



Supporting Developing Countries in analyzing and implementing evidence-based and policy coherent oceans economy and trade strategies (OETS).

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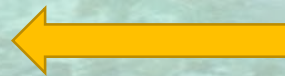
# Introduction:

Country	Status of affairs	Realistic outcomes
<p><b>Belize</b></p>	<p>Limited awareness of the potential of ocean-based products and services and the UNCLOS framework</p> <p>Increasing importance of aquaculture and fisheries for exports</p> <p>Lack of strategic plans for aquaculture</p> <p>Need to scale up efforts in implementing relevant international agreements and efforts in fighting against IUU fishing</p> <p>Low value addition in seafood exports and market access barriers</p> <p>Need to link fisheries with tourism consumption and marine protected areas</p> <p>Need to scale up efforts for coastal protection and resilience</p> <p>No system of payments for ecosystem services</p> <p>Insufficient data and tools to identify products, services and vulnerable social groups</p> <p>Low private sector involvement and maritime connectivity</p> <p>Scattered regulations, low coordination , and weak enforcement</p>	<p>Comprehensive oceans economy plan for key sectors</p> <p>Stronger linkages between sectors</p> <p>Improved regulatory framework to implement the international legal framework for oceans</p> <p>Potential Introduction of new economic incentives for ocean-based economic sectors</p> <p>Private and civil society participation in defining national oceans economy and trade strategy</p> <p>Identification of market access barriers</p> <p>Strengthened coordination mechanisms and improved interaction among relevant agencies</p>

# Introduction:

- In order to strengthen capacities of coastal developing countries in **elaborating, adopting and implementing** evidence-based and policy coherent Oceans Economy and Trade Strategies to promote sustainable trade of products and services in ocean-based economic sectors within the UNCLOS framework, the project will be implemented in 3 phases:

1. **Assessment and formulation**



2. Validation and Implementation

3. Dissemination

# Ocean Based Sectors for research:

## Phase I: Assessment and formulation

- 4 sectors were selected (out of 11)
- Based on criteria for selection and discussions with executing entity
  - Sectors that have potential growth (production and trade conditions); have/will contribute to employment; will benefit the most.

Sectors
Sustainable Marine Fisheries
Sustainable (Marine) Aquaculture
Seafood Processing
Blue BioTrade
Ships and parts manufacture
Marine and Coastal Tourism
Maritime Transport
Marine Biotechnology and Bioprospecting
Port and related logistical services
Coastal and Marine area management, protection and restoration + Carbon sequestration
Ocean energy and renewable energy

# Ocean Based Sectors for research:

- Sustainable Marine Fisheries

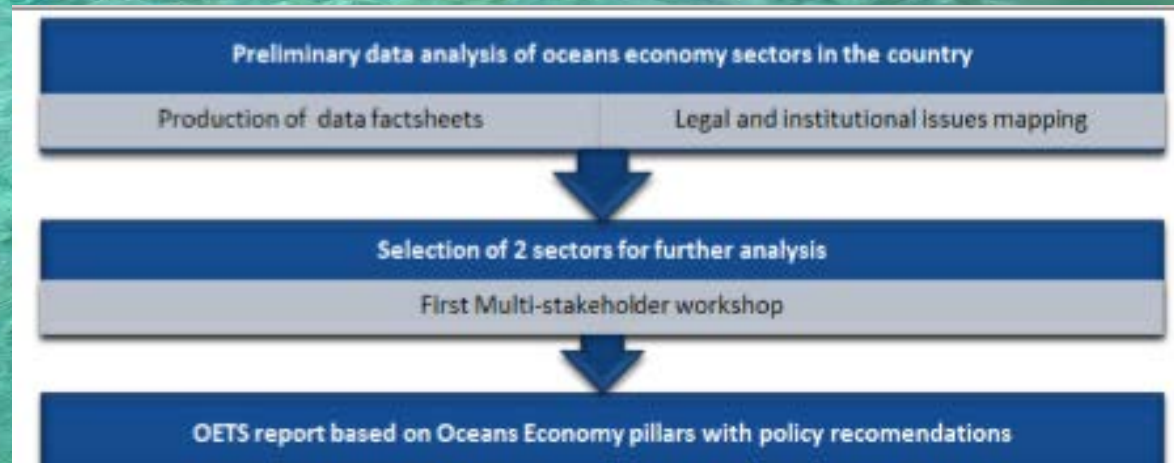
- Sustainable Marine Aquaculture

- Seafood Processing

- Marine and Coastal Tourism

# Ocean Based Sectors for research:

- Consultants (Dr. Leroy Almendarez and Mark Usher)
  - Production of data factsheets for 4 selected sectors
  - Legal and institutional issues mapping
  - Links need to be made with national development, trade, fisheries and tourism plans and policies



Sectors selected for further research (factsheets and legal analyses)	Specific issues of interest as identified by Belize	Links to Policies being implemented in Belize	Links to UNCTAD classification of Ocean based sectors (also to WTO 120 when relevant)
Sustainable marine fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote and improve the legal framework for the management of fisheries/marine resources in Belize</li> <li>Consider the particular nature of fish and fish products as a manufactures within the WTO framework (meaning outside the WTO Agriculture Agreement).</li> <li>Help fishers to access new fishing techniques and increase local value-added products</li> <li>Promote improved management of cooperatives and associations</li> <li>Provide training on fisheries management in marine protected areas</li> <li>Provide training and promotion of sustainable fisheries to avoid overfishing</li> <li>Provide targeted incentives and concessions for fishers that would reduce fuel and equipment costs</li> <li>Develop clear policies and standards for joint ventures with foreign entities that ensure that Belizeans make the decisions and harvest the fish</li> <li>Support community based initiatives that encourage local enterprise development</li> <li>Support in gaining market access for Belize fisheries products (both wild harvested and farmed) and services (specially in regional markets) and to address non tariff measures</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable Development Goals</b></p> <p><b>Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2016-2019)</b></p> <p><b>Horizon 2030 (National Development Framework)</b></p> <p><b>National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030</b></p> <p><b>National Trade Policy for Belize</b></p>	<p><b>Goods (trade data exists)</b> Sector A: Marine Fisheries (harvesting + trade)</p> <p><b>Services (low probability of data)</b> WTO (W120) F: Other business services g. Services incidental to fishing</p> <p>CPC V2.1 (2015): 86153: Support services to fishing</p> <p><b>Goods (production data exist):</b> Sector B: Aquaculture</p> <p><b>Services (low probability of data)</b> CPC V2.1 (2015): 86154: Support services to aquaculture</p>
Sustainable marine Aquaculture			

Sectors selected for further research (factsheets and legal analyses)	Specific issues of interest as identified by Belize	Links to Policies being implemented in Belize	Links to UNCTAD classification of Ocean based sectors (also to WTO 120 when relevant)
Seafood processing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Help fishers to access new fishing techniques and increase local value-added products</li> <li>• Assist fishers who want an alternative livelihood to explore and plan for viable alternatives</li> <li>• Encourage fishers to assume greater management of the industry, including self-regulation to improve standards and equity</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sustainable Development Goals</b></p> <p><b>Growth and Sustainable Development Strategy (2016-2019)</b></p> <p><b>Horizon 2030 (National Development Framework)</b></p>	<p><b>Goods (trade data exist):</b></p> <p>Sector C: Seafood production Sector D. Blue BioTrade (only those related to seafood for human consumption):</p>
Marine and Coastal Tourism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage the tourism sector in developing solutions illegal activities</li> <li>• Develop guidelines for eco-tours operators</li> <li>• Develop links between fisheries with the hotel and restauration services</li> </ul>	<p><b>National Sustainable Tourism Master Plan for Belize 2030</b></p> <p><b>National Trade Policy for Belize</b></p>	<p><b>Services (there is data):</b> WTO (W120)</p> <p>Sector F: Marine and Coastal Tourism 9. Tourism and travel related services A. Hotels and restaurants (incl. catering) 641-643 B. Travel agencies and tour operators services 7471 C. Tourist guides services 7472 D. Other</p>



# Challenges (Preliminary):

- ▶ Fisheries Department- Limited Budget
  - ▶ Enforcement
  - ▶ Diversification
  - ▶ Research
  - ▶ Legislation in need of enactment
  - ▶ Improve licensing system and database
  - ▶ Catch landings diverted (no records of what is diverted)
  - ▶ Support for market access
- ▶ Aquaculture Unit-
  - ▶ No regulatory framework
  - ▶ Support for market access
- ▶ BAHA-
  - ▶ Certification (HACCP) and compliance with sanitary and phytosanitary measures
  - ▶ Fishers to be trained in Food handling / primary processing at sea

# Challenges (Preliminary):

## ▶ BHSFU-

- ▶ Third party on-board observers needs to be improved (limited)
- ▶ Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
- ▶ Membership is declining
- ▶ Cost for EU Compliance is expensive
- ▶ Catch landing data and the sharing of other information needs to be improved

## ▶ Productive Sector- Outdated by-laws

- ▶ Membership issues
- ▶ Loans / advances
- ▶ Infrastructure / processing facility (issue of value adding)
- ▶ Health sanitary certification issued (HACCP, ISO certification)
- ▶ Marketing and distribution centres

# Challenges (Preliminary):

- ▶ Tourism
  - ▶ Food Quality Standard for Tourism Industry not available
  - ▶ Purchase seafood directly from fishers
  - ▶ Not required to purchase seafood from certified establishments such as fishing cooperatives
  - ▶ Risk of purchase of illegal fishery products
  - ▶ Loss of catch data (National catch quota)

Thank you for  
your  
attention!!

