



Food and Agriculture
Organization of the
United Nations

FISH4ACP

Unlocking the potential
of sustainable fisheries and aquaculture
in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific

Sao Tome and Principe

FISH4ACP works to make the coastal pelagic fisheries of Sao Tome and Principe more profitable and sustainable to boost food and nutrition security on the African island nation, improve the livelihoods of local fishing communities and safeguard fish stocks for future generations.

VALUE CHAIN AT A GLANCE

Coastal pelagics, including flying fish and frigate tuna

(*Exocoetidae* spp. and *Auxis thazard*)*



PRODUCTION METHOD

Artisanal purse seine, scoop nets, longline, gillnets (fixed or drifting) and hand line

VOLUMES **

8 500
tonnes

VALUE ***

USD 4
million

* full list of target species below
**primary production
***estimate

WHAT WE focus on

- ➔ Value chain analysis and upgrading strategy to make the coastal pelagic fishery stronger.
- ➔ Improving stock management to make fishery more sustainable.
- ➔ Supporting professionalization of coastal pelagics fishery sector.
- ➔ Improving cold chain and transport services, working conditions and the quality of local fish products.
- ➔ Supporting development of higher value coastal pelagic products for the domestic market.





Facts & figures

Sao Tome and Principe's fish consumption has increased over recent years, reaching **30 kg** per capita per year, the highest among the coastal countries of Central Africa.

Fish provides more than **50 percent** of protein consumed in Sao Tome and Principe.

All all coastal pelagics caught in Sao Tome and Principe's are **destined for domestic consumption.**

Coastal pelagic fishing employs some **4 100** artisanal fishermen and **2 800** female fishmongers. At least **37** coastal communities depend on it.

Fish is the main source of protein for the people of Sao Tome and Principe, an island nation in the Gulf of Guinea over 200 km off the coast of Gabon. The fisheries sector provides jobs for thousands of people and represents the most important revenue source for low-income families after cacao.

Fisheries in Sao Tome and Principe are largely artisanal and focused on coastal pelagics. Catches are sold mostly fresh on the domestic market where demand is strong because of demographic growth. In addition, the species targeted – flying fish, little tunny, frigate tuna, bigeye scud, decapterus nei, blue runner, balao halfbeak, skipjack tuna - represent a source of affordable and safe animal protein.

FISH4ACP aims to strengthen the coastal pelagic sector in Sao Tome and Principe to contribute to food and nutrition security.

FISH4ACP's activities focus on improving stock management, professionalizing fishers and traders, improving the safety of boats, while also strengthening the cold-chain and transportation services, and support development of new fish products for the domestic market.

FISH4ACP is an initiative of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS) aimed at making fisheries and aquaculture value chains in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific more sustainable. FISH4ACP is implemented by FAO and partners with funding from the European Union (EU) and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

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