

**INFORMATION MANAGEMENT IN FISHERY SECTOR IN SENEGAL:
PRESENTATION OF D.O.P.M. INFORMATION CENTER OR D.I.C.**

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INTRODUCTION

In Senegal, the main marine information sources are C.R.O.D.T. (Centre de Recherches Océanographiques de Dakar-Thiaroye) and D.O.P.M. (Direction de l'Océanographie et des Pêches Maritimes, i.e., Marine Fisheries and Oceanographic Direction).

D.O.P.M. and C.R.O.D.T. are complementary institutions.

Researches undertaken within C.R.O.D.T. address fish stocks while D.O.P.M. deals with catches and fish export.

Further data are provided by international commissions in Senegal.

D.O.P.M. AIMS

D.O.P.M. has a technical function and so it is in charge of the fish catching, processing and marketing system and management policy.

D.O.P.M. ORGANIZATION

It is a governmental office and belongs to the Ministry of Fisheries. It is divided into four departments:

- artisanal fishery department
- industrial fishery department
- credit department
- administrative department

D.O.P.M. also carries out seven regional fishery services and six local projects on fishery development.

Its main publication is the “overall results of marine fisheries” (catching, processing, artisanal and industrial, exportation, etc.).

The importance of the fishery sector in the Senegalese economy has involved the question of management of this information; for this reason the D.O.P.M. Information Center (D.I.C.) was created in 1983.

In fact D.I.C. is in charge of gathering, processing and disseminating all fishery information for planners, researchers, policy makers, extension agents, students, fishermen, etc.

D.I.C. INFORMATION SYSTEM

UNESCO micro CDS-ISIS is the software which is used for the management of two bibliographic databases:

- one on the fishery in general in Africa
- and another on law texts in fishery sector in Senegal

Both databases allowed us to publish two documents in 1994:

- a “catalogue of D.O.P.M. studies”
- a law texts directory from 1957-1993

We also have in preparation a publication of a newsletter on Senegalese fisheries news.

D.I.C. SERVICES

D.I.C. provides reference services including the following:

- orienting users toward appropriate information sources;
- transmission of the most recent information on new publications and acquisitions;
- regular bibliographic references or articles;
- literature searching;
- reference interviews
 - direct (by phone or in person)
 - indirect (by standard mail)

CONCLUSION

We are not yet connected to international or national databases but D.I.C. has been collaborating with many international, regional and national institutions and libraries like FAO, IDRC, IOC, RNIST, RECOSIX, European Communities Commission, etc. This allows us to provide a large choice of information for our users.

We are aware that with our limited resources, we are far from satisfying our users' information needs entirely and for this reason we count on cooperation and new technologies to provide the best service.