SEYCHELLES FISHERIES AUTHORITY

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

JICA

Enhancing Livelihoods, Food Security and Maritime Safety through Increased Resilience of Fishing Communities Dependent on Coral Reef Fisheries in the African Coastal Countries of the Indian Ocean (REEFFISH) Project

About the project

The REEFFISH project strengthened efforts to improve the resilience, livelihoods and food security of communities dependent on coral reef fisheries across five countries in the western Indian Ocean.

Implemented by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), with funding from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the project promoted sustainable fisheries management, improved fishery value chains, enhanced maritime safety and strengthened action against illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing.

Project at a glance

Total Grant
US$ 4,400,000

Donor
Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)

Project Start Date
November 2019

Project End Date
June 2023

Executing agency:

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Geographic coverage:

Comoros, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius and Seychelles

Objective

Improve coral reef fisheries production for food security through restoring fragile ecosystems and assisting fishing communities to better manage their coral reef resources.

Key achievements

Improved fishery value chains and livelihoods

Provided cold-chain equipment and value-chain infrastructure to strengthen locally managed fisheries services. 1 solar-powered ice-flake machine and 10 ice box plastic container of 1000 litres were received to support fishers' associations in more effective fish handling and preservation.

Strengthened fisheries monitoring and action against IUU fishing

Seychelles received one boat to support fisheries monitoring, coastal patrol and enforcement. The Seychelles Fisheries Authority's surveillance team were trained in boat handling.

Enhanced maritime safety and community awareness

Safety equipment was provided to the fishers' associations engaged in project implementation. These comprised 80 lifejackets, 40 packets of hand flares and parachute flare with carry case, 40 boat paddles, 40 audible distress signals (horns) to promote safer fishing operations.

Digital Fisheries Tool

6 Garmin Etrex 32X Rugged Handheld GPS, with barometrical Altimeter, 3-Axis Compass and wireless connectivity were provided for the fishers' associations engaged in project implementation.

Regional cooperation and knowledge sharing

FAO facilitated 1 regional national steering committee and exchange workshop between the 5 countries for knowledge-sharing.