

## Annual and Final report to SSNC

### Core funding

#### General Information

##### 1.1 Reporting organisation

Name of organisation CFFA – Coalition for Fair Fisheries Arrangements	
Name of legal representative Marie Claude Lagasse de Loch, Chair	Visiting address Rue Abbé Cuypers 3, 1040 Etterbeek
Postal Address Chaussée de Waterloo 244, 1060 Bruxelles	Web-address <a href="https://www.cffacape.org/">https://www.cffacape.org/</a>
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##### 1.2. Date and place

Date: 31/03/2022	Place: Brussels
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##### 1.3. Location and implementation period

Implemented in (country/ies): EU- Africa
Implemented during: [01/01/2017 – 31/12/2021]

#### 1.4. The annual and final report for project funding includes:

	<i>Document</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
1.	Signed template <sup>1</sup> “Annual and final report- project funding” (this document)	
2.	Follow-up on the submitted work plan for the last fiscal year of the agreement period 2021 (Summary/list of the activities implemented) ( <i>no form</i> )	
3.	Analytical narrative final report for 2017-2021. ( <i>Covering, as a minimum, the mandatory questions below</i> ) ( <u>maximum 30 pages, of which 50% should consist of a result analysis</u> )	
4.	Final result matrix (or similar) for 2017-2021	
5.	Financial statement for the last fiscal year of the agreement period	
6.	Audit report for the last fiscal year of the agreement period ( <i>according to instruction in the agreement, ISA 800/805 and ISRS 4400</i> ) – <i>deadline 15 march</i>	
7.	A management letter from the auditor with a management response from the organisation (for the last fiscal year of the agreement period) - <i>deadline 15 march</i>	
8.	If applicable, documents listed under article 7.2 in the agreement?	
9.	If applicable, draft donation deed listing investment above 25 000 SEK (template attached) 2017-2021.	
	<i>Comment if the report is not complete:</i>	

<sup>1</sup> Send in one version in word, and one version scanned with signature.

## 2) Assessment areas for the annual report 2021

### 2.1. Internal organisational changes during 2021

Like in 2020, CFFA employed two part time staff: Joelle Philippe (communication officer) and Béatrice Gorez (Coordinator/ spokesperson). From September 2021 onwards, with the preparation work for the International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture, there was a surplus of work for both, and, after approval by the administrative board, it was decided that both would work 4 days a week until end of 2022.

A stagiaire, Mr Ali Djebali, was contracted to work 6 months half-time from July till December 2021, to help with the communication work. He was selected by the board and CFFA team after a public call for applicants, which saw 42 candidates applying.

CFFA also employs regular consultants: Dr André Standing, who write articles for CFFA on specific advocacy issues, and Dr Anaid Panossian, lawyer expert in International Ocean and Fisheries Law, who advises CFFA on legal matters related to the implementation of European policies CFFA monitors.

Members of CFFA Board are also providing voluntary support, in terms of advice (several board members being fisheries experts) and help to run the asbl.

In 2021, CFFA adopted a policy to reduce its carbon footprint <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5d9341270c6f505b38e59293/t/60a635b40a15fb41b5b38978/1621505460401/210520+Carbon+footprint+policy.pdf>

It needs to be noted that, for the sake of transparency, all our policies, narrative and financial reports are now available to the public on our website <https://www.cffacape.org/transparency-register>

CFFA continues to receive financial support from SSNC and Bread for the World. In 2021, CFFA also received several contributions to our work of 150 euros from a couple working with the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Côte d'Ivoire.

In terms of capacity building, Joelle Philippe has followed a short-term course in economics, which explored the economic, political and social factors driving change in the global economy. This allowed her to better understand the global economic dynamics at play (debt, interest rates, cross-border flow of goods...) and the current changes that ocean governance is facing, with the financierisation of conservation.

## 2.2. Report on workplan 2021

In its 2021 workplan, CFFA had identified two core results:

Result 1: Africa Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries agenda features more prominently in EU decision-making and positions at international level.

Result 2: There is enhanced understanding among decision-makers of the importance of artisanal fisheries in Africa for food security, coastal communities' livelihoods and the preservation of the environment, and there is greater awareness of how EU policies can support this contribution, particularly in the light of IYAFPA in 2022.

The following activities were undertaken in that context:

**Result 1: Africa Sustainable Artisanal Fisheries agenda features more prominently in EU decision-making and positions at international level.**

*A) Undertake advocacy at the EU level, make proposals for the future CFP external dimension, including sustainable fisheries partnerships agreements*

This work involved working closely with the European Commission and the Parliament, and collaborating with European civil society organizations engaged

in work related to African fisheries, in particular through the EU Long Distance Fishing Advisory Council (LDAC), of which CFFA will be vice chair until mid-2022.

In 2021, CFFA has continued its advocacy work at EU level on 4 different topics: **fisheries access arrangements** (SFPA, joint ventures, etc), **transparency** of maritime fisheries, EU approach on **blue economy**, and EU policies affecting **food security**.

- On **fisheries access arrangements**, CFFA continued to work in the context of the Common Fisheries Policy review for 2022, providing written comments to the consultants in charge of the review, contributing to public evaluation on this topic [https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12728-Peche-Evaluation-des-accords-de-partenariat-dans-le-domaine-de-la-peche-durable-APPD-conclus-par-l%E2%80%99UE/details/F1841804\\_fr](https://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/have-your-say/initiatives/12728-Peche-Evaluation-des-accords-de-partenariat-dans-le-domaine-de-la-peche-durable-APPD-conclus-par-l%E2%80%99UE/details/F1841804_fr) and to LDAC work on the issue, like the comprehensive advice on ‘level playing field’, which provides recommendations not only for fishing agreements, but for all other aspects of EU policies that affects artisanal fisheries in Africa (vessels with private licences, issue of beneficial ownership, trade, etc) [https://ldac.eu/images/EN\\_LDAC\\_Advice\\_LPF\\_25May2021.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/EN_LDAC_Advice_LPF_25May2021.pdf)
- joint ventures - webinar by caopa – decision ldac to organize a conference in 2022 on joint ventures CFFA is part of te organizing cttee with pescanova and caopa to be invited
- CFFA intervened, and facilitated the intervention of its partners, at a Conference organized by FarFish, on CFP external dimension [https://ldac.eu/images/Legacy\\_Summary\\_of\\_ED\\_CFP\\_Conference\\_June2021\\_LDAC.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/Legacy_Summary_of_ED_CFP_Conference_June2021_LDAC.pdf)

CFFA also contributed two chapters to an FAO scoping study on access arrangements (one chapter on EU arrangements by B. Gorez and one chapter on China access arrangements by A. Standing) <https://www.fao.org/in-action/globefish/news-events/details-news/zh/c/1446507/> The long term announced goal of the FAO is to look at possibilities to develop guidelines for foreign access arrangements.

This is something CFFA has been calling for since 1997, when, in the wake of the adoption of the FAO Code of Conduct for responsible Fisheries, CFFA called for the adoption of a CoC for responsible fishing agreements.

CFFA also continued to document issues for local fishing communities in specific SFPAs negotiations, such as Mauritius <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/key-issues-for-eu-mauritius-sfpa-negotiations-tuna-stocks-sustainability-post-covid19-recovery-for-the-local-sector-and-transparency> or Madagascar <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/eu-madagascar-sfpa-negotiations-resume-key-issues-for-the-future-of-small-scale-fisheries-in-madagascar>

- On **Transparency**, CFFA requested formal access to an audit undertaken by the EC about the EU MS capacities to monitor their external fishing fleets (case on-going). This is a follow up from the complaint CFFA introduced in 2019 against Italian trawlers fishing in Sierra Leone, a country that does little to fight illegal fishing, including trawlers incursions in the artisanal fishing zone <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/can-an-eu-vessel-fish-sustainably-in-an-iuu-carded-country>
- We also asked formal access to information on the beneficial owners of two vessels fishing, we think illegally, in the near shore of Mauritania. Getting access to such information, which is in line with the regulation on the sustainable management of external fishing fleets (SMEFF), would

create a precedent for the EU to formally disclose information on beneficial owners. The publication of beneficial owners' information is something that has been resisted by the industry. Based on a case we documented about vessels of EU origin reflagged to Cameroon <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/cameroon-iuu-yellow-card-the-eu-should-also-sanction-european-fishing-companies-hiding-behind-this-countrys-flag>,

- CFFA included, in an LDAC advice [https://ldac.eu/images/EN\\_LDAC\\_Advice\\_LPF\\_25May2021.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/EN_LDAC_Advice_LPF_25May2021.pdf), recommendations on strengthening the requirements on recording beneficial ownership information, or facilitating public access to beneficial ownership information (limited to the name, country of residence and nationality of the beneficial owners, as well as the nature and extent of the beneficial interest held) '*when there is an overriding public interest in disclosure of this information in case of documented involvement in IUU fishing operations, corruption or money laundering*'. This shows there is now a (limited) support from the industry for our transparency demands, and we hope this will help convince the EC to release such information. The case of Cameroon raised media interest, and a reportage is currently being made (2022) on this for Associated press.
- During the FAO COFI 34, CFFA issued, together with CAOPA, a statement on why Transparency in the allocation of access to fisheries is essential, as well as a statement about why informed participation of local communities is crucial for marine conservation, and how this can be achieved <https://www.cffacape.org/cofi34>
- CFFA also continued to engage with the FiTI (Fisheries Industry Transparency Initiative), participating to a webinar [https://www.iaca.int/media/attachments/2021/03/16/webinar\\_transparency\\_at\\_work\\_14042021.pdf](https://www.iaca.int/media/attachments/2021/03/16/webinar_transparency_at_work_14042021.pdf) and commenting on the first FiTI report

published by The Seychelles <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/seychelles-fiti-report-stakeholders-make-recommendations-regarding-access-by-fleets-of-foreign-origin> and by Mauritania <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/transparency-mauritania-improves-its-score-but-is-still-far-from-the-goal> FiTI secretary also attended one of CFFA steering committees, to discuss how to make the EU more receptive to the FiTI initiative.

- Another EU policy that is of importance for African fishing communities is the **Blue economy** policy. In May, the EC published a communication on the subject, to which CFFA replied <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/the-eu-new-approach-on-blue-economy-should-recognize-that-artisanal-fisheries-is-the-main-provider-of-ocean-livelihoods-in-africa> CFFA also highlighted the particular challenges of blue economy for African women fish processors <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/the-smoke-and-mirrors-of-blue-economy-bonanza-make-african-women-fish-processors-choke>
- Towards the end of 2021, CFFA contributed to an European parliament initiative report on blue economy which is still under discussion <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/blue-economy-meps-call-for-a-balance-between-new-sectors-and-traditional-activities-particularly-small-scale-fisheries> , drawing the rapporteur attention on issues such as the competition between artisanal fisheries and other use of the oceans, the need to undertake a precautionary approach before allowing any new ‘blue economy activity’, and the importance to recognize and support the role of women in artisanal fisheries value chains.



- On **EU Food policy** and other policies that affect food security in Africa, it needs to be noted that CFFA became in 2021 member of the EU Food Policy Coalition <https://foodpolicycoalition.eu/participants/>. Although it's still a bit difficult to see how we can contribute (most members' work is related to agriculture), we hope this will provide scope to make fisheries more visible in agri-food and future food systems debates. End of July, to that end, CFFA coordinated a joint CSO position on UNFSS <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/small-scale-fisheries-participation-in-decision-making-is-crucial-for-food-security-of-african-coastal-communities> CFFA also provided suggestions to include fisheries topics into an initiative EESC report on 'Aligning food business strategies and operations with the SDGs' <https://www.eesc.europa.eu/en/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/aligning-food-business-strategies-and-operations-sdgs-sustainable-post-covid-19-recovery-own-initiative-opinion> .
- CFFA also contributed to a consultation on EU food promotion policy, calling for, in the case of fisheries, encourage quality over quantity consumption <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/food-promotion-policy-the-eu-should-encourage-quality-over-quantity-seafood-consumption>
- More specifically, CFFA continued the discussion on the need for regional management of West African small pelagics, a key resource for the region populations' food security. A meeting was organised with the EC, followed by an exchange of letters to its director general, which didn't provide much clarity about the EU's intentions. CFFA also

proposed an LDAC advice on this issue [https://ldac.eu/images/EN\\_LDAC\\_Opinion\\_Regional\\_Fisheries\\_Management\\_West\\_Africa\\_20May2021.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/EN_LDAC_Opinion_Regional_Fisheries_Management_West_Africa_20May2021.pdf) to which the EC replied [https://ldac.eu/images/EC\\_Reply\\_to\\_Advice\\_West\\_Africa\\_R-04-21-WG4\\_21June2021.pdf](https://ldac.eu/images/EC_Reply_to_Advice_West_Africa_R-04-21-WG4_21June2021.pdf) providing some further clarifications, and suggesting a discussion within the LDAC next autumn.

- CFFA also continued to document the issue of fishmeal/fishoil production in West Africa, with an article (to be published in ICSF Yemaya publication) regarding the challenges this production pose for women in Gambian fisheries. CFFA also continues to engage with the NGO Changing Markets, commenting on their latest report *‘Feeding a Monster: How European aquaculture and animal feed industries are stealing food from West African communities?’* and its relevance for EU policies <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/the-rich-mans-fish-feeds-on-the-poor-mans-sardinella> The issue of fishmeal production and its implications for food security in West Africa were also raised during an LDAC working group, which lead to the creation of a focus group to monitor (in 2022) the advances made.
- Several international meetings were postponed to 2022 (like the UN Ocean Conference, or the AU/EU Summit) because of Covid. The only international meeting where CFFA participated (*virtually*) was the FAO Committee on Fisheries to promote African artisanal fisheries agenda with the EU and African countries. On the suggestion of CFFA, a dialogue was organised between the LDAC and the EC team attending COFI. CFFA and its partners published a series of positions regarding issues discussed during the meeting <https://www.cffacape.org/cofi34>

On the suggestion of BFW, CFFA also examined, in a policy brief, the stakes for African artisanal fisheries in a potential future agreement on fisheries subsidies at WTO. <https://www.cffacape.org/publications-blog/wto-fisheries-subsidies-negotiations-will-the-mountain-give-birth-to-a-mouse-or-to-a-lion>

*B) Facilitate the informed participation of representatives from artisanal fishing organisations in selected EU processes*

Regarding our **partners informed participation to key EU meetings**, it has been difficult to achieve given that EU institutions offices in Brussels are still closed, and travel from African countries to Europe has been impossible. However, we have facilitated exchanges between our partners and local EU delegations (in Ivory Coast, Senegal, Mauritania, Madagascar), to discuss implementation and negotiations of SFPAs.

We have also published short articles on issues of importance for some of our partners, often issues that they shared with us on the occasion of our monthly steering committees, such as:

- On Ivory Coast <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/by-coming-together-we-have-been-able-to-make-womens-voices-heard> and <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/in-abidjan-women-in-the-artisanal-fishing-sector-offer-work-to-young-people>
- On Senegal <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/senegal-if-fish-is-not-there-we-will-not-be-able-to-fish-even-if-they-gave-us-gold-canoes>
- on Indian Ocean IOTC tuna allocation meeting
- <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/iotc-meeting-artisanal-fisheries-stress-their-role-in-the-development-of-sustainable-tuna-fisheries>

Finally, and although this is not a usual action to take, CFFA, in agreement with SSNC, covered the costs of the women cooperative in Ivory Coast to go to court, against the government. The Ivory Coast government wanted to dissolve the cooperative because of their criticism against the government policies, but having been able to hire professional lawyers to defend them, the USCOFEPCI won the case.

**Result 2: There is enhanced understanding among decision-makers of the importance of artisanal fisheries in Africa for food security, coastal communities' livelihoods and the preservation of the environment, and there is greater awareness of how EU policies can support this contribution, particularly in the light of IYAFA in 2022.**

*A) Undertake research and publish on issues that affect the viability of artisanal fisheries in Africa to achieve sustainable fisheries and food security*

In 2021, CFFA published 20 in-depth articles on its blog (published in both French and English), presenting CFFA positions on documented issues such as the responsibilities of the beneficial owners of fisheries operations in Africa waters, or issues related to blue growth. A longer report was published on the future of SFPAs. On top of this, we published 33 news (more than the 2 per month target), echoing or commenting events or initiatives that have an impact on African artisanal fishing communities.

We had hoped to undertake a regional research on the potential to develop artisanal tuna fisheries in west Africa. However, the challenges to organise a regional meeting in covid time meant we had only online discussions, in particular with Sao Tomé based FAO consultant working on this topic. We have been able to identify the

relevant countries for which such potential exists (Senegal, Cabo Verde, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Sao Tome y Principe) as well as the issues to document. This initiative will need to be taken forward in the next years (probably not in 2022, as the focus is on IYAFA)

CFFA also commissioned, in collaboration with CAOPA, a series of studies on the importance and the challenges of the artisanal fishing zone/trawlers exclusion zone in seven African countries: Sierra Leone, Guinea, Senegal, Mauritania, Gambia, Ghana, and Madagascar.

This was not a planned activity, but the issue arose after our discussion regarding the Italian trawlers incursions in Sierra Leone zone normally reserved for artisanal fishers. Artisanal fishers have to face similar trawlers incursions all around Africa, and setting up a zone reserved for their activities, with a clear delimitation and appropriate protection, could go a long way for enabling and protecting artisanal fishers' access to their fishing zones.

For six of these studies (all, apart from Madagascar) CFFA and CAOPA were able to enlist the collaboration, as researcher, of Ms Dienaba Beye, a reputed lawyer, expert in International Maritime Law. She is best known for having brought a case, on behalf of West Africa, to the International Tribunal of the Law of the Sea, concerning the responsibilities of the flag states and coastal states to combat IUU fishing (case 21 Itlos [https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/cases/case\\_no.21/verbatim/I\\_TLOS\\_PV14\\_C21\\_1\\_Rev.1\\_E.pdf](https://www.itlos.org/fileadmin/itlos/documents/cases/case_no.21/verbatim/I_TLOS_PV14_C21_1_Rev.1_E.pdf)) Being well known and respected in the whole West Africa region, Ms Dieneba Beye has not only been able to get concrete information from the various stakeholders and authorities about the issues documented, but also, her involvement has helped ensure the results of these studies

were taken seriously by authorities when they were presented locally, something that facilitated the dialogue between the fishing communities and decision makers.

*B) Support REJOPRA in investigating and writing about sustainable fisheries in Africa*

Unfortunately, it was not possible to provide support to REJOPRA because of differences of view with CFFA regarding the accountability of the activities they proposed. Four discussions have been held with REJOPRA bureau members, but no clear satisfactory answer could be given to our questions. The monies allocated to finance journalistic production and training has been reallocated to other activities, in priority the production of videos to be used during the IYAFA. 5 videos have been produced, through a contract with Mediaproduct in collaboration with CAOPA, and 5 storyboard animation videos have been produced, also in collaboration with CAOPA. Most of the videos and animations will be released in 2022, for IYAFA. A first animation video produced in 2020 was released during COFI34 in February 2021, which announced the upcoming International Year of Artisanal Fisheries and Aquaculture. CFFA released it again for the launch of IYAFA in November 2021 <https://www.cffacape.org/iyafa-2022> and was widely used, including by African intergovernmental organisation COMHAFAT, who showed it at the opening of their conference on small scale fisheries.

Several articles were commissioned, as well as two photos reportages were commissioned from professional photographers, one in Guinea Bissau, on the artisanal fisheries value chain <https://www.cffacape.org/guineabissau-fisheries-value-chain> and one in Ivory Coast, on a successful co-managed MPA (published in 2022) <https://www.cffacape.org/news-blog/grand-bereby-cote-divoire-marine-protected-area>

Support has also been provided for a network of community radios established in various artisanal fishing centres in Senegal, to receive some general information on fisheries issues and also to broadcast, twice a month for 12 months, a one hour program on small scale fisheries issues. This initiative was facilitated by CAOPA as a pilot, as they felt community radios are a good way to empower fishing communities, by keeping them informed of policy developments. This experience will be shared with other CAOPA members.

*C) Maintain and develop CFFA communication tools*

In 2021, CFFA continued to maintain the website, in French and English, a newsletter system and developed new aspects on the website.

First and foremost, CFFA produced a IYAFAspecific page summarizing the key demands of African artisanal fisheries for the year: <https://www.cffacape.org/iyafa-2022>. This IYAFAspecific page forwards also to a IYAFAspecific micro-blog which is fed by an Instagram account (a “link in bio” style page): <https://www.cffacape.org/instagram> & <https://www.instagram.com/cffacape/>. This is to give a wider audience visibility to artisanal fisheries, as CFFA is only present on Twitter and LinkedIn as social media platforms, and these are quite expert and professional oriented.

In the run up to IYAFAspecific, the Communications officer and the intern produced several types of content, such as stories, blog posts, twitter posts and data that can be summed up in visual graphics to continue raising awareness about the importance of African artisanal fisheries for employment, food security and livelihoods. CFFA linked up with a photojournalist that travelled to Guinea Bissau to take pictures of the whole value chain. This came as an idea to both

illustrate a country that is of difficult access but also to have CFFA-owned pictures that are representative of the whole artisanal fisheries value chain (at least in West Africa), as these are difficult to find royalty free online. A small selection was already published on the page: <https://www.cffacape.org/guineabissau-fisheries-value-chain> These pictures are regularly used to illustrate our articles and communications.

Additionally, CFFA has been working on 5 videos and 5 storyboards in preparation of IYAFA on topics and priorities agreed upon with CAOPA. These videos will be released during IYAFA, at the appropriate time for advocacy. See for example: <https://www.cffacape.org/sardinella-west-africa>"  
<https://www.cffacape.org/sardinella-west-africa>

As regular part of work, CFFA produced 17 publications for our website, contributed to at least 3 outside publications or articles, and at least 6 joint positions. CFFA produced 33 news articles and translated to English articles of relevance to our readers (EU decision-makers) from our Ivorian partner USCOFEP-CI's blog. We also sent out 20 newsletters, sharing our productions, our joint positions and our partners' work.

CFFA has continued to adapt the website to better reflect the areas of CFFA advocacy: Transparency, access arrangements, Blue economy, Food Policy. In the summer and fall of 2021, we started two series of articles on Mauritania fisheries and on Conservation finance. The articles are included CFFA publications but they also have specific landing pages that gather all information related to the core topic: <https://www.cffacape.org/mauritania-series> and <https://www.cffacape.org/conservation-finance>



CFFA has continued to respond to all of the journalists requests it received, either by directly conceding an interview, sharing resources or by redirecting to more appropriate responders.

A major highlight from 2021 was the possibility for CFFA to hold its annual steering committee in person, in Senegal. Most of the participants hadn't met for more than two years, because of Covid, and although we had been keeping in touch by zoom, it was emotional to be together again, and to have face to face discussions.

### **2.3. Civic space 2021**

A lot of our work is about increasing civic space in EU decision making processes for African small-scale fisheries, and enable their informed participation (in fishing agreements negotiations, in EU/AU discussions on blue economy, etc). Generally, the restrictions linked to Covid 19 in 2020 and 2021 meant there have been less possibility to engage with EU decision makers (Parliament being closed, EU institutions staff working from home), and almost no possibility for our partners to travel to Europe for meetings with institutions and exchanges. We have adapted by organising our/our partners participation through virtual means as much as possible, but overall, that aspect of our work has been hard hit by the restrictions imposed (like advocacy training in Brussels, which had to be cancelled). The engagement through the LDAC (which provides a direct avenue to EU decision makers) has, fortunately, not been hit too much, and the LDAC work has continued, producing advices, to which CFFA regularly contributes, on issues such as blue economy, regional management of small pelagics, fishing agreements/SMEFF – see <https://ldac.eu/en/publications> ). The EC has an obligation to reply by writing to those advices, which helps keep them accountable.

An equally important part of our work is producing information and analyses on EU policies' impacts on African small-scale fisheries. Indeed, the right to information is a precondition for an informed public debate and for holding authorities and institutions accountable. On this part, we have exceeded our plans in terms of production of information, mainly thanks to the work of our communication officer and our trainee.

A particular issue in 2021 took place with our partner in Ivory Coast, the women cooperatives USCOFEPCI, which saw its very existence threatened by the government trying to dissolve it, as the women cooperatives were increasingly critical of the lack of action from the government to take measures to improve their access to raw material. This is against the freedom of association and the freedom of expression. The authorities also consistently tried to bypass USCOFEPCI when it comes to allocation of funds from the fishing agreement with the EU for women activities.

CFFA has paid for lawyer's costs with a part of SSNC's budget – it would otherwise have been impossible for them to contest the government's decision. CFFA also organised sessions of information with the EU delegation, and made publicity of the USCOFEPCI single action that had been funded with EU sectoral support money, the purchase of cold storage, as a good example of how EU monies can be used. This ensured the government stopped trying to undermine that particular initiative.

## **Financial reporting 2021**

As an annex.

### 3.1 Financial report 2021:

In addition to the financial statement described above, please fill in the table for financial report below:

		<b>TOTAL ORG</b>	<b>SSNC share</b>
<b>Opening balance from previous reporting period</b>		52.357,35 euros	100%
<b>Amount of funding received from SSNC</b>	<i>in foreign currency</i>	1.700.000 SEK	
	<i>in accounting currency</i>	167.051,9 euros	
<b>Total costs during the period</b>		256.725,16 euros	
<b>Closing balance by the end of the reporting period</b>		8583,28 euros	100%