UNCTAD training workshop on adding value sustainably to fisheries and aquaculture products for exports
- Delivered in collaboration with UNCTAD Center of Excellence Nha Trang University, Viet Nam

Nha Trang, Viet Nam, 30 October – 03 November 2023

1. BACKGROUND

Under the EU-UNCTAD Joint Programme for Angola: Train for Trade II, Green Exports Component, UNCTAD, with the support of its Regional Centers of Excellence (CoE), assists Angolan stakeholders in building capacity to strengthen and harness the country’s Blue Economy and adding value to fisheries and aquaculture for exports.

UNCTAD delivered a training and capacity-building workshop on the Blue Economy, fisheries sector, including aquaculture development, and meeting international standards for fisheries exports in Luanda in October 2022.¹ The workshop comprised lectures and contributions from world-renowned specialists in fisheries and aquaculture development, marine spatial planning, as well as case studies from African countries, Viet Nam, Costa Rica and Belize. The training produced a needs assessment and capacity-building plan with priorities for the fisheries and aquaculture sector in Angola, and formulated recommendations for the sectors’ development.

As a follow-up to the discussions on facilitating a conducive environment for fisheries development, the strategies necessary for Angola to enhance the role of fisheries in trade, and value-addition to fisheries and aquaculture products for export, the training recommended the development of a capacity-building activities and comprehensive program for Angola's fisheries sector and aquaculture subsector, in collaboration with UNCTAD's Center of Excellence on Fisheries and Development in Viet Nam – Nha Trang University and other partners, such as ISO and the Marine Stewardship Council. Vietnam was selected based on the advances the country has made in fishery science, aquaculture and value addition and in harnessing the potential of the sector to advance socioeconomic development including employment creation, poverty reduction and exports.

As a follow-up to the comprehensive recommendations of the October 2022 workshop, UNCTAD also delivered a Joint UNCTAD-ISO training workshop on National Quality Infrastructure (NQI) for the Angolan agrifood sector, with a focus on fisheries, tropical fruits, and coffee, in Luanda in May 2023.² The training and capacity-building activity produced an NQI action plan and baseline assessment to further strengthen the system. To develop the

¹ https://unctad.org/meeting/training-workshop-blue-economy-focus-fisheries-sector-development-and-meeting-international
system, specific standards-related issues linked to legislation, policies, institutions, and their capacities must be addressed, as well as constraints related to gaps in transportation and logistics infrastructure, services along the value chain, issues related to export procedures through trade facilitation approaches, attracting sustainable investments to business ventures, and training entrepreneurs to take up new opportunities.

The forthcoming UNCTAD training workshop on sustainably harnessing the potential of the fisheries sector, including value addition to fisheries and aquaculture products for exports will be a second training workshop in follow-up to the recommendations of the October 2022 workshop, and will be carried out in collaboration with UNCTAD’s Center of Excellence, Nha Trang University, in Nha Trang, Viet Nam, from 30 October to 03 November 2023.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the capacity building training are to: (i) draw practical and policy lessons from Vietnam’s experience on how best to harness the potential of the fisheries sector for socioeconomic development; (ii) discuss the strategies necessary for Angola to transform the fisheries sector through value addition and export diversification; (iii) exchange best practices in sustainably harnessing capture fisheries and addressing the challenges of IUU fishing; (iv) explore ways and means to sustainably tap into the potential of the aquaculture sector through dedicated techniques, including sharing successful experiences and expertise; and (v) identify approaches and tools to effectively improve the quality of aquaculture products. The technical training workshop will be complemented through field visits to fish-landing sites, laboratories, and relevant institutions.

3. DATE, TIME AND VENUE

Monday 30 October to Friday 03 November 2023
Time: according to the programme below (Viet Nam time)

Venue: UNCTAD’s Center of Excellence in Viet Nam, Nha Trang University

4. FORMAT AND CONTENT

This training will be held in a presentational format in Nha Trang University, Viet Nam.

Part 1 – Technical training workshop

The technical training will be provided in the form of a 4-day interactive workshop that will provide a clear understanding and overview of sustainable fisheries trade and possibilities for value addition, as well as the sustainable harnessing of capture fisheries with policy directions. The technical working session will allow for in-depth technical discussions on tapping aquaculture potential by exploring aquaculture techniques for different species, fish nutrition, and aquatic animal health management. Further, participants will be exposed to
the most important factors to improve the quality and competitiveness of aquaculture products.

Part 2 – Field visits

The technical working session will be complemented through field trips to key fisheries sector institutions in Viet Nam (1 day). These will take place on Day 5 and will include visits to marine finfish and seaweed farms and marine finfish hatcheries, an eel farm, and a feed and fish meal factory. Vietnamese collaborators from the CoE at Nha Trang University will support the visits.

Background materials:
- UNCTAD, 2023, Building a sustainable and resilient ocean economy beyond 2030.
- UNCTAD, 2023, Materials and presentations of the Training workshop on National Quality Infrastructure for the Angolan agrifood sector, with a focus on fisheries, tropical fruits, and coffee, available online on the Project’s website and the UNCTAD Online Knowledge Hub.
- UNCTAD, 2022, Materials and presentations of the Training workshop on the Blue Economy, with a focus on fisheries sector development and meeting international standards for fisheries exports.
- UNCTAD, 2022, Harnessing fishery resources for socioeconomic development: Lessons for Angola and Haiti.
- UNCTAD, 2022, Building capacity in the LDCs to fully harness the potential of fisheries and aquaculture (UNCTAD Fisheries Training Manual).
- UNCTAD, 2022, Materials on the side event at the 4th Ocean Forum: Sustainably harnessing the potential of marine bio-prospecting.
- UNCTAD, 2022, Towards a climate resilient multispecies finfish management plan for Belize.
- UNCTAD, 2021, Costa Rica launches Pura Vida sustainable and responsible seafood label.

Further supporting materials will be provided by the trainers during the workshop.

5. LANGUAGE

The workshop will be held in English, with English-Portuguese-English interpretation.
The workshop will be organized by UNCTAD, under the EU-UNCTAD Joint Programme for Angola: Train for Trade II in collaboration with the UNCTAD Center of Excellence on Fisheries Development in Viet Nam (Nha Trang University). The Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of Angola will provide institutional support. Inputs and expert presentations will be delivered by experts of the UNCTAD Division for Africa, LDCs and Special Programmes and of the Division of International Trade and Commodities / Oceans Economy and Fisheries Programme, Nha Trang University, International Standardization Organization (ISO), Vietnamese private sector, and Angolan public and private sector representatives.

Participants in the workshop will include practitioners and experts from public and private institutions dealing with the fishery and aquaculture sector, experts in fish inspection, exporters, sectoral experts, and consumer associations, as well as actors of the broader Blue Economy, with practical and technical knowledge about trade, development policies and international standards pertaining to food quality and safety.

In line with the objectives of the EU-UNCTAD Joint Programme for Angola: Train for Trade II, particular attention should be paid to gender balance in the nomination of participants. Therefore, the importance of achieving at least 40% female participation and communicating this objective to the invited institutions is emphasized.

### 10. Contacts

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