

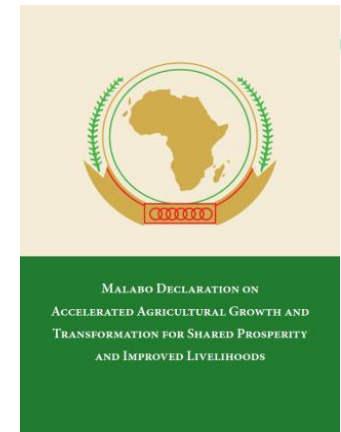
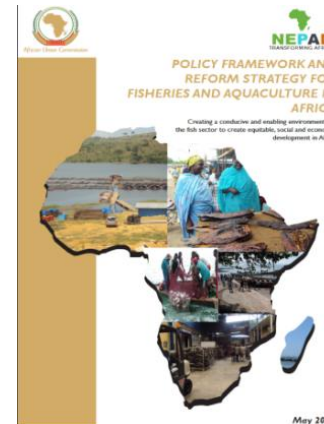
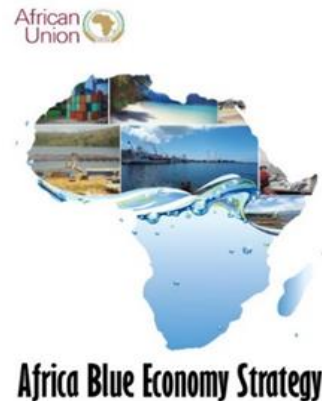
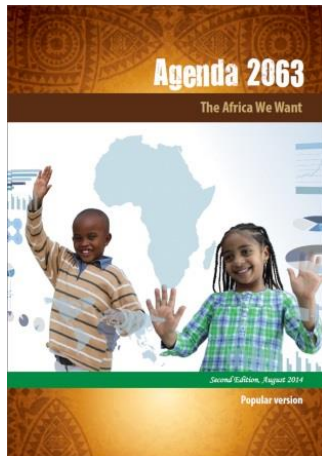
AFRICAN UNION CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE

IN PERSPECTIVES

23-26 JANUARY 2023

CAIRO, EGYPT

www.au-ibar.org



PROVIDING LEADERSHIP IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF ANIMAL RESOURCES IN AFRICA



CURRENT OUTLOOK

- The African continent is endowed with productive aquatic ecosystems (marine and freshwater) and significant fishing and aquaculture activities that currently provide benefits in terms of livelihoods, food security and economic growth.
- The sector still has enormous potential to significantly increase its contribution to GDP, food security, livelihoods, economic growth, transform lives, reduce poverty and hunger, and increase trade flows and incomes in the five regions of the continent.
- However, the sector is beset by numerous challenges that include weak capacity for sustainable governance of the sector, lack of evidence-based decision-making on governance and policy issues, lack of coherence and harmonization in management measures, weak institutional collaboration or networking, and weak mechanisms for information sharing and disseminating lessons and best practices.



AU INITIATIVES

- The Joint Conference of African Ministers for agriculture, rural development, fisheries and aquaculture in May 2014, Addis Ababa, Ethiopian, recognized these challenges therefore requested the:

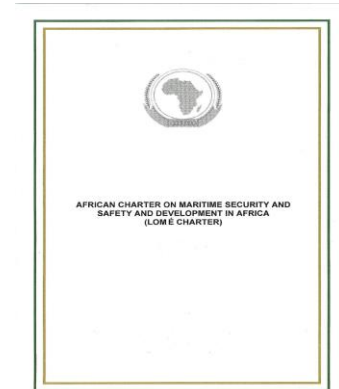
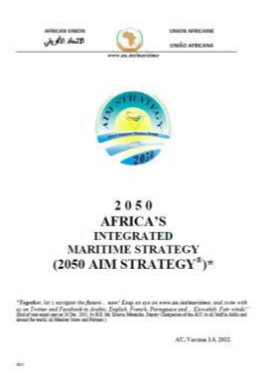
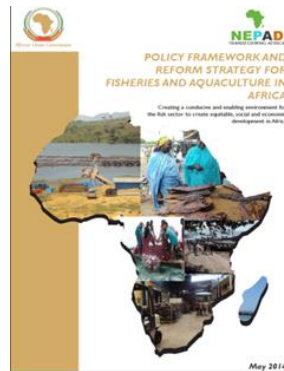
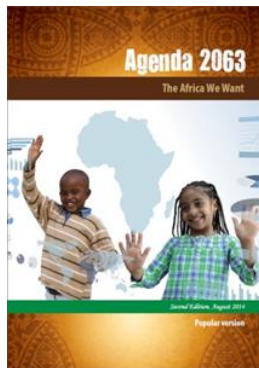
‘African Union to establish African centres of Excellence for aquaculture, capture fisheries, biodiversity studies and oceanography to enhance capacity ---.’

- This recommendation was endorsed by the Executive Decision Doc. **EX.CL/842(XXV)** of the Summit of African Heads of States and Governments in June 2014, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.



UNDERPINNING AU INSTRUMENTS

- A key goal for Africa's transformation and renaissance is harnessing the potential of Africa's aquatic endowments for Blue economy growth – this is set as goal for the attainment of Aspiration I in the Agenda 2063 (**A *prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development***) for the Africa we want!



- Other AU instruments that laid the foundation for blue economy development of the continent:
 - *Policy Framework and Reform Strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa*
 - *African Integrated Maritime Strategy*
 - *Lomé Charter*



RELEVANT AU POLICY INSTRUMENTS

- Conference of African Ministers in Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA I)
- PFRS-Key Policy Arena :
 - *Human resources capacity development* - as a key building block for creating knowledge, empowerment and enablement for effective participation in decision-making and for improved governance of the sector.
 - Capacity development is a high priority, especially with respect to effective implementation of reforms highlighted in the PFRS and (the AFRM for coordination and coherence through networking)
- The Centres will contribute towards the blue economy goals of the AU Agenda 2063



DEVELOPMENT OF THE ROADMAP- ZANZIBAR METING- 27TH - 28TH OF JUNE 2016





PRIORITY AREAS

The meeting also identified the following disciplines for which Centres of Excellence should be established:

1. Aquaculture (Inland aquaculture and mari-culture development)
2. Capture fisheries (Inland waters & fisheries development; Marine fisheries; large scale &, near and off-shore)
3. Aquatic Governance, Policy and Fisheries economics (Policy, ocean & inland waters governance (including law, fisheries management), biodiversity, EAF & fish conservation; IUU & MCS; data & data management, economics, sociology & trade; Climate Change, environment and Post-harvest)
4. Vocational training & manpower development in fields related to fisheries & aquaculture



**LAUNCHED THREE CALLS FOR
EXPRESSIONS ON INTERETS**

**“REQUESTING APPLICATIONS FROM
INSTITUTIONS”**



NAIROBI MEETING –EVALUATION OF BIDS

7-8 SEPTEMBER, 2017





EXPERT REVIEW MEETING – PLANNING FOR GROUND VERIFICATION 29-30 MAY 2018, NAIROBI KENYA





AU ENDORSED CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

No	Country	Selected Institutions	Disciplines	Recommendation for creating/ strengthening institutional networking
1	Ghana	Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture, University of Cape Coast	Academic training in Marine Fishery and coastal zones management; with additional options in policy and governance	To collaborate or network with Ibadan University (Nigeria) for complementarity aquaculture and inland fisheries
2	Uganda	National Fisheries Resources Research Institute (NaFIRRI)	Research in Aquaculture (Fish feeds, nutrition, genetics etc) and Research Inland Capture Fishery; with additional options in Climate Change	To strengthen existing collaboration and enhance networking with education training institutions (Makerere and Busitema Universities, Fisheries Training Institutes) that award degrees. The Institute will also collaborate with the Fisheries Training Institute
3	South Africa	Rhodes University	Academic Marine Fisheries and Academic Aquaculture; additional options in biodiversity; Oceanography and Ecosystems studies	To strengthen existing collaboration and enhance networking with SAIAB (South Africa) for biodiversity, oceanography and ecosystems studies and LUANAR (Malawi) for aquaculture
4	Nigeria	University of Ibadan	Academic Aquaculture and inland fisheries;	To collaborate with the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture of the University of Cape Coast, Ghana for complementarity in marine fisheries and coastal zone management



AU ENDORSED CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

No	Country	Selected Institutions	Disciplines	Recommendation for creating/ strengthening institutional networking
5	Egypt	Faculty of Fisheries Resources, University of Suez Central Laboratory for Aquaculture Research (CLAR)	Academic Aquaculture and Marine Fishery Sciences and Technology; Research Aquaculture; Fish Feeds, diseases, genetics Aquaculture research in genetics, feeds, various culture systems for diverse species	The Centre of Excellence will incorporate The University of Suez, and the Central Laboratory for Aquaculture Research (CLAR) to collaborate with the National Institute for Oceanography and Fisheries. The University of Suez will lead the consortium.
6	Cote d'Ivoire	Académie Régionale des Sciences et Techniques de la Mer (ARSTM)	Marine Engineering, Seafaring and Safety, Navigation, fishing gear and fish technologies	academy is highly specialised in marine engineering, technology, navigation, safety at seas. It will provide valuable trained manpower support in these critically important aspects that are auxiliary to the fishing industry
7	Cameroon	The Limbe Nautical Arts and Fisheries Institute (LINAFI), Cameroon	Vocational training in Technology - in industrial fishing-navigation, marine mechanics, fishing technology (quality control, processing and valuation of fishery products), fisheries management, and aquaculture,	
8	Gabon	Agence Gabonaise d'Études et d'Observations Spatiales (AGEOS)	Environmental and Coastal surveillance and monitoring	



DEFINITION – AU CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE

Centre of Excellence (COE) is defined

“as an institution or a network of collaborating academic, research and ancillary institutions, that provides leadership, best practices, research, support and/or training and pursues excellence in fisheries, aquaculture or ancillary disciplines (such as engineering technology, navigation, boat building, among others)”



WHAT WOULD THE CENTRES DO?

- i. Strengthen the capacity of African institutions to produce high quality research in relevant disciplines of fisheries and aquaculture;
- ii. Develop human capacities to enhance knowledge and skills for effective fisheries management and aquaculture development in African Union Member States;
- iii. Provide evidence for policy support and decision making at regional and continental levels;
- iv. Increase professionalism in the sector at all levels;
- v. Generate information for advocacy in the interest of the sector's development as well as building evidence-based coherent African positions;
- vi. Improve networking and complementarity among universities and research institutions;
- vii. Improve mechanisms for sharing information, best practices and lessons learnt; and,
- viii. Enhance regional integration



CONTINENTAL NETWORKING AND THE ROLE OF AU-IBAR

- The African Union shall have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) the six selected centres for a 4-year renewable period.
- The the role of the Centres of Excellence will be to mainly provide infrastructure and capacities
- The leadership role of AU-IBAR will be to ensure harmonization of academic curricula in the selected institutions, standardization of technical training modules, and the periodic organization of policy oriented courses for policy makers to generate complementarities and synergies between Member States in their interventions in the sector.
- The networking arrangements between the identified institutions within the network centres will be underpinned by the development of MOUs facilitated by AU-IBAR.
- These MOUs will clearly stipulate the roles and responsibilities of the National Governments where the centres are hosted and those of AU-IBAR; and the benefits, responsibilities and obligations of each institution within the network.



INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS AND SUSTAINABILITY

- AU-IBAR will provide the overall coordinating role and facilitation for the African Union Centres of Excellence in fisheries, aquaculture and ancillary disciplines;
- AU-IBAR will also, support resource mobilization efforts by the centres for their effective functioning.
- To ensure sustainability, the selected centres will primarily rely on their own ability to generate resources, in addition to those provided by their respective national governments.
- Furthermore, AU-IBAR will liaise with the RECs and the national Governments to mobilize support for strengthening the Centres.



NETWORKING

- The institutions and consortiums qualified as African Union leading Centres of Excellence in the respective disciplines in fisheries and aquaculture to provide leadership roles within the networks of excellent centres at regional level.
- It is well noted that none of the prospective centres has all the required competencies to ensure effective implementation of the policy framework and reform strategy for fisheries and aquaculture in Africa; that would ensure sustainable contribution of the sector to the Blue economy development.
- It is therefore not expected that none of the selected centres would work in silos, but will work together or in partnership and complement each other in providing training or research for capacity building, disseminating of best practices, sharing human and institutional resources, and back-stopping each other in relevant disciplines.
- In this regard, networking among selected institutions should be underpinned by MOUs facilitated by AU-IBAR.



OTHER CONSIDERATIONS FOR ENHANCING COLLABORATION

- Each geographic region would have a recognized leader amongst the regional networks of Centres of Excellence largely based on record of establishment, facilities, and competence.
- The networking ensures complementarity in disciplines that would be beneficial to the students and the member states so that students have the opportunity of choice of disciplines within the network.
- For instance, students enrolled in the University of Rhodes would have the opportunity of undertaking courses in freshwater aquaculture in the Lilongwe University.
- Similarly a student enrolled in the University of Ibadan in Nigeria would have the opportunity to study marine fisheries and coastal zone management at the university of Cape Coast in Ghana.

Thank You



AU-IBAR: Providing leadership in the development of animal resources for Africa