

**REPORT OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE
CRFM / CARICOM FISHERIES AND
AQUACULTURE PRIORITY COMMODITY
WORKING GROUP (FISHCOM WG)**

26 June 2023

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Report of the Twelfth Meeting of the CRFM/CARICOM Fisheries and Aquaculture Priority Commodity Working Group (FISHCOM WG)

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

BDTG	Business Development Thematic Group
CAHFSA	Caribbean Agricultural Health and Food Safety Agency
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARISEC	CARICOM Secretariat
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CNFO	Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations
CPSO	CARICOM Private Sector Organization
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CWA	Caribbean Week of Agriculture
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization
FDA	Food and Drug Administration
FISHCOM WG	CRFM/CARICOM Fisheries and Aquaculture Priority Commodity Working Group
GPS	Global Positioning System
IICA	Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture
LCL	Less than Container Load
LIAT	Leeward Islands Air Transport
MTF	Ministerial Task Force
OECS	Organization of Eastern Caribbean States
SPS	Sanitary and Phyto-Sanitary
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
WGA	Working Group on Sustainable Aquaculture

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INTRODUCTION

1. The Twelfth Meeting of the CRFM/CARICOM Fisheries and Aquaculture Priority Commodity Working Group (FISHCOM WG) was convened electronically on 26 June 2023. Eleven persons (4 males and 7 females) from the CARICOM Secretariat (CARISEC), the Caribbean Agriculture Health and Food Safety Agency (CAHFSA), UWI - St. Augustine, Guyana Fisheries Department, St. Vincent and the Grenadines Fisheries Division, the Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations (CNFO), Rainforest Caribbean, and the CRFM Secretariat participated in the Meeting. The Participants' List is given in Appendix 1.

AGENDA ITEM 1. OPENING AND WELCOME

2. The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:08 p.m. EC time (12:08 p.m. BZE time) by Dr. Sandra Grant, Deputy Executive Director, CRFM Secretariat, who served as Chairperson for the Meeting. The Chairperson welcomed all and said that the objectives of the twelfth meeting of the FISHCOM WG were to: provide updates on implementation of the FISHCOM WG Work Plan for 2023; update the Members about the outcome of the transportation and logistics meeting; and to review the build out of the investment business case for shrimp producers/processors.

AGENDA ITEM 2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

3. The Chairperson drew the Meeting's attention to the agenda and enquired as to whether there were any amendments or additions under Any Other Business. No amendments or additions were proposed. The agenda was adopted as presented on a motion moved by A. La Roda (Caribbean Network of Fisherfolk Organizations - CNFO) and seconded by M. Matus (CARICOM Secretariat). The agenda is given in Appendix 2.

AGENDA ITEM 3. REVIEW OF THE ELEVENTH FISHCOM WG MEETING REPORT

4. The Chairperson presented a summary of the Eleventh FISHCOM WG Meeting Report.
5. The Eleventh Meeting of the FISHCOM WG, which was convened on 24 November 2022, received a debriefing on the Regional Fish Processing Industry Forum and considered next steps; and finalized the membership of FISHCOM WG.
6. The Regional Fish Processing Industry Forum was convened to inform processors of the importance of the 25% by 2025 (reduce the regional food import bill by 25% by 2025) mandate from the CARICOM Heads of Government and to consider how the processors could contribute to this initiative by assisting in increasing intra-regional trade, and by examining their operational systems to determine how they could increase production of fish products. The Regional Forum had sixty participants with processors representing eight Caribbean states. In terms of the next steps, the FISHCOM WG has highlighted the main points coming out of the Processors' Forum; finalized the Inventory Report; prepared and circulated the Regional Fish Processing Industry Forum Report; developed a Digital Directory and finalized an e-library, including launch of a food safety hub; finalized the membership of the FISHCOM WG with the addition of a representative from the aquaculture sector; and convened a transportation and logistics meeting in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat and the Business Development Thematic Group (BDTG) on 25 May 2023.

7. The conclusions/decisions of the eleventh meeting were shared and updates on the actions (*italicized text*) towards implementation taken to date were provided as follows:
- i. The WhatsApp group should be expanded to include the FISHCOM WG members, and other processors as far as possible. *The addition of other members to the WhatsApp group was ongoing.*
 - ii. Mr. Alvin Henderson, aquaculture farmer and processor, and President of the Belize Shrimp Growers Association should be invited to be a member of the WG. Correspondence to this effect will be sent to Mr. Henderson. *The Deputy Executive Director had not yet contacted Mr. Henderson, but will do so very soon.*
 - iii. Mr. N. Durrant will complete the document: *Fish Agri-Food Investment Business Opportunities along the Fish Value Chain*, on behalf of the FISHCOM WG and circulate to FISHCOM WG members for review, prior to finalization. *Mr. Durrant retired before completing the document, however, there was still opportunity to continue with this effort and this will be discussed later in the Meeting.*
 - iv. The CRFM Secretariat on behalf of the FISHCOM WG will organize a meeting between processors and the transportation sector. The Business Development Thematic Group (BDTG) will be invited to assist in organizing the meeting. A formal letter in this regard will be sent to Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) (convener of the BDTG). *The meeting was convened on 25 May 2023 and the summaries were being finalized and compiled. Further details will be given later in the Meeting.*
 - v. A presentation outlining the constraints that the fisheries sector, particularly the transportation constraint, is facing in achieving the 25% by 2025 mandate will be prepared and presented to the Ministerial Task Force (MTF). This activity will be added to the FISHCOM WG action list. *The constraints were discussed at the transportation and logistics meeting.*
 - vi. The CRFM Secretariat on behalf of the FISHCOM WG will organize a meeting with shrimp producers/processors to inform development of the investment business case. *This will be discussed later in this Meeting.*

AGENDA ITEM 4. REVIEW OF THE FISHCOM WG WORKPLAN 2023 & PROGRESS REPORT

8. The Chairperson gave a brief overview of the 2023 Work Plan's aim, outputs and barriers, and provided progress updates. The Work Plan and Progress Report are given in Appendix 3. The ultimate outcome of the work plan is implementation of the Region's agri-food system strategy through strategic partnerships with regional private sector bodies to promote commercialization of the sector and reduce the food import bill by 2025. The outputs are: (i) promote investment and production of priority products (high-valued fish products and value adding); (ii) promote aquaculture production; (iii) promote standardized legislation, guidelines, and policy; (iv) build awareness of (a) seafood quality and (b) coordination of fisheries activities; and (v) mobilize resources to address research, production, and capacity development. Barriers include: inadequate food safety standards, inadequate/rapidly changing policy standards (trade), sustainability of fisheries resources, vulnerability of the aquaculture sector, and inadequate financial resources. The Chairperson noted that there were no financial resources allocated for the operation of the FISHCOM WG; work plan activities were generally advanced through linkages with other working groups, partner organizations and projects. Specific mention was made of the link between the CRFM Working Group on Aquaculture (WGA) and the FISHCOM WG.
9. Planned activities for 2023 include: coordinate and provide advice and support to Member States to advance the implementation of SPS deliverables, value chain assessment for marine fish and aquaculture, and 25/25 directive; support aquaculture activities to advance increased production and advance the 25/25 initiative; coordinate activities to develop and implement actions to promote one (1) fish commodity for investment development; promote standardized legislation/guidelines; build

awareness of the value of fish commodities in the region; and draft and finalize project concept and proposal for submission and approval from donor organizations.

10. In regard to supporting aquaculture activities to advance increased production and advance the 25/25 initiative, the Chairperson noted that the Eleventh FISHCOM WG Meeting had highlighted the need to promote aquaculture development through the FISHCOM WG, by having representation from the aquaculture sector on the FISHCOM WG. She also pointed to the critical need to finalize the project concept and proposal in an effort to mobilize resources for the FISHCOM WG.
11. In terms of progress made in implementation of 2023 activities, the following were highlighted:
 - FISHCOM WG convened the first of four meetings scheduled for the year on 26 June 2023.
 - Under the 11th EDF SPS Project, funded by the EU, laboratory equipment was provided to Grenada and Belize.
 - Sixty-one percent of processing establishments in the region were certified. Technical support under the 11th EDF SPS project was also provided to Tibu Impex, Guyana towards attainment of certification and, following a recent FDA inspection, they were certified.
 - Monitoring visits were planned for Guyana and Suriname to determine the impacts of the interventions undertaken as part of the 11th EDF SPS Project.
 - In terms of promotion of the value of fish commodities in the region, plans were underway to organize consultations with shrimp producers/processors on the development of an investment business case. Consultations with shrimp producers/processors were expected to commence soon.
 - The WGA generally met once per year and this meeting was being planned.
 - Model SPS (sanitary and phyto-sanitary) legislations were being finalized for presentation to the CRFM Ministerial Council for approval.
 - With regards to coordinated inter-agency planning and reporting, the information session on transportation and logistics was successfully convened on 25 May 2023.
 - In terms of awareness building, a Fisheries food safety hub was launched that provides access to a wealth of food safety information including manuals, training material, etc., and CRFM as part of its 20th anniversary Webinar series has included a webinar on *Improving SPS in fisheries in CARICOM*.

Discussion

12. With regards to development of the investment business case for shrimp, the Meeting was informed that an Agri-investment Forum will be held in Guyana in October 2023, following the Caribbean Week of Agriculture (CWA), and it was suggested that the investment case for shrimp could be tabled at the Agri-investment Forum and/or CWA. This was agreed
13. In terms of the value added for shrimp, whether a particular type of product had been identified was queried. It was noted that the consultations with the shrimp producers/processors had not yet taken place, hence particular product(s) had not yet been identified.
14. Reference was made to the area of the workplan dealing with food safety, specifically the percentage (61%) of processing establishments that were certified, and the need for increased attention to improving food safety standards in-plant to move that percentage up. The Meeting was reminded of an ongoing effort in this regard - CRFM was working with CAHFSA to prepare a proposal for submission to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to develop guidelines for safe fish products (3 or 4 species).
15. The effort to develop a directory of processing establishments in the region was commended, and whether the database contained GPS information that could aid in traceability was queried. It was noted that GPS information had not been included, but the database could be further expanded to include GPS and other data.

16. The need to incorporate traceability systems that follow the movement of fish products ‘*from hook to plate*’ and ‘*from farm to plate*’ in the case of aquaculture was emphasized and it was suggested that an activity to address this should be added to the FISHCOM WG’s workplan. This was agreed.

AGENDA ITEM 5. DEBRIEFING OF THE REGIONAL INFORMATION SESSION ON TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR

17. For this agenda item, the Chairperson gave a brief overview on the Regional Information Session on Transportation and Logistics in the Fisheries Sector, which was convened on 25 May 2023, in collaboration with the Business Development Thematic Group (BDTG) and the CARICOM Secretariat.
18. The call for such an information session came out of the Regional Fish Processing Industry Forum as the processors had highlighted availability of raw material and transportation (marine and air) as major challenges to their operations. They noted that airlift was particularly problematic between the OECS Member States, as was moving small volumes across the region. Recognizing the need for dialogue on the transportation issue, CRFM Secretariat worked with the BDTG and the CARICOM Secretariat to organize the transportation and logistics meeting. The transportation and logistics meeting noted that, while there was an adequate supply of transportation for the movement of container loads, moving LCL (less than container loads) was a real issue. The use of smaller vessels to move LCLs between Caribbean states was suggested, however maintenance of food safety conditions, mindful that fish had certain peculiarities, would require special consideration.
19. The information constraint (information on market demand in the different Caribbean territories not readily available) with regards to regional markets was also discussed. Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) was in the process of developing a database of shippers, and this information, along with the CRFM’s database of fish processors and the CARICOM virtual marketplace would help to address the information constraint. LIAT was also poised to introduce an automated cargo system, which would contribute to the movement of products between Caribbean territories.
20. A policy brief on the main issues impacting attainment of the 25/25 initiative with recommended solutions will be prepared for presentation at the Ministerial Task Force Meeting in October 2023. Preparation of the paper will be informed by discussions at a focused meeting between shippers and processors, which will be convened shortly to further discuss logistics and transport matters and to identify targeted interventions to address the issues. The logistics and transport conversation should also be broadened to encompass agriculture, effectively addressing the agriculture and fisheries sectors as a whole. The issues and the proposed solutions would be presented in a Webinar at the CWA.

Discussion

21. Reference was made to the possible collaboration between the agriculture and fisheries sectors to create a document that was sync, considering that some agricultural products also required refrigeration and similar conditions as fish and fish products, and the Meeting was advised of two assessments that were currently being done with regard to movement of fresh agricultural produce within the region, one with Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) and the other with United States Agency for International Development (USAID). It was likely that some of the same players would be contacted in the assessments, and it would be ideal to have a single proper document that sets out the investments that would need to be made at different locations to achieve the effective and efficient movement of products, including fisheries products, across the region. The question of how the relevant stakeholders were moving towards this common goal was raised.

22. It was noted that the fisheries sector was seeking to work with agriculture to address the transportation issue and these efforts were being coordinated by the BDTG, led by IICA. The CDB was invited to participate in the transportation and logistics meeting, so that they could get a better understanding of the fisheries perspective, with the aim of this perspective being taken into account in the ongoing work of the CDB.
23. It was further queried if FISHCOM WG involvement in the USAID assessment was direct or via the same mechanism (through the BDTG) as the CDB assessment. The Chairperson confirmed that it was through the same mechanism.

AGENDA ITEM 6. DEVELOPMENT OF THE INVESTMENT BUSINESS CASE FOR SHRIMP PRODUCERS/PROCESSORS

24. The Chairperson introduced this item and said that she would like to get the Working Group's input on the way forward for this work plan activity. She noted that the FISHCOM WG was currently working with the CARICOM Private Sector Organization (CPSO) and was also scheduled to meet with Caribbean Export on 27 June 2023 to discuss possible support. However, guidance from the FISHCOM WG on whether to focus on a single shrimp species or shrimp in general, whether to look at wild-caught or farmed species, who to contact, possible information sources, etc. was needed.

Discussion

25. A query was raised as to whether any Member State(s) had reached out to the FISHCOM WG for this type of assistance, mindful that buy-in at the national level was needed in the efforts to develop markets. The Meeting learnt that there had been no direct request from a Member State or a particular producer/processor; the idea was to, using the CPSO proposal for using shrimp as a commodity to address the 25% by 2025 mandate, convene consultations with shrimp producers/processors to determine their interest and to provide data to inform development of the investment business case.
26. The Meeting learnt that Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) had done an overview of the artisanal Seabob fishery in Guyana in 2021 and 2022 and had prepared business development profiles. It may be that further work has been done in terms of utilizing the profiles, in which case, the FISHCOM WG would not need to do this. Confirmation regarding the use of the business development profiles could be sought from Guyana (Dawn Maison).
27. It was pointed out that the overview of the artisanal Seabob fishery and preparation of the business development profiles were part of a 10-year value chain project for the artisanal shrimp by FAO, which was ongoing. In terms of build out of the investment business case, perhaps the Chief Fisheries Officer could look into what may be possible in Guyana mindful of recent complaints regarding markets as both the industrial and artisanal seabob fisheries in Guyana were experiencing fairly large catches this year.
28. Whether there was space/opportunity for shrimp producers/processors to showcase at CWA was queried. The Meeting was informed that CWA will consist of the Forum and a Trade Expo. Arrangements regarding registration for the booths at the Trade Expo would be made available soon. The Meeting was reminded that CWA was scheduled for 9-13 October 2023 in The Bahamas and the Agri-Investment Forum will be held in Guyana, 20-21 October 2023.

29. A meeting between the Chairperson and Caribbean Export was scheduled for 27 June 2023, but in a prior conversation Caribbean Export had indicated that some of the business development profiles were too brief. Caribbean Export's expectations regarding the profiles should be clarified at the meeting.
30. Following some further discussion, there was general consensus that the FISHCOM WG should continue to collaborate with CPSO and Caribbean Export to build out the investment business case for shrimp.

AGENDA ITEM 7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

31. There was no other business.

AGENDA ITEM 8 DATE OF NEXT MEETING & ADJOURNMENT

32. It was suggested and agreed that the next meeting of the FISHCOM WG should be convened in three months' time.
33. There being no further interventions, the Chairperson thanked all for their time and attention and closed the Meeting at 3:07 p.m. EC time (1:07 p.m. BZE time).

Conclusions/Decisions

- i. The investment business case for shrimp should be tabled at the Agri-investment Forum and/or CWA.
- ii. An activity to address incorporation of traceability systems that follow the movement of fish products '*from hook to plate*' and '*from farm to plate*' in the case of aquaculture to be included in the FISHCOM WG Workplan.
- iii. A policy brief on the main issues impacting attainment of the 25/25 initiative with recommended solutions will be prepared for presentation at the Ministerial Task Force Meeting in October 2023.
- iv. CRFM Secretariat on behalf of the FISHCOM WG will organize a focused meeting between shippers and processors to further discuss logistics and transport matters and to identify targeted interventions to address the issues. A paper reflecting the discussion and recommended interventions/solutions will be prepared for presentation to the Ministerial Task Force.
- v. CRFM Secretariat to contact Dawn Maison to enquire about the business development profiles prepared for the artisanal seabob fishery under the 10-year FAO Value Chain project.
- vi. The FISHCOM WG should continue to collaborate with CPSO and Caribbean Export to build out the investment business case for shrimp.

APPENDIX 1: LIST OF MEETING PARTICIPANTS

Name & Designation	Address	Email Contact
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APPENDIX 2: AGENDA

Twelfth Meeting of CRFM/CARICOM Fisheries and Aquaculture Priority Commodity Working Group (FISHCOM WG) Monday, 26 June 2023

Draft Agenda

Item 1: Opening and welcome

Item 2: Adoption of Agenda

Item 3: Report of the 11th Meeting

Item 4: Review of the FISHCOM WG Workplan 2023 and progress report

Item 5: Debriefing of the Regional Information Session on Transportation and Logistics in the fisheries sector

Item 6: Development of the investment business case for shrimp producers/processors

Item 7: Any Other Business

Item 8: Date of next meeting and adjournment

APPENDIX 3: FISHCOM WG WORKPLAN 2023 & PROGRESS REPORT

CRFM/CARICOM FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE PRIORITY COMMODITY WORKING GROUP (FISHCOM WG) WORKPLAN (January – December 2023)

CRFM Secretariat
February 2023
Prepared by Sandra Grant, CRFM Secretariat

The outcomes and outputs of the FISHCOM WG are as follows:

Ultimate Outcome: Implementation of the Region’s agri-food system strategy through strategic partnerships with Regional Private Sector Bodies to promote commercialization of the sector and reduce food import bill by 2025.

Intermediate Outcome: To create/use local fishery commodities which can replace some imports, improve the region’s food and nutrition security, and increase incomes in the fishery sector, while maintaining fishery sustainability.

Immediate Outcome: Improve food safety standards, legislative framework, and fish value-added products, while maintaining the sustainability of the fisheries and aquaculture sectors.

Outputs:

1. Promote investment and production of priority products (high-valued fish products and value adding)
2. Promote aquaculture production
3. Promote standardized legislation, guidelines, and policy
4. Build awareness of (a) seafood quality and (b) coordination of fisheries activities
5. Mobilize resources to address research, production, and capacity development

Barriers:

1. Inadequate food safety standards
2. Inadequate/rapidly changing policy standards (trade)
3. Sustainability of fisheries resources
4. Vulnerability of the aquaculture sector
5. Inadequate financial resources for research and projects

**FISHCOM WG WORKPLAN
JANUARY – DECEMBER 2023**

Result Statements	Milestones	Timeframe		Budget		Risks & Assumptions	Responsibility (Lead & Supporting Entities)	Interlinkages/ Communication Targets
		Start	End	Cost	Source			
<p>Activity 1 Promote and monitor investments supportive of adding value to fish commodity</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue coordination and provide advice to advance the implementation and mainstreaming of value chain/addition/preparation and SPS projects Monitor and evaluate the impacts of projects using the impact assessment tool Participate in project meetings/workshops (actions plans, validation, etc.) 	<p>Milestone 1: Coordinate and provide advice and support to Member States to advance the implementation of SPS deliverables, value chain assessment for marine fish and aquaculture, and 25/25 directive.</p> <p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – 1 FISHCOM WG meeting convened and draft report completed by Q1 2023 Progressing (50%) – Actions to develop 25% by 2025 strategy underway, including working meeting on transportation convened and draft report completed by Q3 2023. Advanced (75%) – 1 FISHCOM WG meeting convened, and draft report completed by Q3 2023 Completed (100%) – 25% by 2025 strategy advanced by Q4 2023</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	USD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Allocation of sufficient resources by participating states to ensure successful sustained uptake of benefits</p> <p>Assumptions: Member States incorporated the project aims into national planning and have assigned suitable resources for mainstreaming the lessons learned</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting:</p>	<p>Interlinkages: FAO, UWI, CANARI, Member States</p> <p>Communication Targets: Fisheries Departments, Civil Society, international fisheries organizations</p>
<p>Monitor and support aquaculture investments and the work of the Working Group on Aquaculture (WGA)</p>	<p>Milestone 2: Support aquaculture activities to advance increased production and advance the 25/25 initiative (Consistent with CRFM Workplan Activity 1.2b.1)</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	USD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Member States are not committed to appropriate levels of responsible aquaculture</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting: FAO</p>	<p>Interlinkages: FAO, Member States</p>

Result Statements	Milestones	Timeframe		Budget		Risks & Assumptions	Responsibility (Lead & Supporting Entities)	Interlinkages/ Communication Targets
		Start	End	Cost	Source			
	<p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – WGA meeting information note shared with the FISHCOM WG by Q2 2023 Progressing (50%) – Actions related to promoting the development of aquaculture shared with FISHCOM WG by Q2 2023 Advanced (75%) – Development of aquaculture recommendations shared with CFF by Q3 2023 Completed (100%) – WGA meeting report with recommendations, endorsed by MC, and subsequently published on CRFM website by Q4 2023</p>					<p>development</p> <p>Assumptions: Member countries' stakeholders are willing to participate in meetings and adopt recommendations</p>		<p>Communication Targets: <i>Fisheries Departments, Private Sector</i></p>
Promote one (1) fish commodity for investment development	<p>Milestone 3: Coordinate activities to develop and implement actions to promote one (1) fish commodity for investment development.</p> <p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – Meeting on investment business case convened and potential fish commodity(ies) identified by Q2 2023 Progressing (50%) – Key stakeholders consulted by Q3 2023</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	USD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Fisheries stakeholders not willing to participate in activities</p> <p>Assumptions: Fisheries stakeholders are willing to participate in meetings and follow-through on</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting: CPSO</p>	<p>Interlinkages: <i>FAO, Member States</i></p> <p>Communication Targets: <i>Fisheries Departments, Private Sector</i></p>

Result Statements	Milestones	Timeframe		Budget		Risks & Assumptions	Responsibility (Lead & Supporting Entities)	Interlinkages/ Communication Targets
		Start	End	Cost	Source			
	<p>Advanced (75%) – Draft investment business case completed and circulated for comments by Q3 2023</p> <p>Completed (100%) – Investment business case report validated and finalized by Q4 2023</p>					investment proposal		
<p>Activity 2 Strengthen legal and regulatory frameworks to promote commodity development</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Continue work with CARICOM Secretariat (Legal Dept) to have model legislations/policies formally approved and adopted by COTED Participate in the advancement of the regional laboratory policy for CARICOM 	<p>Milestone 1: Promote standardized legislation/guidelines</p> <p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – Feedback from CARISEC on the SPS model legislations received by Q1 2023 Progressing (50%) – Organize and facilitate stakeholder meeting on the final version of the SPS model legislations by Q3 2023 Advanced (75%) – Participate in meetings to develop regional and national policies related to commodity development by Q3 2023 Completed (100%) – Model legislation submitted to CFF, MC, and COTED for approval by Q4 2023</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	UD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Model policies not formally approved or adopted</p> <p>Member States no longer wish/able to advance the implementation or mainstreaming of model policies</p> <p>Assumptions: Member States are desirous of advancing the implementation and mainstreaming policy measures</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting: CARICOM Secretariat</p>	<p>Interlinkages: FAO, UWI, CANARI, Member States</p> <p>Communication Targets: Fisheries Departments, Civil Society, international fisheries organizations</p>
<p>Activity 3 Build awareness of marine fish and aquaculture commodities</p>	<p>Milestone 1: Inter-agency coordinated planning and reporting of all fisheries and aquaculture commodity development initiatives</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	UD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Dependence on selected groups being active</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting:</p>	<p>Interlinkages: FAO, UWI, IICA, CANARI, Member States</p>

Result Statements	Milestones	Timeframe		Budget		Risks & Assumptions	Responsibility (Lead & Supporting Entities)	Interlinkages/ Communication Targets
		Start	End	Cost	Source			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Coordinate activities of the FISHCOM WG and report outputs to COTED 2. Organize and facilitate at least 4 FISHCOM WG meetings per year to address all issues related to the workplan 3. Networking activities with Thematic and Commodity Groups (Business Development Thematic Group, AHFS Thematic Group, and Herbs and Spices Commodity Group) to develop fish commodities/ capacity building 	<p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – Participate in agriculture planning group meetings by Q1 2023 Progressing (50%) – Participate in planning meeting of the thematic and commodities groups by Q4 2023 Advanced (75%) – 4 FISHCOM WG meetings organized by Q4 2023 Completed (100%) – Briefing notes for COTED prepared and submitted by Q4 2023</p>					<p>Assumptions: Selected groups are engaged in addressing cross-cutting issues of interest</p>	<p>CARICOM thematic and commodities Group</p>	<p><i>Herbs and Spices Commodity Group</i></p> <p><i>Business Development Thematic Group</i></p> <p>Communication Targets: <i>Fisheries Departments, Civil Society, international fisheries organizations</i></p>
	<p>Milestone 2: Build awareness of the value of fish commodities in the region</p> <p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – WhatsApp group and mailout of Processors updated by Q1 2023. Progressing (50%) – Mailout content developed and disseminated to stakeholders by Q2 2023 Advanced (75%) – stakeholder meeting with fish processors organized and facilitated by Q3 2023 Completed (100%) –the success of</p>	<i>Q1/ 2023</i>	<i>Q4/ 2023</i>	<i>UD\$</i> <i>EC\$</i>	<i>Core Funds</i>	<p>Risks: Insufficient funds and content to update social media</p> <p>Assumptions: FISHCOM WG Members and CRFM staff contribute to populating the CRFM website and social media</p>	<p>Lead <i>CRFM</i></p> <p>Supporting:</p>	<p>Interlinkages:</p> <p>Communication Targets: <i>Fisheries Departments</i></p>

Result Statements	Milestones	Timeframe		Budget		Risks & Assumptions	Responsibility (Lead & Supporting Entities)	Interlinkages/ Communication Targets
		Start	End	Cost	Source			
	fish commodity activities promoted through social media by Q4 2023							
<p>Activity 4 Mobilize resources to address research and production</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development and approval of concept notes, PIF, Proposals for consideration by donors 2. Agree on and establish project governance and implementing structures 3. Collaborate with CARICOM Secretariat on resource mobilization 4. Advance implementation of CARICOM Secretariat and CRFM mobilization of resources and technical experts 	<p>Milestone: Draft and finalize project concept and proposal for submission and approval from donor organizations</p> <p>Milestone Criteria: Not started (0%) - No progress is shown against the planned milestone Started (25%) – Status of submitted proposal and ones to be drafted reviewed by Q2 2023 Progressing (50%) – Proposal for completed and submitted to CARISEC by Q3 2023 Advanced (75%) – Donor arrangement and documentation finalized by Q4 2023 Completed (100%) – Project proposal approval by suitable donor by Q4 2023</p>	Q1/2023	Q4/2023	UD\$ EC\$	Core Funds	<p>Risks: Allocation of sufficient resources by participating states to ensure successful sustained uptake of benefits</p> <p>Assumptions: Member state participation in in the development of proposals/etc.</p>	<p>Lead CRFM</p> <p>Supporting: CARICOM Secretariat</p>	<p>Interlinkages:</p> <p>Communication Targets: <i>Fisheries Departments, Civil Society, international fisheries organizations</i></p>

Performance Framework

	Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline (2021)	Results for 2023	Target to 2025	Source and means of verification
Outcome	A1. Marine capture fisheries and aquaculture contributing to 25% reduction on food import bill by 2025	% reduction in food import bill for fish products	Extra-regional imports – US\$ 188.4 M (2021) Intra-regional imports – US\$ 26.2 M (2021)		25% displacement	CRFM Statistics and Information report CARICOM trade report
Improved fish production & trade						
Outputs	A2. Advanced interagency collaboration (private and public sectors) for coordination of the FISHCOM WG activities	# FISHCOM WG meetings per year	1 meeting per year	Meeting #1 convened on 26 June 2023	4 meetings per year	Meeting Reports
	A3. Improved laboratory testing capacity supportive of regional and international trade in fish and fishery products	# laboratories with improved testing capacity	4 of 17 laboratories in the region accredited	Laboratory equipment provided to PCL, Grenada, BAHA, Belize. Handing over ceremony June 2023	At least 1 new accredited laboratory for testing fish samples in each country	Survey report Technical report
	A4. Strengthened capacity in food safety for fish processors	% food safety capacity for the fisheries sector	61% of processing establishments have health certification	CRFM provided technical support to Tibu Impex, Guyana. Recently they were inspected by the FDA and was certified.	25% of processing establishments have a minimum HACCP/other health certification	Survey report Technical report
	A5. Increased	# investment	0	Plans underway to	1 investment	Technical report

	Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline (2021)	Results for 2023	Target to 2025	Source and means of verification
	promotion of fish commodity investment development.	agreement(s) for fish products (marine and/or aquaculture)		organize a consultation with shrimp producers/processors on the development of an investment business case.	agreement formulated on a fish priority commodity	
	A6. Improved aquaculture promotion in the region	# WGA meetings per year providing advice to the FISHCOM WG	1 WGA meeting per year	WGA being planned	2 WGA meetings per year	Meeting reports
Strengthened legal/ regulatory framework						
	A7. Promoted standardized legislation/guidelines.	% strengthened regional SPS coordination framework for the fisheries sector	9 of 14 Member States with SPS measures addressed in their legislation	Model legislations being finalized. Monitoring visits planned for Guyana and Suriname.	25% increase in Member States having SPS measures extensively addressed in their legislation	Member States Reports
Improved collaboration & partnership						
	A8. Coordinated inter-agency planning and reporting	# Regional Institutions partnership arrangements/ planning meetings for coordination and executing the work of the Governance bodies	6 regional institutions engaged; planned meetings/initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAHFSA – CRFM a member of the Caribbean Task Force on Food Safety (2 meetings) • BDTC – Information session on transportation and 	11 regional institutions engaged; 5 planned meetings/initiatives	CRFM Progress Report FISHCOM WG Progress Report

	Results Chain	Indicators	Baseline (2021)	Results for 2023	Target to 2025	Source and means of verification
				logistics in the fisheries sector (IICA/CRFM)		
	A9. Built awareness of actions to support 25/25	% increase in awareness/ communication of activities and outcomes	10% awareness	Fisheries food safety hub CRFM@20 Webinar series #1 – Improving SPS in fisheries in CARICOM	80% increase in awareness/ communication of activities & outcomes	Technical Reports FISHCOM WG Progress Report

The CRFM is an inter-governmental organization whose mission is to “Promote and facilitate the responsible utilization of the region’s fisheries and other aquatic resources for the economic and social benefits of the current and future population of the region”. The CRFM consists of three bodies – the Ministerial Council, the Caribbean Fisheries Forum and the CRFM Secretariat.

CRFM members are Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

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