The Nansen Program: For Sustainable Fisheries in Developing Countries

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CDCF: Contribute to Sustainable Utilisation of Living Marine Resources in Developing Countries

Capture Fisheries
Policy & Management
Environment
Aquaculture

Development co-operation and capacity building since 1952

Current projects:
- AFRICA
  - Angola
  - Mozambique
  - Mauritius
  - Namibia
  - Sudan
  - ASIA
  - China
  - Malaysia
  - Myanmar
- Thailand
- LATIN AMERICA
  - Cuba
- More than 60 countries through the Nansen Programme over 40 years.
  - 2015: Namibia, SEAFO; Angola-I, Myanmar, IOOE-2, Angola-II, NW-Africa

The Nansen Program
The original idea, conceived in the 1960s:
- A research vessel available for developing nations.
- Operated from Norway with Norwegian crew and core scientific staff
- Financed by Norad/MFA
- In close cooperation with FAO, uncoupled from Norwegian fishery interests, flying the UN-flag
- First vessel left Norway in 1974
- 2nd vessel (1993) – at present surveying NW African waters >>>>
- 3rd vessel: 2016

The Dr. Fridtjof Nansen RVs named after the multitalented:

- Marine biologist
- Oceanographer
- Explorer
- Athlete
- Artist
- Ambassador
- Humanitarian: Fridtjof Nansen (1861-1930)

"Never keep a line of retreat: it is a wretched invention." - Fridtjof Nansen

The vessel had to be named "Dr. Fridtjof Nansen” – as:

- There was already another research vessel (Soviet Union/ Russia) named "Fridtjof Nansen"
Dr. Fridtjof Nansen (I) ready for leaving Bergen 1974

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen (II) in 1993

Regional approaches in the Nansen Programme

Main purpose of the Nansen program

- Knowledge and scientific advise for sustainable fisheries in developing countries

Assessing pelagic fish resources by trawl samples and acoustic methods

Assessing demersal fish resources by sampling with bottom trawl
Marine biodiversity/Nansen: species collected in trawls, grabs and plankton nets

- Fish: 4600 species (2500 in photo data base)
- Invertebrates: 1800 species + (plankton, arthropods/crustaceans, echinoderms, bivalves, gastropods, cephalopods, reptiles………)
- In otherwise data poor ocean areas

Oil/Fish/Environment: Environmental Baseline Studies Angola, Ghana, Myanmar (2015)

Video assisted multi sampler (VAMS) for benthic sampling and Observations – to 2500m depth

Swimming sea cucumber 1000 m depth
**Octopus, Ghana, 1000m depth**

**Polychaete; Ghana, 1000 m depth**

**Deep coral reef in Ghana (Lophelia) 4-500 m depth Studied using Video grab**

**Increased efficiency**

Example:
Environmental studies according to OSPAR guidelines at 1400 m depth:
• 1/10 of vessel time needed using a Traditional Van Veen grab.
In addition: CTD-data, current data and high resolution video and photo observations.

**CAPACITY BUILDING**

• On board -on the job training
• Courses in: stock assessment, database/analysis, taxonomy, laboratory work etc....
• (NanSis data base course starts this week in Ghana, supported by the NEA)
• Technical training center in Africa proposed in the new Nansen program phase (2016-2020)

**On the job training at sea**
THE NEW EAF-NANSEN PROGRAMME (2016-20):
MONITORING MARINE ECOSYSTEMS

Dr. Fridtjof Nansen (III)
Under construction – operational in 2016

New Dr. Fridtjof Nansen, 2016/17:
- 74,5m LOA
- 17,5m beam
- 7 laboratories
- Accomodation for 45 persons
- Delivery Sept 2016 from Gondan yard, Spain

New Nansen project phase (2016-2020): Fish
resources still central – but wider scope,
including monitoring the state of the marine
ecosystems, biodiversity, acidification and
impacts of climate change.

Thank You Questions?

See: www.cdf.no and www.eaf-nansen.org