

Translated from French

**Assistance available to Benin to benefit
from the sustainable and effective development of marine resources**

Benin needs assistance with respect to:

1. The establishment and equipment of a single control and surveillance structure responsible for the protection and conservation of living marine resources;
2. Capacity-building in the economic, maritime law and navigational fields for the full implementation of the 1982 convention on the Law of the Sea;
3. Marine scientific research by training of personnel to develop and enhance relevant expertise, providing the necessary equipment, facilities and vessels and transferring environmentally sound technologies;
4. The production of nautical and fishing charts;
5. Combating marine pollution from all sources, including from land-based sources and vessels, in particular through the illegal discharge of oil and other harmful substances, the loss or release of fishing gear and the dumping of hazardous waste such as radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals;
6. Strengthening of maritime security and safety;
7. Financing fisheries development projects and programmes and the national plan of action against illegal fishing;

8. Updating and drafting legislation governing marine fisheries.

**Measures to be adopted by Benin in order to derive
maximum benefit from the sustainable development of marine resources**

Benin could take the following measures:

1. Sign and ratify the international agreements and Convention on fisheries management;
2. Incorporate the relevant principles and rules of such agreements into national legislation and enforce them;
3. Finalize and adopt the draft framework act on fisheries and incorporate elements of high seas and flags of convenience therein;
4. Establish an at-sea observer and landing monitoring programme;
5. Develop and implement a marines fisheries management and development plan;
6. Implement the national plan of action to prevent, deter and eliminate illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing;
7. Regulate mesh sizes.