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INSTITUTE FOR POVERTY, LAND AND AGRARIAN STUDIES (PLAAS)

PLAAS  
Institute for Poverty, Land and Agrarian Studies

20  
YEARS

OF RESEARCH,  
TEACHING & POLICY  
ENGAGEMENT

# Regional Fish trade in Africa: Potential for food security, reducing poverty and fisheries management

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PLAAS, UWC

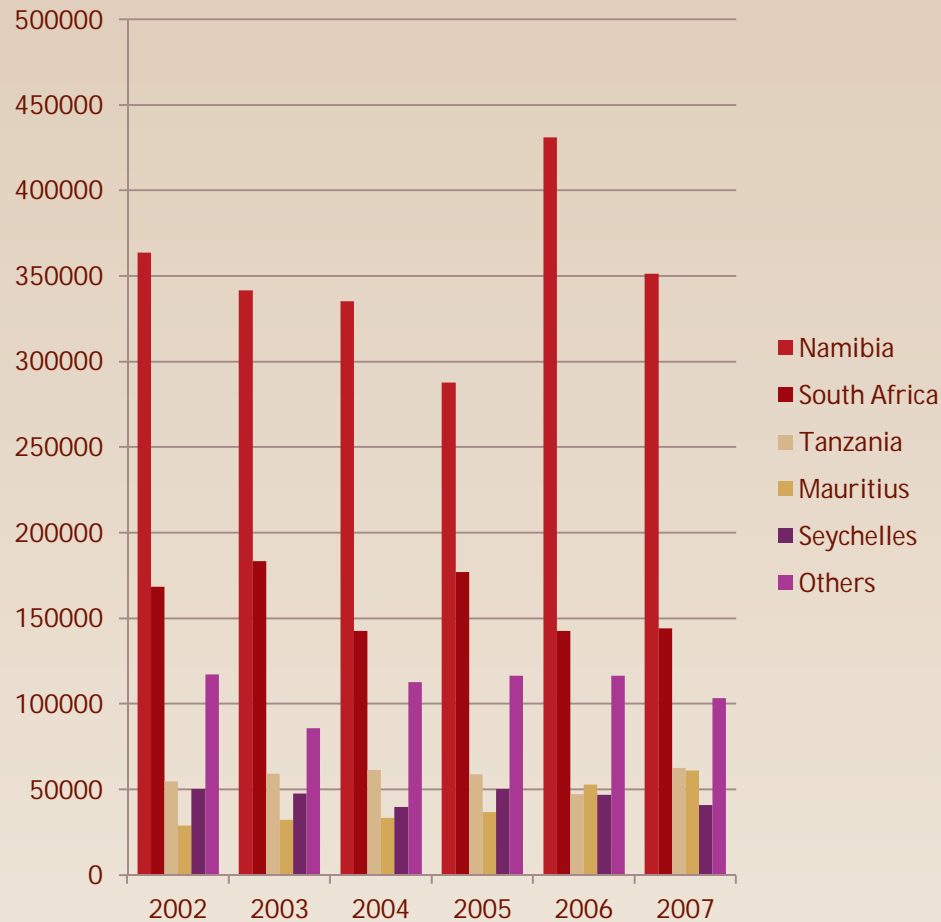
Rural transformations and food systems:  
The BRICS and agrarian change in the global South, UWC  
20 – 21 April 2015

A place of quality,  
a place to grow, from hope  
to action through knowledge

# Sub-Saharan Africa: context

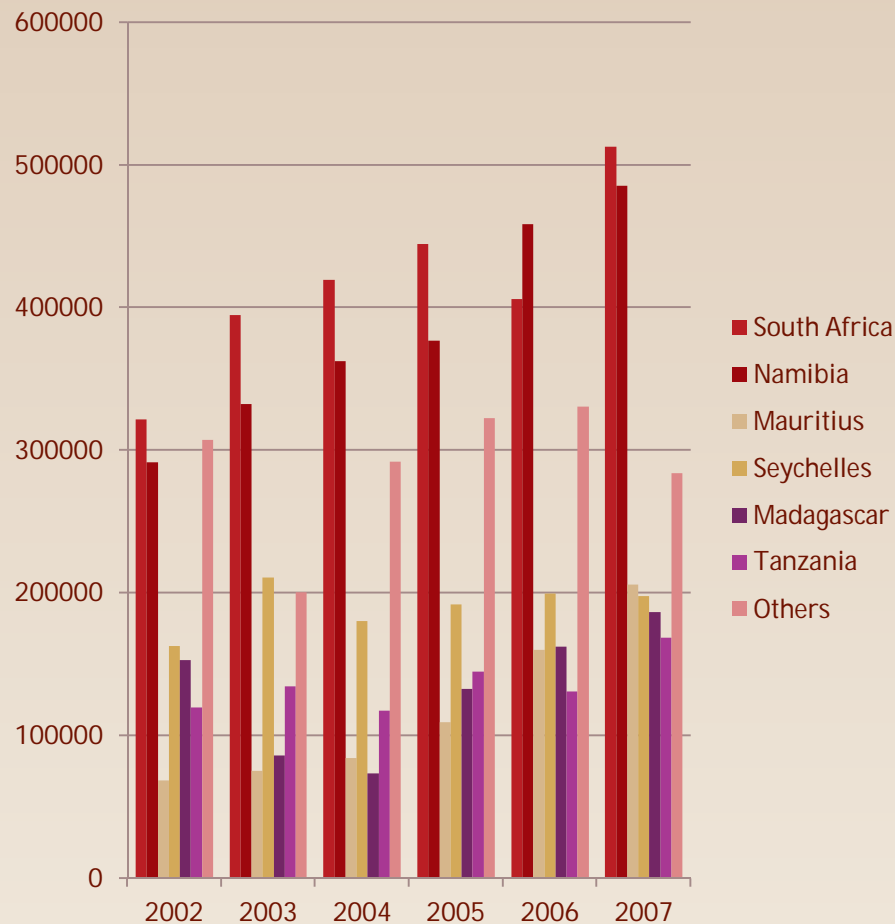
- One of the regions in the world suffering from high rates of hunger and poverty.
- 26% of the world's hungry people were located in sub-Saharan Africa in 2010 (FAO and WFP,2010)
- Chronic hunger (malnutrition) is rising in absolute and relative terms, while access to adequate food is a challenge to large populations
- While there are increasing efforts to increase production and access of staple cereals, there is limited attention to improved availability and access to fish and fish products

# Southern & Eastern Africa fish and fish products export quantities (tonnes)



- Namibia and South Africa are the major exporters
- In 2013 11 million cartons of canned sardine were exported by South Africa (63% of its production) to southern Africa
- Namibia exports 70% of its horse mackerel to DRC and the rest to other southern African countries

# Southern and Eastern Africa fisheries export values by country (US\$1000)



- South Africa highest in export value
- Apart from exporting high value hake to Europe, South Africa imports raw sardines, cans it and the re-exports mainly to southern Africa

# Intra-regional trade

- Trade is becoming important for region's food security and economic development
- Despite potential of intra-regional fish trade in addressing food & nutrition insecurity, and poverty , this is often overlooked and neglected in national and regional policies
- As a result, intra-regional fish trade remains largely informal across borders by small-scale traders
- 2010 Conference of African Ministers of Fisheries and Aquaculture (CAMFA) reaffirmed fisheries role in achieving the 6% annual agricultural growth envisaged by CAADP, and committed to strengthening policy coherence
- Despite these noble initiatives, sub-Saharan Africa still faces challenges in documenting and boosting sub-regional fish trade

# Programme for intra-regional fish trade for food security & poverty reduction

- EU funded through World fish Center & collaboration with universities
- Aims:
  - ❑ Enhance capacities of regional and pan-African organizations to support member states to better integrate intra-regional fish trade into development and food security policy agendas
  - ❑ Strengthen evidence base for coherent policy development at national and regional levels; support formulation and implementation of appropriate policies; standards and regulatory frameworks; and strengthen capacity of private sector associations (in particular women)
  - ❑ Enhance competitiveness of small- and medium-scale enterprises engaged in fish trade.
- Focuses on four main trade corridors: Western, Southern, Eastern and Central Africa

# Expected results

1. Information on structure, products and value of intra-regional fish trade
2. Recommendations on policies, certification procedures, standards and regulations
3. Increased capacities for trade amongst private sector associations, in particular of women
4. Adoption and implementation of appropriate policies, certification procedures, standards and regulations

# Information on the structure, products and value

- Assess and analyse fish trade routes and value chains
- Analyse the main actors operating along value chains and their relationships
- Analyse and determine impact of growing fish supply gap on fish consumption and food security of different groups, in particular the income-poor



# Recommendations on policies, certification procedures, standards and regulations

- Identify and prioritise policy and regulatory options for promoting intra-regional fish trade
- Formulate regional policies, fish certification procedures, standards and regulations for promoting intra-regional fish trade
- Develop and operationalise implementation and monitoring procedures of recommended policies, standards and regulations
- Develop and disseminate policy dialogues to inform high level decisions

# Increased capacities for trade amongst private sector associations

- Develop and make available a geo-coded interactive database of existing formal and informal private sector associations engaged in fish trade, their capacities, economic performance and needs
- Develop guidelines and good practices for intra-regional fish trade
- Develop user-owned information and advocacy tools, and mechanisms that provide an improved framework for continued demand-based policy development

# ***Adoption and implementation of appropriate policies, certification procedures, standards and regulations***

- Catalyse and facilitate increased intra-regional fish trade
- Strengthen capacity of veterinary services for implementation of regional guidelines and national policies
- Develop procedures for monitoring, sharing lessons and documenting performance

# Benefits for fisheries management

- Most inland fisheries have reached upper limits or even being over-exploited
- South African sardine resources fluctuates dramatically. Only 37% of canned sardine is local
- Only 50% of anchovy TAC is utilised. Why not develop products for human consumption from the under-utilised biomass
- Imports can act to alleviate pressure on stocks that are already heavily exploited or utilise under-utilised stocks (anchovy, horse mackerel, red eye herring)
- Trade can provide a win-win situation for both food security & poverty, and fisheries management

# Thanks

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**20**  
YEARS