

# Knowledge Sharing and Policy Engagement Workshop Report

BENIN ROYAL HOTEL, 18 SEPTEMBER 2018





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## Who ?

This knowledge sharing and policy engagement workshop was organized by the consortium composed of the Centre d'Actions pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable (ACED), the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture of the University of Abomey-Calavi (LHA-UAC) and the Amsterdam Center for World Food Studies (ACWFS) of the Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam.

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## When ?

18 september 2018

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## Where ?

Benin Royal Hotel, Cotonou, Benin

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## For what end ?

The objective of the conference was to improve the uptake of research results by policymakers for the inland fisheries sector and food security, as well as strengthen their support for a well-established platform geared towards enhancing the resilience of Benin's inland fishing communities.

*This report is a dynamic document and a means of stakeholder engagement. Feel free to contact us at [contact@aced-benin.org](mailto:contact@aced-benin.org) to complement the information in this report, make suggestions or propose actions that fall within the scope of the topics covered in the report.*

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## SIX KEY MESSAGES

- 1 The impacts of human activity on the Lake Nokoué–Lagoon of Porto-Novo complex are numerous and visible. Water, fish and banks have been significantly polluted by heavy metals (including lead and mercury), fermentable materials, cans and plastic waste.
- 2 The various actors have different perceptions about the use of acadja, the most intensive and productive fishing technique used on the lagoon complex. Government authorities support its ban and the removal of existing facilities on the lake. Researchers and scientists point out that the acadja is not bad, but rather its uncontrolled development has had negative effects on the lagoon complex. As for fishermen, they call for better consultation with stakeholders about more efficient regulation of fishing techniques.
- 3 Fishing communities are facing organizational difficulties, resurgent conflicts, declining fish catches, food insecurity and illiteracy. To this end, practical solutions to improve the livelihoods of fishermen and women in the inland fisheries sector have been formulated as follows: combating lake pollution by focusing on sources of pollution, effectively implementing legislation on fishing without political interference, investing in the education of children in fishing communities, and promoting alternative economic activities to fishing such as the processing of water hyacinth, aquaculture and market gardening.
- 4 These solutions go beyond individual actions and require the commitment of various actors, including public policymakers, to sustainably build the capacity of fishing communities over the long term. To this end, discussions have been initiated on the creation of a multi-stakeholder platform to improve the performance of the inland fisheries sector. ACED will continue to engage stakeholders for the effective implementation of this platform.

- 5 The implementation of large-scale solutions that mobilize all stakeholders requires the commitment of political decision-makers, including the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries. In addition to supporting the establishment of a multi-stakeholder platform, it is recommended that the Ministry play a leading role in mobilizing the resources needed to develop solutions. In addition to government resources, technical and financial partners such as the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which has supported the work of the consortium, can provide important backing for the implementation of solutions.
- 6 This workshop is the materialization of ACED's intervention approach, which aims to bridge the gap between research-action and policy by promoting the use of scientific evidence and the endogenous knowledge of stakeholders to formulate and orientate development policies and strategies. This approach allows for an open dialogue that considers the priorities and perspectives of all stakeholders.

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# Background

**B**enin's inland fisheries sector has much in common with inland fisheries in other tropical regions of the world. It provides direct and indirect employment for about 600 000 people, most of whom live in coastal areas in labour-intensive artisanal fishing communities. Fish provides up to 32% of all animal protein in food supply. Inland fishing, unlike marine fishing, is the most important fishing sub-sector in the country, providing up to 75% of the national fish production. However, the sector is currently facing challenges that reduce its potential to contribute to food and nutrition security. These challenges are increasingly becoming man-made. Indeed, the legislation regulating the sustainable exploitation of the country's water resources by fishing communities

is now under considerable pressure due to population growth, which in turn has intensified the use of fishing techniques (for example, the uncontrolled construction of acadjas) leading to overfishing. In addition, pollution in urban areas is damaging the quality of inland waters.

Since 2015, a consortium composed of the Centre d'Actions pour l'Environnement et le Développement Durable (ACED), the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture of the University of Abomey-Calavi (LHA-UAC) and the Amsterdam Center for World Food Studies (ACWFS) has conducted some participatory research-action activities with more than 1 000 fishermen and women involved in fishing activities in order to better

understand the dynamics of the sector and to support the development of evidence-informed policies. In line with this approach, the consortium led by ACED organized the knowledge sharing and policy engagement workshop on 18 September 2018 in Cotonou, Benin. The workshop brought together more than 100 participants representing fishing communities, policymakers, non-state actors, development partners, international organizations, universities and the private sector.

## OPENING SPEECHES

The opening panel of the workshop comprised:

- Frejus Thoto, Executive Director, ACED
- Victor Hounsa, Mayor of Aguégués, CIED Nokoué
- Yvonne Adjovi-Boco, Eco-citizenship and Deconcentration Technical Adviser for the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development
- Mamadou Djaouga, Technical Adviser for the Promotion of Fisheries and Livestock for the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, Benin.

In his opening speech, Frejus Thoto, the Executive Director of ACED, noted that the purpose of the workshop was to share knowledge, through various discussion panels, about inland fishing in Benin, in order to propose a roadmap for government authorities. According to Mr Thoto, a casual study of recent decades that have been affected by population

The objective of the conference is to enhance uptake of research results by policymakers on inland fisheries and food security and improve their engagement in supporting the development of a well-established platform that would advance actions towards enhancing the resilience of inland fishers' communities in Benin. This report summarizes the results of the workshop and presents the outlook for the inland fisheries sector.

growth and climate change revealed the high vulnerability of the inland fisheries sector. Despite this, there is still not enough scientific knowledge and evidence to support policy development geared towards improving the performance of the inland fisheries sector and increasing its contribution to Benin's socio-economic development.

Victor Hounsa, the Mayor of Aguégués, stressed the importance of inland fishing to fishing communities. According to him, inland fishing represents a source of wealth for fishing communities and an important source of protein for the country's population. It is also a professional activity involving thousands of citizens day and night. Unfortunately, the inland fisheries sector is facing challenges such as population growth, urban pollution and climate change. In conclusion, he thanked ACED and its partners for conducting research that has enabled the municipalities of



CIED-Nokoué to better understand the vulnerability of the sector and to propose sustainable solutions to improve the resilience of communities. He appealed to the government to support the functioning of fishing sector for the wellbeing of the population.

Yvonne Adjovi-Boco, the Eco-citizenship and Deconcentration Technical Adviser for the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development, presented the current situation with regard to water management in Benin. She said water resources were congested with all kinds of waste. She believed this waste was transmitted to fish. To this end, she asked all local elected officials and the population to pay attention to waste management, treatment and recycling, paying particular attention to the disposal of electric batteries. Finally, she hoped

that the results of the workshop would be directed towards informed decision-making. She reiterated the support of the Ministry of Environment to commit itself to the development of the fisheries sector.

Mamadou Djaouga, the Technical Adviser for the Promotion of Fisheries and Livestock of the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, stressed that 32% of Benin's animal protein comes from fishing, with a current production estimated at 250 000 tonnes per year. But production was far below demand, due to the population growth. He said the multi-stakeholder dialogue initiated by the consortium was important to find relevant solutions and secure strong commitments to sustainably address the vulnerability of the inland fisheries sector.

## **KEYNOTES: VULNERABILITY, RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION OF BENIN'S INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR**

Professor Philippe Laleye, Director of the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture at the University of Abomey-Calavi in Benin, and Dr Ben Sonneveld, Senior Researcher at the Amsterdam Center for World Food Studies of the Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam, Netherlands, presented the consortium's research results regarding the vulnerability, resilience and adaptation of inland fisheries and the joint management of inland waters of Lake Nokoué and the Lagoon of Porto-Novo.

Professor Laleye focused on the impact of human activities on the water quality and fish harvested in the lagoon complex. His research has made it possible to identify the various sources of contamination of the lagoon complex; characterize the environment of Lake Nokoué and Lagoon of Porto-Novo; inventory the various fish species; and determine the level of heavy metals in the water of the lagoon complex and in fish flesh. The lagoon complex has a great diversity of ichthyological resources: 62 species, 49

genera and 35 family groups. Research showed that the complex was polluted with heavy metals, in particular lead and mercury, with rates exceeding the limits deemed acceptable by the World Health Organization. In addition, fermentable materials, cans and plastic waste were polluting the banks and water in the lagoon complex.

Fishing on the lakes is carried out using various tools and techniques, such as hawk nets, gill nets, longlines, dams, plaice and acadja. The latter technique has prompted an interesting discussion among stakeholders, who have different perspectives on the use of this technique. According to Professor Laleye, the acadja is one of the most innovative and productive fishing methods on Benin's lakes. However, its proliferation on the lagoon complex clogs the rivers as it occupies nearly two-thirds of the lakes. He pointed out that, due to a lack of biomass to build the acadjas, people dumped used tires into the lakes, which constituted a major threat to the ecosystem of the complex. Government authorities are more inclined to ban the use of acadjas on the lake and remove existing structures.

Professor Laleye suggested the following actions: continuing research, for instance, to establish the relationship between sediment, water and fish; implementing a monthly plan for chemical and microbiological monitoring of water and fish; reorganizing sedentary fishing methods in the complex; setting up treatment plants downstream of each rainwater collector; and recycling the

waste on the banks either as renewable energy, fertilizers for market gardening or as building materials.

Dr Ben Sonneveld discussed the socio-economic characteristics and dynamics within fishing communities, from the perspective of the "tragedy of the commons" theory as applied to Lake Nokoué and the Lagoon of Porto-Novo. A survey of 839 fishermen and 227 women (2016–2017) shows that among fishermen, 32% are food insecure with a high illiteracy rate (90%). In addition, 83% of fishermen are not members of a fishing organization. Like fishermen, 95% of fisherwomen are illiterate and are exposed to food insecurity (37%), as well as to conflicts with fishermen (44%), and conflicts with other women (47%). In addition, most of them are not organized and operate alone. Despite their strong entrepreneurial capacity, fishermen face several constraints such as: water pollution (64%), overfishing (77%), poor access to credit (95%), and diseases (malaria, diarrhea, AIDS). Similarly, the poor organisation of fishermen very often leads to conflict (34%), half of which have led to violent situations. By comparing the current situation in Benin's lakes with the eight conditions (as set out by Elinor Ostrom in the "tragedy of the commons") essential for the sustainable and equitable development of common resources, it is observed that five of the eight conditions are not met (see Box 1). He recommended that the fishing community align itself with all eight conditions, particularly by implementing the following actions: defining clear group

boundaries; implementing a system to monitor members' behavior; organizing joint responsibility for governing the common resource in nested tiers from the lowest level up to the entire interconnected system; using gradual sanctions for rule violators and; finally,

making sure that the rule-making rights of community members are respected by outside authorities.

At the end of the two presentations, participants shared their knowledge on the topics and asked various questions

### BOX 1: COMPARISON OF THE OSTROM RULES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMON RESOURCES WITH THE SITUATION OF THE INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR IN BENIN

Ostrom rules	Respect of the level of the lagoon complex
1. Define clear group boundaries	Not respected
2. Match rules governing use of common goods to local needs and conditions	Respected
3. Ensure that those affected by the rules can participate in modifying the rules.	Respected
4. Make sure the rule-making rights of community members are respected by outside authorities	Not respected
5. Develop a system, carried out by community members, for monitoring members' behaviour.	Not respected
6. Use gradual sanctions for rule violators.	Not respected
7. Provide accessible, low-cost means for dispute resolution.	Respected
8. Build responsibility for governing the common resource in nested tiers from the lowest level up	Not respected

about the narrowing of the canal, the proliferation of acadjas and prospects for improving the extension of aquaculture areas. In response to these concerns, Professor Laleye pointed out that the narrowing of the canal was due to human activity and the non-compliance with regulations. As a solution to alleviate pressure on resources, he proposed raising awareness and providing technical and financial support to the actors. He also suggested the release of the channels in order to enhance

the value of artificial water bodies. Concerning the proliferation of acadjas, Prof Laleye reiterated that the acadja was a good method of management that was unfortunately poorly organized at the moment.

Dr Sonneveld, in response to the fishermen's organizational perspectives, suggested to fishermen that local institutions should be better organized to have an impact on their community and he insisted on the application of sanctions in case of rule violations.

## **PANEL DISCUSSION: WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES**

### **Panelists**

- Daouda Aliou, Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Point, Department of Fisheries Production, MAEP
- Antoine Chikou, Researcher at the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture, FSA
- David Houngouè, Chairman of the National Federation of Fishers
- Victoire Gomez, Chairwoman of the National Network of Women in Fisheries

This panel provided an opportunity to share ideas and lessons on water resource management for sustainable fisheries. According to the panelists, non-compliance with the law, unsustainable fishing practices and urban pollution are among the main causes of the current state of inland fishing in Benin. For

example, more than 1 500 prohibited fishing tools have been seized by the Department of Fisheries Production, but some fishermen have simply replaced them. Political interference was also mentioned as a factor hindering the development of the inland fisheries sector. Many fishermen develop unsustainable practices (such as the use of prohibited gear) and are not punished because of sponsorship by politicians. This weakens the power of fisheries regulating authorities and leads to the proliferation of these unsustainable practices.

Dr Antoine Chikou, a researcher at the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture, stressed that the sustainable development of fisheries is linked to organization, which must



start at the local level in order to have an impact on policies. Thus, for sustainable fishing, fishers must demonstrate organization and team spirit carrying out collective actions that will promote the regeneration of water bodies. In the same vein, André Zogo, Executive Secretary of the Benin National Water Partnership, added that sustainable fishing must comply with the four principles of Integrated Water Resources Management, which stipulate that: water resources are finite and must be managed within coherent geographical boundaries; the participation of all users is necessary for the management of water resources in a given territory; the role of women in water supply, management and conservation must be recognized and strengthened; and water has an economy

that must include the costs of transport, treatment, administration, operation and maintenance of facilities as well as the environmental costs of ensuring the ecological functions of the aquatic environment.

The need for capacity building for women on various aspects of the fish value chain was also highlighted. Women occupy key positions in the value chain of inland fishing activities. Capacity building could include sensitizing women to the benefits of co-operation to increase their bargaining power with fishermen and on sales markets; training on efficient and sustainable fish-processing methods; and establishing a guarantee fund with microfinance institutions to facilitate access to credit for women working in the fishing industry.

## **BREAKAWAY SESSIONS: PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM TO IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR**

Two breakaway sessions were organized to collectively discuss solutions to strengthen fishers' livelihoods (Box 2) and to lay the foundations for the development of a multi-stakeholder platform that will make it possible to address in an inclusive and collaborative way the challenges that the inland fisheries sector is facing. (Box 3)

## BOX 2: SUMMARY OF PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE FISHERS LIVELIHOODS

Enquiries	Practical solutions
What sustainable options exist to improve fish capture?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the use of selective mesh gear for fishing</li> <li>• Ensure compliance with the law on fishery and aquaculture</li> <li>• Restore the ecosystem</li> <li>• Update and implement the management plans developed under the PADPPA project.</li> <li>• Affirm the authority of the state through enforcement of legislation, the release of channels and lagoon banks</li> <li>• Clean up lagoon banks and clear dumpsites</li> <li>• Promote reforestation to restore biodiversity</li> <li>• Reduce the area of <i>acadja</i> and reserve corridors</li> <li>• Perform the opening of the Cotonou canal</li> <li>• Purify the water from the gutters before it is discharged into the canal</li> <li>• Establish continental protected areas in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment</li> <li>• Make a rational use of chemical inputs (for cotton and market gardening) in the Ouémé River watershed</li> </ul>
How could the livelihoods of fishers be diversified?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support the processing of water hyacinth</li> <li>• Develop entrepreneurial culture through training in other income-generating activities</li> <li>• Invest in youth education</li> <li>• Train women in the processing and marketing of soy cheese to replace the capture of small fish (learn from the successful experience of <i>Nature Tropicale</i>)</li> </ul>
What economic activities can support diversification and how?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Processing of aquatic plants, especially water hyacinth</li> <li>• Introducing aquaculture (training and financial support)</li> <li>• Converting women living on the water to the activity of processing soya into cheese and other agri-food products</li> <li>• Promoting market gardening and crafts (training and financial support).</li> </ul>

These practical solutions proposed by the workshop participants focus on two approaches. First, they aim at strengthening the production capacity of the lagoon complex, in particular by carrying out steps to restore its ecosystem and ensuring compliance with the various legal provisions that ensure its proper management. Secondly, the workshop participants stressed the

need to diversify the livelihoods of the actors by directing fishermen towards productive activities such as aquaculture and women towards the processing of agricultural products other than fish. The combination of these two approaches has a high potential to improve the resilience of the sector in response to the challenges that hinder its development.

### BOX 3: DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PLATFORM TO IMPROVE THE PERFORMANCE OF THE INLAND FISHERY SECTOR

Questions	Answers
What already exists as multi-stakeholder platforms on which to build?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There is no such platform, but there are some associations:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The National Union of Continental and Related Fishermen of Benin</li> <li>• The National Association of Women involved in Fish Processing</li> <li>• The National Network of Women in Fisheries</li> <li>• The National Federation of Fishing Actors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
How could the platform be organized to effectively express the concerns and wishes of fishers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define the platform's objectives</li> <li>• Represent all inland fishery stakeholders throughout the value chain</li> <li>• Mobilize own resources</li> <li>• Hold regular exchange meetings</li> </ul>
How could the platform be organized to effectively engage with decision makers?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborate with existing platforms in other sectors</li> <li>• Develop multi-stakeholder projects and fundraising</li> <li>• Organize thematic sessions to facilitate exchanges</li> <li>• Establish a communication channel with political decision-makers and technical and financial partners</li> </ul>
What could the composition of such a platform look like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fishers' associations (National Union of Continental and Related Fishermen of Benin; National Association of Women Involved in Fish Processing; National Network of Women in Fisheries; and National Federation of Fishing Actors, National Federation of Fish Farmers of Benin)</li> <li>• State actors (MAEP, Ministry of Water and Mines, Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Trade, Ministry of Interior (for repression), Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Health)</li> <li>• Researchers</li> <li>• Private Sector</li> <li>• Microfinance institutions</li> <li>• Non-state actors</li> </ul>

#### WAY FORWARD

This workshop facilitated dialogue and the sharing of knowledge and perceptions between different types of actors involved in the inland fisheries sector in Benin. It is the materialization of ACED's intervention approach which bridges the gap between research-action, policy and business. This workshop

essentially bridged the gap between the first two elements by promoting the sharing of evidence with the direct actors in the fisheries and the policymakers involved in the cycle of formulation and implementation of development strategies and policies.



In light of the results of the discussions, the following future actions can be identified:

- Awareness-raising and advocacy among fishers will continue to be a priority in strengthening the resilience of the inland fisheries sector. The consortium research results provide new insights into the sector in terms of vulnerability and resilience. These insights will enable the various actors to design campaigns based on evidence in order to have a greater impact. ACED will collaborate with other actors, such as the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the National Water Partnership, the Intermunicipal

Council of Ecodevelopment-Nokoué, fishers' associations and women involved in fishing activities to conduct sensitization and exchange sessions with the actors involved. These sessions will take place in the field and will address different aspects of the vulnerability and resilience of the sector as well as the implementation of the legislation with regards to inland fisheries.

- The need for evidence to guide policies and interventions in the fisheries sector remains a priority for the development of the sector. ACED will continue to work with all stakeholders to ensure that evidence is accurately and timely produced and used in decision-making.



- All the participants in the workshop pointed to the importance of developing a multi-stakeholder platform for inland fisheries; and some ideas were put forward on the issue. ACED is committed to co-ordinating the establishment of this platform, which will be a forum for all stakeholders and a platform for knowledge sharing and co-creation of effective solutions.
- The solutions proposed by the participants during the workshop require not only the involvement of all stakeholders but also the mobilization of significant technical and financial resources. To this end, it is recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and

Fisheries, which is responsible for the development of the inland fisheries sector, co-ordinates the efforts to mobilize these resources. The technical and financial partners will therefore be mobilized around the implementation of these solutions. For instance, the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which has supported the consortium research, is a potential interlocutor.



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# Appendix 1: Programme of the workshop

Date : 18 September 2018

Venue : Benin Royal Hotel, Cotonou, Benin

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## PROGRAMME

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8:00-09:00	<b>REGISTRATION</b> The conference was facilitated and moderated by Nicanor Coovi
09:00-10:00	<b>OPENING SPEECHES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Frejus Thoto, Executive Director, ACED</li><li>• Victor Hounsa, Mayor of Aguégués, CIED Nokoué</li><li>• Yvonne Adjovi-Boco, Eco-citizenship and Deconcentration Technical Adviser of the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development</li><li>• Mamadou Djaouga, Technical Adviser for the Promotion of Fisheries and Livestock of the Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries</li></ul>
10:00-10:20	Group photo & Coffee break
10:20-11:45	<b>OPENING SESSION: VULNERABILITY, RESILIENCE AND ADAPTATION IN BENIN'S INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR</b> Professor Philippe Laleye, Director of the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture of the University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin. Title : "Impacts of human activities on the quality of water and fish capture in the Lake Nokoué and Lagoon of Porto-Novo" Dr Ben Sonneveld, Senior Researcher at the Amsterdam Center for World Food Studies, Vrije Universiteit of Amsterdam, The Netherlands. Title : "The tragedy of inland lakes : a case study of the Lake Nokoué and the lagoon of Porto-Novo in Benin"
11:45-13:00	<b>DISCUSSION PANEL: WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE FISHERIES : INSIGHTS AND LESSONS</b> MODERATOR : Nicanor Coovi <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Daouda Aliou, Monitoring and Evaluation Focal Point, Department of Fisheries Production, MAEP</li><li>• Antoine Chikou, Researcher at the Laboratory of Hydrobiology and Aquaculture</li><li>• David Hounguè, Chairman of the National Federation of Fishermen</li><li>• Victoire Gomez, Chairwoman of the National Network of Women in Fisheries</li></ul>

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13:00-14:15	Lunch Break
14:15-15:30	<p><b>BREAKWAY SESSIONS:</b> ROADMAP FOR PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS AND DEVELOPING A MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS' PLATFORM FOR IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR.</p> <p>MODERATOR : AUGUSTIN AOUDDJI  RAPPORTEUR: YVETTE ADJE</p> <p>SESSION 1 : SOLUTIONS PRATIQUES POUR AMÉLIORER LES MOYENS DE SUBSISTANCE DES PÊCHEURS CONTINENTAUX</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quelles options durables existent pour améliorer la capture des poissons ?</li> <li>• Comment diversifier les moyens de subsistance des pêcheurs ?</li> <li>• Quelles activités économiques peuvent soutenir la diversification et comment ?</li> </ul> <p>MODERATOR : ANDRE ZOGO  RAPPORTEUR: JOUKOV DAHOUE</p> <p>SESSION 2 : DEVELOPING A MULTI-STAKEHOLDERS' PLATFORM FOR IMPROVING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE INLAND FISHERIES SECTOR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What already exists as multi-stakeholders' platform to build upon?</li> <li>• How could the platform be organized to effectively voice the concerns and needs of the fishers?</li> <li>• How could the platform be organized to effectively engage with policymakers?</li> <li>• What could the composition of such a platform look like?</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	Coffee break
16:00-17:00	<p><b>PLENARY SESSION</b></p> <p>CONCLUSIONS FROM THE BREAKWAY SESSIONS WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE PLENARY SESSION AND TAKEN FORWARD AS THE FRAMEWORK FOR A COLLECTIVE STRATEGY</p>
17:00-17:15	<p><b>CLOSING REMARKS : SYNTHESIS AND TAKEAWAYS</b></p> <p>Frejus Thoto, Executive Director, ACED</p>

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## Appendix 2: Publications of the consortium on inland fisheries in Benin

- **COMMUNICATION** - Impacts des activités anthropiques sur la qualité de l'eau et des poissons pêchés dans le complexe lagunaire Lac Nokoué-Lagune de Porto-Novo
- **COMMUNICATION** - La tragédie des lacs continentaux : une étude de cas du lac Nokoué et de la lagune de Porto-Novo au Bénin
- **TECHNICAL NOTE** - Les communautés de pêcheurs continentaux au Bénin : un essai de définition et de catégorisation
- **MÉMOIRE** - Impacts des activités anthropiques sur la qualité de l'eau et des poissons pêchés dans le complexe lagunaire Lac Nokoué-Lagune de Porto-Novo
- **MÉMOIRE** - Diversité de l'exploitation des poissons du complexe lagunaire lac Nokoué-Lagune de Porto-Novo au Sud du Bénin
- **MÉMOIRE** - Contribution à l'étude de la diversité et de l'écologie des espèces de poisson du complexe lagunaire lac Nokoué-lagune de Porto-Novo au Sud Bénin.
- **MÉMOIRE** - Analyse des déterminants de l'efficacité technique et de la rentabilité des systèmes de pisciculture dans les communes de Sô-Ava et de Sèmè-Podji
- **MÉMOIRE** - Contribution de la transformation de poisson à l'amélioration du revenu des communautés de pêcheurs : Cas du lac Nokoué et de la lagune de Cotonou
- **RESEARCH REPORT** – The fisherwomen of Benin : Roles, Constraints and Possible Solutions.
- **RESEARCH REPORT** – What does the fisherman want ?
- **POLICY BRIEF** - Déséquilibre écosystémique du complexe lagunaire lac Nokoué – lagune de Porto-Novo : Que faire pour éviter le désastre écologique et protéger la santé des populations béninoises ?
- **POLICY BRIEF** - Etat de la sécurité alimentaire des pêcheurs continentaux au Benin
- **POLICY BRIEF** - Défis de l'organisation des pêcheurs continentaux au Bénin
- **POLICY BRIEF** - Les contraintes qui inhibent le développement de la pêche continentale au Bénin
- **POLICY BRIEF** - Rôles et contraintes des femmes impliquées dans la pêche continentale au Bénin
- **SCIENTIFIC PAPER** – The Tragedy of the Inland Lakes
- **SCIENTIFIC PAPER** – Ecologic stress in fish population of Lake Nokoué and Porto-Novo Lagoon in Benin

*All the publications are available on the link <https://www.aced-benin.org/fr/publications>*

*You can also send us an email at [contact@aced-benin.org](mailto:contact@aced-benin.org)*

