

Fishery Fact Sheet

CECAF Fisheries Reports 2011

Spain Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinea Bissau waters, 2011

alópodes

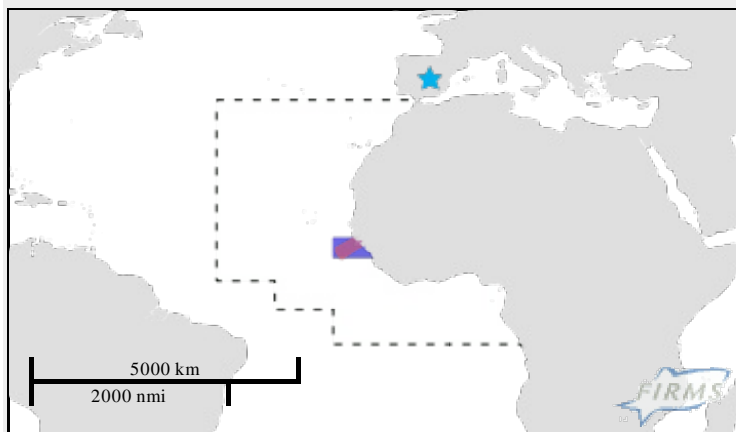
Data Ownership

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Fishery life cycle This fishery terminated on 2011.

Overview: *The restrictions of the access to Moroccan fishing grounds forced the Spanish cephalopod fleet to extend the scope of fishing agreements to other countries, first to Mauritania, from where it extended progressively to southern latitudes (Senegal, Guinea Bissau and Guinea). In these latitudes the cuttlefish species (*Sepia spp.*) are the main target species, with higher catches than in Mauritanian waters at this moment. Gears utilized by these freezer trawlers can be prepared either with chains (Spanish trawl) or with bobbins in the footrope (Korean trawl). The preservation of catches is frozen, what allows longer trips with an average duration of 50 to 60 days at sea. As said above, the most common cephalopod species exploited in this fishing ground is cuttlefish (*Sepia spp.*) although octopus catches have considerably increased during lasts years, being even higher than those of cuttlefish*

Location of Spain Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinea Bissau waters



Main layers

- FAO areas and their sub-divisions
- EEZ

Associated layers

- ★ Geographic reference

Intersecting layers

APPROACH: FISHING ACTIVITY

Fishing Activity

Fishing Gear: Bottom otter trawls
 Type of production system : Commercial;
 Industrial
 Fishery Area: Guinea Bissau; Guinea-Bissau;
 Atlantic, East ...
 Seasonality: All year long

Harvested Resource

Target Species: Cuttlefishes nei; Common octopus
 Associated Species: European squid; Senegalese hake; Benguela hake ... [more>>](#)

Means of Production

Vessel Type: Stern trawlers freezer

Fishery Indicators

<p>Intersecting layers</p> <p>Intersecting: FAO major fishing areas</p> <p>Base layers</p> <p>200 nautical miles arcs</p>	<p>Nominal Effort: Number of vessels</p> <p>Participation: Number of fishermen</p> <p>Production: Catch Sepia spp.; Catch O. vulgaris</p>
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Geographic reference: Spain

Spatial Scale: National

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Fishing Activity

Type of production system: Commercial; Industrial

Fishery Area

Climatic zone: Tropical. **Bottom type:** Soft_bottom_muddy_or_muddy-sand. **Depth zone:** Shelf (50 m - 200 m).

Horizontal distribution: Neritic. **Vertical distribution:** Demersal/Benthic.

Geo References for: Guinea Bissau

Guinea Bissau

Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ)	GNB - Guinea-Bissau
FAO Fishing Statistical Subdivisions	34.3.13 - Atlantic, East central / 34.3.13

More Geo References

The following area codes have been found as intersecting the location of Spain Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinea Bissau waters

FAO Major Fishing Areas	34 - Atlantic, Eastern Central
Large Marine Ecosystem Areas (LME)	27 - Canary Current
	28 - Guinea Current

The marine environment of Guinea-Bissau is characterized by one of the largest continental shelves in the region, approximately, consisting of large shallow areas, large river run-off and extensive mangrove forests lining the mainland coastline and that of the Bijagós Archipelago. The coastal areas are characterized by strong currents and occasional strong winds. The Guinea-Bissau ecosystem, located at the southern limit of the Canary Current System and the western limit of the Gulf of Guinea System, is characterized by strong seasonal variations of oceanographic conditions (Berrit and Rebert, 1977). From January to February the continental shelf is marked by upwelling events.

Characteristically warm and salty tropical waters dominate from May to June. With the progression of the rainy season, the intrusion of warm, low salinity inner waters tends to dominate. As a result of upwelling events and the input of organic matter from river run-off, primary productivity is relatively high in the area (Berrit and Rebert, 1977). There is a seasonal variability of the ecosystem, including a higher productivity during the dry season (Domain, 1982). The biota have adopted strategies compatible with this variability, as reflected, e.g., in feeding migrations of fish along the coast and the reproductive migration of shrimp into estuaries following the cycle of wet and dry seasons.

Resources Exploited

Cephalopods - Guinea-Bissau

European squid - Guinea Bissau

Other resources: Cuttlefish and Octopus of Guinea Bissau (11°N-12°N), senegalese and benguela hakes, soles, dentex, pandoras and seabreams.

Target Species

Sepia spp

FAO Names : en - Cuttlefishes nei, fr - Seiches nca, es - Sepias nep

Octopus vulgaris

FAO Names : en - Common octopus, fr - Pieuvre, es - Pulpo común

Adults

Associated Species (Bycatch)

Loligo vulgaris

FAO Names : en - European squid, fr - Encornet, es - Calamar, ar - ذو الأذرع العشر أوروبي , zh - 真枪乌贼

Merluccius senegalensis

FAO Names : en - Senegalese hake, fr - Merlu du Sénégal, es - Merluza del Senegal, ru - Мерлуза синегальская

Merluccius polli

FAO Names : en - Benguela hake, fr - Merlu d'Afrique tropicale, es - Merluza de Benguela, ru - Мерлуза бенгальская

Solea spp

FAO Names : null

Dentex spp

FAO Names : en - Dentex nei, fr - Dentés nca, es - Dentones, samas, etc. nep, ru - Зубаны

Pagellus spp

FAO Names : en - Pandoras nei, fr - Pageots nca, es - Brecas nep, ru - Пагелы

Sparus spp

Pagrus spp

FAO Names : en - Pargo breams nei, fr - Dorades nca, es - Pargos nep

Related Fisheries - Fishery(ies) switching activity seasonally or targeting the same stock

Spain Freezing bottom trawlers octopus fishery - Mauritanian waters

Spain Bottom trawl octopus and cuttlefish fishery - Senegalese waters

Spain Trawlers cephalopods fishery - Guinean waters

Vessel Type

Stern trawlers freezer

Flag State

 Spain

Average characteristics of these vessels are 30 m length, 240 GRT and 900 h.p.

Catch Handling and Processing Equipment

Freezing

Crew

20 persons (Spanish, Mauritanian and Senegalese nationalities) (2009)

Fleet segment

Bottom otter trawl for cephalopods with minimum mesh size of 70 mm

Fishing Gear

Bottom otter trawls

Gears could be prepared either with chains (Spanish trawl) or with bobbins in the footrope (Korean trawl).

Seasonality

All year long

Trip Duration

50 to 60 days at sea

Ports

La Luz, Las Palmas de Gran Canaria (Canary Islands) and Dakar (Senegal)

Fishery Indicators

Type	Measure	Value	Unit	Time period
Nominal Effort	Number of vessels	8	vessels	2006
Participation	Number of fishermen	160	persons	2009
Production	Catch Sepia spp.	200	tonnes	2002-2006
	Catch O. vulgaris	300	tonnes	2002-2006

Post Harvest

Fish Utilisation

Consumption and exportation

Markets

EU

Management

Management unit : No

Jurisdictional framework

Management Body/Authority(ies): Ministère de la Pêche et de l'Économie Maritime

Mandate: Management.

Area under national jurisdiction: Guinea-Bissau

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Management Body/Authority(ies): European Union

Mandate: Flag state responsibility for its fishing vessels operating in foreign area under national jurisdiction.

Area under national jurisdiction: Guinea-Bissau

Maritime Area: Exclusive Economic Zone Areas (EEZ).

Legal definition

Freezer, fin-fish and cephalopods trawlers

Management Regime

Fisheries Partnership Agreement between the European Community and the and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau for the period 16 June 2007 to 15 June 2011 (OJ L 342, 27.12.2007, p. 10–75). Management measures of the Spanish cephalopods trawlers fishery are included in the current Fishery Agreement between the European Community and the Republic of Guinea-Bissau (OJ L 342, 27.12.2007, p. 10–75) under the fishing category 1 “Freezer, fin-fish and cephalopods trawlers”.

This fishing agreement expired in June 2011 and has not been renewed.

Management Methods

Conservation and management measures with focus to Effort control (licences system) and catch control.

- *Aquatic species-related measures*
Limitation of by-catches: 9 % crustaceans by fishing trip
- *Gear-related measures*
Gear type (doubling of the cod-end's netting yarn, whether single or multiple, prohibited; methods or devices may be used to seek to obstruct the mesh of the nets or reduce their selective effect prohibited) and mesh size (minimum 70 mm).
- *Vessel-related measures*
Access control: Vessel size (maximum 3 143 GT authorized tonnage per year)
- *Fishing activity-related measures*
Vessel number (3 143 GT authorized tonnage per year) and closed area (out of the fishing area established by the Agreement).

Related Fisheries - Fishing activity(ies) managed under the same management unit or being ruled by the same fishing agreement

Status and Trends

This fishery has suffered a strong decay during the last years. Catches are relatively low and fishing coasts are significantly increasing. These facts make this fishery not profitable at this moment.

Source of Information

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