

Small Scale Fisheries: Securing Access to Resources and Markets

Context

- Providing access to resources and markets focus of SDG Target 14 B, plus contribution to SDG Target 14.4
- FAO Voluntary Guidelines for Securing Small Scale Fisheries (FAO SSF Guidelines) adopted in 2015 provide guidance to States and International Organisations
- Main pillars of SSF Guidelines : political commitment from States / implementation of bottom-up strategies with effective participation of SSF / Capacity building of both authorities and fishing communities

Main challenges for ACP States

- Providing SSF with exclusive fishing rights in coastal areas and enforcing access prohibition for industrial fishing vessels
- Implementing co-management strategies in partnership with fishing communities where appropriate
- Build capacity and entrepreneurship skills of fishing communities
- Developing adequate infrastructures for SSF while ensuring management of fishing effort and creating a business climate supporting private sector investments
- Where appropriate, developing sanitary control conditions and traceability systems to support access of SSF fisheries products to EU market