Gorez	CFFA	Coordinator CFFA
Observer	SFP	Rolando Lobraña	Sustainable Fish. Partnership	SFP Consultant
Observer	SFP	Cassandra De Young*	Sustainable Fish. Partnership	Deputy Director at the SFP

* online.

DISCOURS SECRETAIRE PERMANENT DE LA COMMISSION SOUS-RÉGIONALE DES PÊCHES

Atelier sous-régional sur les procédures de gestion des petits pélagiques en Afrique de l'Ouest. Nouakchott, 19 mai 2026

Monsieur le Représentant du Ministre de la Pêche, des Infrastructures Maritimes et Portuaires,
Mesdames et Messieurs les représentants des États membres de la CSRP et du Royaume du Maroc,
Monsieur le Directeur Général de l'IMROP,
Mesdames et Messieurs les représentants des organisations professionnelles de la pêche,
Monsieur le Responsable Pêche internationale pour The Pew Charitable Trusts,
Madame la Coordinatrice du Programme EAF-Nansen,
Mesdames et Messieurs les chercheurs, experts et partenaires techniques et financiers, en particulier, The Ocean Foundation et l'IRD,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

C'est avec un réel plaisir que je prends la parole à l'occasion de cet atelier sous-régional consacré aux procédures de gestion durable des petits pélagiques en Afrique de l'Ouest, coorganisé par la CSRP avec l'IMROP, avec le support The Pew Charitable Trusts, The Ocean Foundation et l'IRD.

Je voudrais tout d'abord adresser mes sincères remerciements aux autorités mauritaniennes pour leur accueil chaleureux ainsi que pour leur engagement constant en faveur du renforcement de la coopération sous-régionale dans le domaine des pêches.

Je tiens également à remercier l'ensemble des partenaires techniques et financiers qui accompagnent la CSRP dans ses efforts pour promouvoir une gouvernance concertée et durable des ressources halieutiques dans notre espace sous-régional.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Les ressources halieutiques revêtent une importance toute particulière pour les États membres de la CSRP. Elles jouent un rôle essentiel sur les plans social, économique et alimentaire, avec des contributions majeures à la souveraineté alimentaire, à l'emploi, aux revenus des communautés côtières et aux économies nationales.

Cependant, ces ressources sont aujourd'hui confrontées à des menaces multiples : les fortes pressions de pêche ; les effets croissants du changement global et climatique ; la dégradation des écosystèmes marins ; et l'expansion de la pêche illicite, non déclarée et non réglementée.

Il en résulte une situation de plus en plus préoccupante marquée par la diminution des débarquements et la fragilisation de plusieurs ressources halieutiques, aussi bien démersales que pélagiques.

Face à cette situation, nos États ont engagé des réformes importantes à travers des stratégies nationales de pêche et d'aquaculture visant à renforcer la durabilité, la gouvernance et la résilience du secteur. Mais il est aujourd'hui clair qu'aucun État ne peut relever seul les défis liés à la gestion des ressources partagées.

C'est précisément pour répondre à cette nécessité que la CSRP poursuit depuis plusieurs décennies sa mission de coopération sous-régionale, en favorisant le dialogue politique, la concertation scientifique et l'harmonisation des approches de gestion des pêches.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Les petits pélagiques constituent un enjeu stratégique majeur pour notre sous-région. Leur caractère migratoire et partagé impose de renforcer les mécanismes de concertation entre nos États membres ainsi qu'avec le Royaume du Maroc.

C'est dans cet esprit que la CSRP met actuellement en œuvre plusieurs initiatives visant à renforcer la gestion durable des ressources partagées.

Le présent atelier s'inscrit pleinement dans cette dynamique. Il constitue une première étape importante pour réfléchir collectivement à l'amélioration de la gestion des ressources halieutiques et, plus particulièrement, des petits pélagiques à travers le développement de procédures de gestion adaptées à notre contexte sous-régional.

Cette rencontre s'inscrit également dans les travaux menés dans le cadre du projet conjoint CSRP-FAO/EAF-Nansen « Shared Sardinella », dont l'objectif est de proposer des approches de gestion concertées et adaptées aux réalités écologiques, économiques et sociales de notre espace sous-régional.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Cet atelier s'inscrit également dans la continuité des importants efforts de renforcement de capacités déjà conduits par la CSRP au cours de son projet AGD récemment achevé. Ce projet a notamment permis de moderniser et d'harmoniser les systèmes d'enquête sur les pêches artisanales au sein des États membres, en étroite collaboration avec vos instituts de recherche nationaux.

Ces travaux ont contribué à renforcer la qualité, la comparabilité et la disponibilité des données halieutiques dans notre espace sous-régional. Ils ont également permis de consolider les capacités techniques des structures nationales de recherche et de suivi des pêcheries, qui ont pleinement reconnu l'intérêt et la pertinence de cette démarche collective. Bien entendu des efforts restent à faire en ce sens et la CSRP en est consciente et continue d'œuvrer en ce sens.

Le développement de procédures de gestion et d'approches concertées de gestion des stocks partagés constitue aujourd'hui une suite logique de ces efforts. En effet, une gestion moderne et fondée sur la science nécessite des systèmes de données robustes, harmonisés et partagés à l'échelle sous-régionale.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Les procédures de gestion, également connues sous les termes de « management procedures » ou « harvest strategies », représentent des outils particulièrement prometteurs que nous souhaitons promouvoir dans nos États membres.

Elles permettent de renforcer les liens entre science et décision publique d'améliorer la prévisibilité des mesures de gestion, de mieux prendre en compte les incertitudes liées aux changements climatiques ; et de favoriser une gestion plus transparente, concertée et fondée sur des objectifs communs.

Pour la CSRP, cette approche est pleinement cohérente avec les orientations de notre nouveau Plan stratégique 2025–2030, qui place au cœur de ses priorités la gestion durable des ressources partagées, la résilience des écosystèmes, la souveraineté alimentaire et le renforcement de la coopération sous-régionale.

Je forme le vœu que les échanges de ces journées permettent de rapprocher les visions des scientifiques, des administrations et des professionnels ; de renforcer la confiance entre les acteurs, et d'identifier des pistes concrètes pour avancer vers des mécanismes sous-régionaux de gestion concertée des petits pélagiques.

Je voudrais enfin rappeler que l'avenir de nos ressources halieutiques dépendra de notre capacité collective à construire des solutions communes face à des défis communs.

La CSRP continuera, avec l'ensemble de ses partenaires, à jouer pleinement son rôle de cadre de dialogue, de coordination et d'intégration sous-régionale au service d'une pêche durable et d'une économie bleue résiliente dans notre sous-région.

Je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.

DISCOURS D'OUVERTURE SECRETAIRE GENERAL pi MINISTRE DES PECHEES DES INFRASTRUCTURES MARITIMES ET PORTUAIRES

Atelier sous-régional sur les procédures de gestion des petits pélagiques en Afrique de l'Ouest, Nouakchott, 19 mai 2026

Monsieur le Secrétaire Permanent de la Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches (CSRP),
Monsieur le Directeur Général de l'IMROP,
Mesdames et Messieurs les représentants des États membres de la CSRP,
Mesdames et Messieurs les représentants des organisations professionnelles de la pêche,
Mesdames et Messieurs les chercheurs, experts et partenaires techniques et financiers,
Mesdames et Messieurs,

C'est avec un réel plaisir que le Ministère des Pêches des Infrastructures Maritimes et Portuaires, accueille cet atelier sous-régional consacré aux procédures de gestion durable des ressources halieutiques en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Je voudrais tout d'abord souhaiter, au nom du Gouvernement de la République Islamique de Mauritanie, la bienvenue à l'ensemble des délégations présentes à Nouakchott, terre de dialogue, de coopération et d'ouverture sur l'océan Atlantique.

Je tiens également à saluer cette initiative de la Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches (CSRP), l'IMROP, ainsi que leurs partenaires, particulièrement The Pew Charitable Trusts, mais aussi The Ocean Foundation et l'IRD, pour l'organisation de cette rencontre, importante pour l'avenir de nos pêcheries et de nos communautés côtières.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

Les ressources halieutiques, globalement, et les petits pélagiques en particulier occupent une place essentielle dans les écosystèmes marins de notre sous-région. Elles occupent également une place centrale dans la vie quotidienne de millions de citoyens ouest-africains et des États membres de la CSRP ainsi que du Royaume du Maroc.

Les ressources halieutiques contribuent directement à la sécurité alimentaire ; à l'emploi ; aux revenus des communautés côtières ; et au développement de toute une chaîne de valeur associant pêcheurs, mareyeurs, transformateurs et industries de pêche et se faisant à l'économie nationale.

Dans un contexte marqué par la pression croissante sur les ressources, les effets du changement climatique et l'évolution rapide des marchés, nous avons collectivement la responsabilité de renforcer la gestion durable de ces ressources halieutiques, notamment lorsqu'elles sont partagées.

Aucun pays ne peut aujourd'hui relever seul ces défis.

La nature migratoire des petits pélagiques impose une coopération scientifique, technique et politique renforcée entre les États de la sous-région CSRP et du Royaume du Maroc.

C'est précisément tout le sens de la Commission Sous-Régionale des Pêches, qui constitue depuis plus de quatre décennies un cadre essentiel de dialogue, de concertation et d'intégration sous-régionale dans le domaine des pêches.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

La Mauritanie a fait de l'aménagement durable des ressources halieutiques une priorité stratégique de sa politique sectorielle. Cette vision repose sur un principe fondamental : assurer une exploitation durable des ressources, compatible avec les objectifs de sécurité alimentaire et de développement économique du secteur halieutique.

Elle s'appuie notamment sur le renforcement de la recherche scientifique, du suivi des pêcheries, de la gouvernance et de la coopération sous-régionale.

Notre pays s'est déjà engagé dans cette dynamique à travers l'élaboration du Plan d'Aménagement des Pêcheries des Petits Pélagiques adopté en 2022. Ce plan souligne l'importance d'une exploitation durable des ressources, d'une meilleure maîtrise de l'effort de pêche, de la préservation des zones sensibles et du renforcement de la concertation sous-régionale pour les stocks partagés.

Il met également en évidence la nécessité de renforcer les liens entre science, gouvernance et gestion opérationnelle des pêcheries, dans un contexte marqué par les changements climatiques et les fortes dynamiques migratoires des petits pélagiques.

C'est dans cette continuité que les procédures de gestion, également connues sous les termes de « management procedures » ou « harvest strategies », représentent aujourd'hui une opportunité importante pour renforcer une gouvernance plus prévisible, concertée et fondée sur la science. La Mauritanie a déjà commencé à y réfléchir pour le poulpe sous l'impulsion de l'IMROP comme certain d'entre vous ont pu le constater lors du récent symposium international sur le poulpe organisé ici même, à Nouakchott, il y a quelques semaines.

Ces approches permettent de mieux articuler science et décision publique, en définissant à l'avance des règles de gestion transparentes, prévisibles et fondées sur des objectifs partagés.

Elles offrent également un cadre plus adapté pour prendre en compte les incertitudes liées à la variabilité climatique, à l'évolution des stocks et aux réalités socio-économiques de nos pays.

Pour nos États, il ne s'agit pas simplement d'un débat technique. Il s'agit de préserver durablement nos ressources ; de protéger les moyens d'existence de nos populations ; de renforcer notre souveraineté alimentaire ; et de construire une économie bleue résiliente et durable au bénéfice des générations futures.

La Mauritanie accorde une importance particulière au renforcement de la recherche scientifique et de la coopération sous-régionale dans le domaine des pêches. À travers l'IMROP et notre engagement au sein de la CSRP, nous continuerons à soutenir toutes les initiatives favorisant une gouvernance concertée et fondée sur la science, au service de nos populations.

Je forme le vœu que les échanges de ces journées permettent de renforcer la confiance entre les acteurs, de rapprocher les visions des scientifiques, des gestionnaires et des professionnels et d'identifier des pistes concrètes pour avancer vers des mécanismes sous-régionaux de gestion partagée des petits pélagiques.

Mesdames et Messieurs,

L'avenir de nos ressources halieutiques dépendra de notre capacité collective à anticiper plutôt qu'à subir face aux grands défis du moment, changement global, surcapacité des pêches et expansion de la pêche illicite non déclarée et non réglementée, à coopérer plutôt qu'à agir isolément, et à construire des solutions communes face à des menaces communes.

L'avenir de nos ressources halieutiques dépendra de notre capacité collective à anticiper plutôt qu'à subir les grands défis de notre temps : changement global, surcapacité de pêche, expansion de la pêche illicite, non déclarée et non réglementée.

Il dépendra également de notre capacité à coopérer plutôt qu'à agir isolément, et à construire des solutions communes face à des menaces communes.

C'est dans cet esprit que je déclare ouverts les travaux de l'atelier sous-régional sur les procédures de gestion des petits pélagiques en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.





بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

الجمهورية الإسلامية الموريتانية
شرف - اخاء - عدل

وزارة الصيد والبنى التحتية البحرية والمينائية

خطاب الأمين العام لوزارة الصيد والبنى التحتية البحرية والمينائية وكالة، السيد محمد أعل بارهام
بمناسبة افتتاح الورشة الإقليمية حول إجراءات تسيير واستغلال أسماك السطح الصغيرة في غرب إفريقيا

نواكشوط، 19-20 مايو 2026

بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

السيد الأمين الدائم للجنة الفرعية الإقليمية للصيد البحري
أصحاب السعادة ممثلي الدول الأعضاء
السيدات والسادة ممثلي المنظمات الإقليمية والدولية
السيدات والسادة ممثلي المنظمات المهنية لقطاع الصيد
السيد المدير العام للمعهد الموريتاني لبحوث المحيطات والصيد
السيدات والسادة الباحثين والخبراء والمشاركين

أيها الحضور الكريم

يسعدني بالغ السرور أن أشارك اليوم في افتتاح هذه الورشة الإقليمية المخصصة لموضوع إجراءات تسيير واستغلال أسماك السطح الصغيرة في غرب إفريقيا، والمنظمة من طرف اللجنة الفرعية الإقليمية للصيد البحري، والتي يحتضنها مركز المعهد الموريتاني لبحوث المحيطات والصيد في نواكشوط.

وأعنتم هذه المناسبة لأرحب بحرارة بجميع الوفود المشاركة القادمة من الدول الشقيقة والصديقة في المنطقة، كما أرحب بممثلي المنظمات المهنية والمؤسسات العلمية والشركاء الفنيين والماليين المشاركين في هذه الورشة. كما أود أن أشيد بالدور الهام الذي تضطلع به اللجنة الفرعية الإقليمية للصيد البحري منذ تأسيسها سنة 1985 في تعزيز التعاون الإقليمي في مجال التسيير المستدام للموارد البحرية، حيث أصبحت هذه الهيئة إطاراً أساسياً للتشاور والتنسيق والعمل المشترك خدمة لمصالح دولنا وشعوبنا.

السيدات والسادة
تحتل أسماك السطح الصغيرة مكانة استراتيجية في الأمن الغذائي والتغذية والتشغيل واقتصادات بلداننا، إذ تشكل مصدراً أساسياً للبروتين لفائدة ملايين المواطنين في غرب إفريقيا، كما تمثل ركيزة مهمة لأنشطة الصيد التقليدي والصناعي والتحويل والتسويق. غير أن هذه الموارد تواجه اليوم تحديات متعددة، من أبرزها الضغط المتزايد على الاستغلال، وتأثيرات التغير المناخي، والتقلبات البيئية، إضافة إلى الحاجة الملحة لتعزيز آليات الحكامة والتسيير المشترك على المستوى الإقليمي. ومن هذا المنطلق، أصبح من الضروري تعزيز التعاون العلمي والمؤسسي بين بلداننا بما يضمن استغلالاً عقلانياً ومستداماً ومنصفاً لهذه الموارد البحرية المشتركة.

أيها الحضور الكريم

تولي الجمهورية الإسلامية الموريتانية أهمية خاصة للتسيير المستدام للثروات البحرية، وذلك انسجاماً مع الرؤية المتبصرة لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية السيد محمد ولد الشيخ الغزواني، الهادفة إلى ترقية الاقتصاد الأزرق المستدام، وخلق فرص العمل، والمحافظة على الموارد البحرية لصالح الأجيال القادمة وهو ما تسهر حكومة معالي الوزير الأول السيد المختار ولد أجاي على تنفيذه وفق مقاربات علمية وتنظيمية تضمن الاستغلال الأمثل والمستدام للثروة البحرية.

وفي هذا الإطار، تواصل بلداننا تعزيز البحث العلمي ومتابعة المخزونات السمكية ومراقبة أنشطة الصيد، إضافة إلى تطوير الأطر القانونية والمؤسسية ذات الصلة.

وإننا على يقين بأن التوصيات التي ستنبثق عن هذه الورشة ستساهم في تحسين إجراءات تسيير أسماك السطح الصغيرة في منطقتنا، وتعزيز آليات التعاون بين الدول الأعضاء في اللجنة الفرعية الإقليمية للصيد البحري وكافة الفاعلين المعنيين. كما أود التأكيد على أهمية إشراك المنظمات المهنية والفاعلين الميدانيين في مسارات تسيير الموارد البحرية، لأن نجاح أي سياسة للتسيير المستدام يظل رهيناً بمقاربة تشاركية تجمع الإدارات والباحثين والمهنيين والشركاء الإقليميين.

السيدات والسادة

أتمنى لأشغال هذه الورشة كامل النجاح والتوفيق، وأن تتكلل نقاشاتها بنتائج عملية وتوصيات بناءة تخدم مصالح شعوب منطقتنا. وبهذا، أعلن على بركة الله افتتاح أعمال الورشة الإقليمية حول إجراءات تسيير أسماك السطح الصغيرة في غرب إفريقيا والسلام عليكم ورحمة الله تعالى وبركاته.

PRESS

- National TV News**



Lien



tvm.mr قناة الموريتانية. [Nouakchott embrasse un atelier régional sur la gestion et l'exploitation des petits en Afrique de l'Ouest](#) الموريتانية - تجمعنا#

- National Radio**



[Lien 1](#), [Lien 2](#), ...

Mauritanian Press Agency and social media

Publication du ministère [وزارة الصيد و الاقتصاد البحري](#)

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Institutional video

[National Research institution on Oceanography and fisheries : IMROP](#)



PHOTOGRAPHIES





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